Spy in every blink

Eye Secrets

Daily

www.eyesecretdaily.com

Rangareddy Vol No. 1 Issue 156 Date:Thursday, 5-11-2026 Price:2/- Pages: 8

CM Revanth Participates In Sadar Sammelanam Celebrations

Hyderabad: Telangana Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy reaffirmed that the state government would take constructive steps to promote the youngest state of Telangana as the first rapidly developed state in the country.



Participating in the Sadar Sammelan in the city on Wednesday, the Chief Minister sought the support of the Yadav community to achieve the development goals set by the state government. The CM stressed that Yadavs' support is crucial for the completion of the Musi Rejuvenation project, Metro Rail Phase-2, and Bharat Future City. " Our endeavor is to establish Telangana as the highly developed state in the country. We are already moving forward with the development of the Musi Riverfront, the expansion of the Metro rail network, creation of 'Bharat Future City ', and it requires the support of Yadavs ".

Extending greetings to the entire Yadav fraternity on the occasion of the Sadar Sammelanam, CM Revanth Reddy said that the Yadav community is given its due and appropriate representation. Anil Kumar Yadav was given the post of Rajya Sabha MP, and Naveen Yadav was made an MLA from the Congress. We also appointed Eshwaramma Yadav as a member of the Yadagirigutta Temple Board.

The Chief Minister assured that the Yadavs would get their due share in the representation of the community in the future. It is also our responsibility to ensure that the self-respect of the Yadav brothers is never compromised. Arrangements were already being made for the protection of cows at the 'Goshala' (cow shelter) in Yadagirigutta.

The CM highlighted the Yadavs' contribution in the development of Hyderabad city. The famous Golconda Fort in Hyderabad was also popularly known as 'Gollamkonda' in the past.

Stating that the government sanctioned Rs 5 crore for the festival, CM Revanth Reddy said that the 'Sadar Sammelanam' was also declared as a state festival, in recognition of the Yadav community. The Sadar sammelan is also a celebration of self-respect for all the people of Telangana state. " Our Yadav brothers welcomed and embraced those who arrived in this city from various parts of the country. It was when my government declared the 'Sadar Sammelanam' a state festival", the Chief Minister said that the caste census was conducted in Telangana and became a role model for the entire country.

Sadar Sammelan triggers massive traffic jams

The Sri Krishna Sadar Sammelan at NTR Stadium brought traffic to a standstill across several parts of central Hyderabad on Wednesday, leaving motorists stranded for hours. Congestion began around noon and worsened as the day progressed, particularly during the evening rush hour.

The event, attended by Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy and several other VIPs, drew large processions of Yadav community members who brought decorated bulls for display. Brass bands and crowds accompanying the processions added to the congestion.

Vehicles remained stranded along several stretches, including the Telugu Talli flyover, Basheerbagh to the Ambedkar statue on Tank Bund, Liberty to Narayanguda and the entire main Tank Bund road. Traffic moved at a snail's pace, with queues stretching for kilometres.

Office-goers were among the worst affected as congestion intensified after 5 pm, forcing many to spend considerably longer than usual on their journeys home.

Sunil Parmar, a chartered accountant, said traffic jams had become a part of everyday life for Hyderabad residents.

"The traffic jams have become a part and parcel of those living in the city. From my office at Abids, I started around 6 pm and it took twice the time to reach Secunderabad," he said.

The Sadar Sammelan, which began around 11 am, attracted a large turnout and continued until late evening. Members of the Yadav community arrived in processions accompanied by brass bands, showcasing their decorated bulls as part of the traditional celebrations.

Traffic congestion persisted across the affected stretches until late evening.

CM Naidu Asks Alliance leaders To Win All ZPTC, MPTC Seats

VIJAYAWADA: Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu has asked leaders and cadres of the ruling alliance to work in coordination and unity to secure all Zilla Parishad Territorial Constituency (ZPTC) and Mandal Parishad Territorial Constituency (MPTC) seats in the rural local body elections.

Addressing a teleconference with leaders and workers of the alliance parties, Naidu said the alliance should perform better in the ZPTC and MPTC elections than it had in the recent urban local body polls. Minister Nadendla Manohar, Telugu Desam state president Palla Srinivasa Rao and BJP state president P.V.N. Madhav participated in the interaction.

Congratulating alliance leaders and cadres on their performance in the municipal and corporation elections, Naidu said the coalition had achieved a 94 per cent strike rate. He said the results reflected public recognition of the government's two-and-a-half years of welfare, development and governance.

"Good governance and good politics are the policies of the alliance government. When we do good for people, they recognise it and stand by us," he said, adding that the electorate had encouraged the government to improve administration.

Naidu said the victories in municipalities and corporations had increased the alliance's responsibility to serve people more effectively. Despite the state's financial difficulties, the government was continuing welfare programmes alongside development activities. It was also filling vacancies in various departments through the job calendar, including teacher recruitment through the DSC, he noted.

He said the government was working closely with people and responding to public opinion, which had helped the alliance achieve electoral success.

The Chief Minister attributed the loss of some seats



to coordination gaps at the local level. He said rebel candidates belonging to alliance parties had won in some places where the official alliance candidates had lost.

"Alliance partners must respect one another and treat candidates of every constituent party as their own. Differences may arise within families, parties and organisations, but once a decision is taken, everyone has to abide by it and uphold coalition dharma," he ruled.

Naidu assured leaders who had aspired for seats but could not secure nominations that they would be given opportunities through nominated posts. However, he warned that those who violated alliance principles could be kept aside.

The CM urged cadres to exercise restraint. He alleged that the YSRC was encouraging violence and attempting to malign the alliance government to remain politically relevant, anticipating defeat. He said voters had once again taught the opposition party a lesson, claiming that its leaders had failed to win even in their own polling booths.

Govt tweaks Agnipath scheme; Agniveers exiting in December get two-year service extension

In a major tweak to the Agnipath scheme for recruitment to the Indian Armed Forces, the government on Wednesday announced a two-year extension of service for all Agniveers whose four-year contractual term is ending in December.



Chief of Defence Staff Gen NS Raja Subramani announced the decision following a meeting of the Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Taking a significant decision today, the Union Cabinet chaired by PM Shri @narendramodi has approved a two-year 'Second Tour of Duty' for Agniveers under #Agnipath.

I sincerely thank PM Modi for taking the decision of additional 2-year 'Second Tour of Duty' for Agniveers under the Agnipath scheme. This would also provide enrollment of all willing Agniveers as regular soldiers after the tenure of 4/6 years, who meet the selection criteria.

This decision is continuation of long-term structural reforms of our defence forces, aimed at creating a younger, fitter, technologically equipped and future-ready military. It is not merely a recruitment policy; it is a way forward to prepare India's military for the changing character of warfare.

Under the existing policy, 25 per cent of Agniveers recruited four years ago are eligible for absorption into the regular armed forces. The changes announced on Wednesday would apply to the remaining 75 per cent who were due to exit the forces in December.

These Agniveers will now be offered a second term of two years. At the end of this period, they will have the option of becoming regular soldiers, subject to their willingness, physical fitness, performance and prevailing guidelines, Gen Subramani said.

The existing Agnipath scheme provides for recruitment on a four-year contractual term. The extension comes as more than 18,300 Agniveers are set to be discharged by December 31 after completing their four-year tenure.

The CDS said the Cabinet's decision had created a pathway for Agniveers to be absorbed into the armed forces on a permanent basis.He said the performance of Agniveers during the past four years had been very good.

Indian-American Jyot Singh makes history, wins Georgia Assembly seat

Jyot Singh, 27, a Yale-educated community organiser, has made history by becoming the first Sikh American and Indian-American elected to the Georgia General Assembly in the US.

Singh, a Democrat, won the Georgia House of Representatives seat from District 97 in the November 3 election, defeating Republican Yassin Moghazy. His constituency covers parts of Duluth, Peachtree Corners and Norcross, along with Berkele Lake in Gwinnett County.

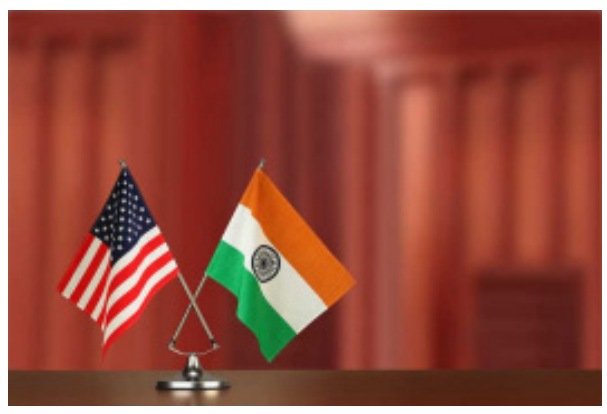
The son of Sikh immigrants from India, Singh grew up in a working-class family in Norcross.

He has spoken about his early struggles, including living in basement apartments and townhouses. He began working at the age of 15 to support his family.

Singh completed his schooling at the Gwinnett School of Mathematics, Science and Technology before graduating from Yale University in 2021 with a degree in Global Affairs.

As per the news report, he founded Blue Husky Group, a consulting firm, and worked in political communications and grassroots organising. His political agenda centres on affordable housing, health care, public education, immigrant rights and the economic concerns of working-class communities.

Jyot's victory marks a significant shift and reflects growing participation of Sikh and Indian-American communities in electoral politics in Georgia.



The news report stated that Jyot's campaign received support from community organisations and Indian-American political leaders, including US Representative Ro Khanna.

His election is being seen as a notable development in the representation of immigrant-origin communities in the US political landscape.

After winning the election, he said, "Finally I introduce myself. I am Jyot Singh. I am state representative elect. We made history for our community here in the house district 97, that is all because of you guys."

SDRF, fire personnel go missing after rescue boats capsize in Khammam tank

Khammam: Around 10 members of two SDRF teams, who were on a rescue mission in Bethupalli tank at Sathupalli in Khammam on Wednesday, reportedly went missing in the tank where water was flowing about three feet over the spillway.

According to locals, five fishermen went to set up nets near the tank weir to prevent fish from escaping the reservoir and the water level in the tank increased suddenly following cyclonic rains trapping them in the floodwaters.



Three fishermen who went to help them were stranded as well. Following this, a team consisting of six members from the Kothagudem SDRF and four additional fire department personnel arrived with two boats to carry out a rescue operation.

They were able to rescue the four fishermen. However, when they proceeded to rescue the remaining fishermen, both boats capsized, leaving 10 personnel missing and three fishermen stranded. It was suspected that the rescue boats might have got caught in the fishnets and capsized.

Another SDRF team from Bhadrachalam arrived at Sathupalli and launched a search and rescue operation for the missing personnel. The District Collector Divakara TS, Sathupalli MLA Dr. Matta Ragamayi and other officials rushed to the spot to monitor the rescue operations, which were being hampered by weather conditions and poor visibility.

Meanwhile, floodwaters from Bethupalli tank flowed downstream into Veshyakanthala tank. This led to the inundation of a nearby double-bedroom housing complex with the floodwaters reaching the first floor. The local authorities intervened and relocated the residents of these housing units to relief centres.

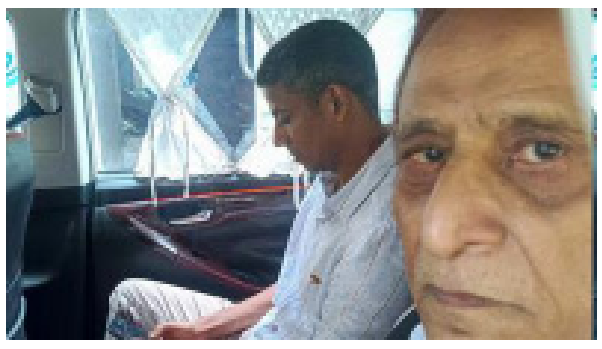
Woman allegedly attacked by mother-in-law over washing machine

Hyderabad: A dispute over the use of a washing machine led to an alleged assault on a daughter-in-law by her mother-in-law in Brahma Shankar Nagar in Madhuranagar.

According to police, Ratna Jyothi had an argument with her mother-in-law, Durgamma, over the use of the washing machine. The argument reportedly escalated, following which Durgamma allegedly assaulted her daughter-in-law, hitting her on the head with a blunt object and causing serious injuries.

Following a complaint by the victim, Madhuranagar police registered a case and are investigating.

SC to hear SP leader Azam Khan's plea against arrest in money laundering case



The Supreme Court on Monday agreed to hear this week Samajwadi Party (SP) leader Azam Khan's plea, challenging his arrest by Enforcement Directorate (ED) after he got bail in a dual PAN card case.Chief Justice of India (CJI) Surya Kant agreed to list the plea as he heard its urgent mention, expressing reservation over approaching the top court instead of first moving the high court. "Have faith in the high court. It has granted him relief in the past. We can relegate the matter to the high court and request the chief justice to hear it without any delay," said CJI Kant.

Advocate Nizam Pasha, who appeared for Khan, told the court that this is a classic case of "evergreening" of arrest. He added that an ED team arrived and arrested Khan minutes after he stepped out after getting bail on October 29."He has been arrested in a seven-year-old FIR. Earlier too, the Supreme Court ordered his release. He has been named an accused in 87 cases, and this is the 88th case. The arrest has come ahead of assembly elections which are due in Uttar Pradesh," Pasha said. He requested the court to list the matter and pass any order after hearing him.On Sunday, a special Prevention of Money Laundering Act court in Ghaziabad sent Khan to 14-day judicial custody after his arrest for allegedly misusing government funds in the construction of the Mohammad Ali Jauhar University in Rampur.On October 29, Khan and his son, Abdullah Azam, were given bail in a dual PAN case in which the SP leader was sentenced to 10 years' imprisonment. The Allahabad high court suspended the sentence but refused to stay the conviction.

Bengal Church vandalised during inauguration; priests, devotees assaulted, mobile phones smashed



A group of people allegedly vandalised a church during its inauguration in West Bengal's South 24 Parganas district and attacked priests as well as devotees, injuring them, police said.Officials said the alleged incident occurred at Narayantala in Basanti police station area on Saturday, when Bishop Subrata Chakraborty and several priests along with devotees gathered there for the inauguration ceremony.

"We have received a complaint that 30-35 people entered a church premises and assaulted those present. Women were also allegedly attacked and asked to remove their traditional 'shakha' (white bangles) before being forced out of the premises," a police officer said on Sunday.The attackers allegedly vandalised a Cross of the church, assaulted priests and devotees, and smashed mobile phones of those trying to record the incident, he said.They also threatened to prevent religious activities on the premises, according to members of the congregation. Police have initiated an investigation into the incident, which drew condemnation from the Bangiya Christiya Pariseba (BCP), a Christian organisation, which termed the attack an attempt at intimidating the minority community.Herod Mullick, the founder state secretary and the working president of the organisation, said, "This is an unprecedented incident where miscreants have beaten up multiple priests during an inauguration ceremony with the bishop present."

"Organised groups take the law into their own hands to target peaceful minorities. Having faced no meaningful deterrence from the administration or the government, these attackers have grown reckless enough to torture priests of an established church without hesitation," Mullick said.A couple of weeks earlier, three Christian families in Paschim Medinipur district had complained to police that they were threatened and assaulted by a group of people to force them to renounce their faith.The aggrieved families, which converted to Christianity around 18 months ago, had also complained to police that they were forced to participate in certain religious rituals against their wishes.

Ram temple donation theft: Supreme Court closes probe monitoring, allows petitioners to assist trial

The Supreme Court on Monday closed its monitoring of the alleged theft of donations at the Ram temple in Ayodhya after the Uttar Pradesh government informed it that a charge sheet had been filed against eight accused, allowing petitioners to assist the trial court in the proceedings in view of the public interest involved.A bench, comprising Chief Justice of India Surya Kant and justices Joymalya Bagchi and V Mohana, directed the judicial magistrate to proceed with the case in accordance with law, making it clear that the top court's order should not prejudice any party as it had expressed no opinion on the merits of the allegations.

"Since there is an element of public interest involved, liberty is granted to the petitioner to assist the court of judicial magistrate as the law enables the victims of crime to also assist the court," the bench said in its order, disposing of the writ petition and connected matters.The order came after solicitor general Tushar Mehta, appearing for the Uttar Pradesh government along with additional advocate general and senior counsel Sharan Dev Singh Thakur, informed the bench that the investigation had been completed and the charge sheet filed."Theft was done at the time of counting and those counting were stealing. Although the recorder can have recordings up to 45 days, we traced it back to their bank accounts and purchase of properties, including land etc. There has been an audit as well. All artefacts and donations have been accounted for," Mehta told the bench.The charge sheet, running into more than 60,000 pages, was filed before the anti-corruption court in Ayodhya in September.

The court was also informed about a fresh petition filed by the Ram Janmabhoomi Case Trust seeking some directions with regard to the Supreme Court's 2019 judgment that paved the way for the construction of the temple. This plea sought an independent, technically qualified survey and verification of the land adjudicated in the 2019 judgment, including production of revenue, cadastral, survey, acquisition, and planning records, to determine whether the present Ram Janmabhoomi temple stands on the exact adjudicated premises.The bench, however, told the trust that it could approach a civil court with these prayers.In July, the Supreme Court constituted a second special investigation team (SIT), headed by Lucknow range inspector general of police Kiran S, to investigate allegations of pilferage of donations and irregularities in the handling of valuables at the temple.

The SIT identified 105 instances of alleged unauthorised removal or concealment of cash during the counting of donations inside the temple premises, according to the state's submissions in the top court. It also examined the movement of counted cash from the temple to banks, but found no evidence of pilferage at that



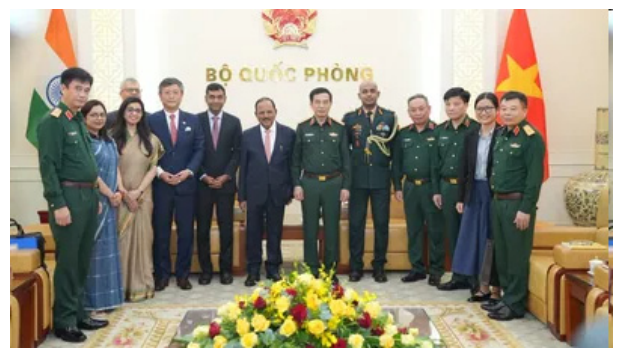
stage.The probe covered three broad areas -- cash collections and their handling, valuable donations received by the temple, and the financial dealings and assets of the accused. Investigators examined CCTV footage, witness statements, electronic records, banking documents and recovery material, besides conducting a forensic audit, the status report had highlighted.The SIT also physically verified 803 valuable articles for which receipts had been generated through the temple trust's software and another 86 articles for which receipts were not available. It found no discrepancy in the reconciliation of the articles, officials said. Around 944.411 kg of silver sent for melting to the Security Printing and Minting Corporation of India Ltd was also verified.

The investigation also covered specific donations referred to in media reports, including 200 kg and 38.288 kg silver bricks, a silver necklace, a pair of charan paduka and a donated copy of the Ramcharitmanas, the court was earlier informed.The investigation further examined the financial transactions, properties, vehicles, jewellery and expenditure of the eight accused and their close relatives to assess whether their assets were commensurate with their known sources of income. As many as 173 witnesses, including temple functionaries, donation-counting personnel, bank officials, security staff, CCTV operators, chartered accountants and vendors, were examined.The controversy surfaced on June 7 when Samajwadi Party leader Tej Narayan 'Pawan' Pandey alleged that donations worth ?5 crore to ?7.5 crore had been siphoned off from the temple offerings. The state government constituted an SIT on June 13, following which eight employees associated with the handling and counting of donations were arrested on June 26.The first SIT, headed by Lucknow divisional commissioner Vijay Vishwas Pant, had submitted its final report in August, flagging gross lapses in the functioning of the temple trust while exonerating two of its top former functionaries. The Supreme Court subsequently constituted the second SIT to independently investigate the allegations.

NSA Ajit Doval reviews bilateral defence cooperation with Vietnam's deputy PM in Hanoi

National Security Advisor (NSA) Ajit Doval on Monday held discussions with Vietnam's Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of National Defence, General Phan Van Giang, in Hanoi, reviewing ongoing bilateral defence cooperation and agreeing to further deepen engagement in the sectorThe Embassy of India in Vietnam shared details of the meeting in a post on X, stating that both sides discussed the progress of defence cooperation and explored ways to strengthen their engagement.

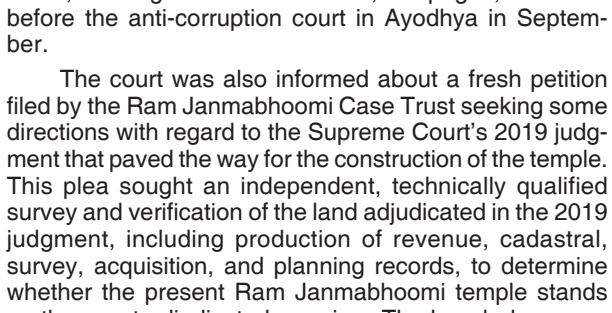
"NSA Ajit Doval met General Phan Van Giang, Politburo Member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of National Defence of Viet Nam, today. They reviewed ongoing bilateral defence cooperation and agreed to further deepen engagements in this domain," the Embassy posted.Doval arrived in Hanoi on Sunday for an official visit to Vietnam, during which he is scheduled to interact with the Vietnamese leadership to review the Enhanced Comprehensive Strategic Partnership between the two countries.Welcoming the NSA, the Embassy of India in Vietnam had earlier posted on X, "Welcome to Vietnam! National Security Advisor (NSA) of India Shri Ajit Doval, KC, landed in Hanoi on an official visit. NSA, during the visit, will interact with the Vietnamese leadership in line with the India-Vietnam Enhanced Comprehensive Strategic Partnership."The visit follows the elevation of India-Vietnam relations to an Enhanced Comprehensive Strategic Partnership during Vietnamese President To Lam's visit to India in May 2026.During the May visit, Prime Minister Narendra Modi and President To Lam held wide-ranging discussions, reviewing bilateral relations and exchanging views on regional and global issues of mutual interest.The two leaders underlined that stronger India-Vietnam ties would bring mutual benefits to their people and contribute to their respective national development goals, including India's Viksit Bharat 2047 and Vietnam's Vision 2045.They also commended the effective implementation of the Joint Vision Statement on India-Vietnam Defence Partnership towards 2030, which continues to guide the expansion of defence cooperation between the two countries.The latest discussions also come against the backdrop of continued engagement between New Delhi and Hanoi across various security-related



areas.Last month, India and Vietnam held the fourth edition of their Security Dialogue in New Delhi, reviewing cooperation in counter-terrorism, cybersecurity, maritime engagements, economic security and emerging technologies.According to the Union Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), the dialogue was co-chaired by India's Deputy National Security Advisor Pavan Kapoor and Vietnam's Deputy Minister of Public Security, Senior Lieutenant General Pham The Tung.

In a statement, the MEA said both sides undertook a comprehensive review of ongoing cooperation across several security domains and exchanged views on the regional and global security environment."Both sides undertook a comprehensive review of ongoing cooperation between the two countries covering, inter alia, economic security, maritime engagements, counter-terrorism, emerging technologies and cyber security. They also exchanged views on the regional and global security environment and reaffirmed their commitment to closer collaboration on issues of mutual interest," the MEA said.The fourth India-Vietnam Security Dialogue reflected the continued engagement between the two countries on matters of strategic importance, with both sides seeking to strengthen cooperation in traditional and emerging security domains.The MEA further stated that the dialogue is held biennially under the 2016 Memorandum of Understanding for Cooperation between India's National Security Council Secretariat and Vietnam's Ministry of Public Security.

Entire staff of Jharkhand's Gamharia police station suspended after woman raped inside premises



The entire staff at the Gamharia police station in Jharkhand's Seraikela Kharsawan district was suspended on Sunday after a woman was allegedly raped on the station premises last week, a senior police officer said.

The incident took place on October 29 when a woman went to the police station to lodge a complaint after an altercation with her husband. She was asked to wait inside a room at the station, where a wireless operator allegedly raped her.A special investigation team (SIT), headed by Seraikela sub-divisional police officer (SDPO) Anubhav Bhardwaj, is investigating the case.

A total of 15 police personnel have been suspended in connection with the incident so far. Six officers of the police station were suspended on Saturday and the remaining staff, including two Sub-Inspectors (SIs), four Assistant Sub-Inspectors (ASIs), two Havildars (Head Constables), and one Constable, were suspended on Sunday, the officer added.The main accused, the wireless operator, was arrested on Saturday along with the officer on duty and the station clerk. All three have been sent to jail, the officer said.Bhardwaj said the woman lodged a written complaint on October 31, alleging that she was raped within the station premises. "Acting promptly on the instructions, a team was constituted; the accused were apprehended and have since been remanded to judicial custody. All necessary legal procedures have been followed step-by-step," he told news agency ANI.The SDPO said the probe was continuing and anyone found guilt would face further legal action.

Over 50,000 Form 7 applications seeking deletions of voters filed

Hyderabad: More than three weeks have passed since the claims and objections on the voters inclusion as part of the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls concluded in Telangana. However, applications (Form 7) seeking deletion of voter names continue to flood the election officials in the State.Information generated by the Telangana Chief Electoral Officer's office has revealed that a staggering 50,908 applications filed between October 8 and October 31 even as the claims and objections phase ended on October 7. Interestingly, of these, 48,623 applications have already been accepted and marked them for deletion from the final electoral roll that will be published on November 30, while only 435 were rejected.Ranagreddy district topped the filing with 11,935 applications and 11,378 received nod for deletion. Hyderabad has the second highest number of filing at 9,858. Of these, 9,616 applications were approved and only four were declined. Similarly, Medchal Malkajgiri recorded 4,018 applications, 3,783 acceptances and four rejections.Ironically, during the claims and objections phase between August 17 and October 7, only 15,442 Form 7 applications were filed.

SC refuses to entertain Sukesh Chandrasekhar's plea for stay on conviction

New Delhi, The Supreme Court on Monday refused to entertain a plea filed by alleged conman Sukesh Chandrasekhar seeking a stay on his conviction in a criminal case.A Delhi court on August 20 convicted Chandrasekhar for impersonating a Supreme Court judge to influence a special judge for bail in a 2017 corruption case. On August 29, the court sentenced him to eight years in jail in this connection.

Chandrasekhar later moved the Delhi High Court challenging the trial court's dismissal of his application seeking a stay on his conviction and sentence pending disposal of his appeal.The high court on October 16 disposed of his plea, saying no case for staying the conviction order was made out."Having considered the submissions, this court is of the view that, since the appeal against the judgment of conviction is already pending, the petitioner's objections to the findings recorded therein, including the adverse observations and expressions used by the trial court, are matters which ought to be examined by the appellate court," the high court had said.It had left it open to the petitioner to raise all contentions before the appellate court.Chandrasekhar's plea challenging the high court order came up for hearing before the apex court on Monday.A bench of Justices J B Pardiwala and Manmohan refused to entertain the petition.The Delhi court had sentenced Chandrasekhar to eight years in jail in the impersonation case, terming the act "institutional sacrilege".It had awarded him two years' rigorous imprisonment each for the offences of impersonating a public servant and intimidating a public servant, and four years for criminal intimidation through anonymous communication.

The court had directed all the substantive sentences to run consecutively, making the total sentence eight years.The case arose from a phone call made on April 28, 2017, while Chandrasekhar was in police custody in connection with a corruption case.According to the prosecution, he obtained access to the mobile phone of a police constable and used it to contact the official landline and mobile phone of Poonam Chaudhary, then special judge dealing with cases under the Prevention of Corruption Act.The trial court had said Chandrasekhar first impersonated the private secretary of an erstwhile Supreme Court judge and later, the judge himself.It had held that the prosecution had established beyond reasonable doubt that Chandrasekhar had deliberately assumed the identity of a Supreme Court judge to interfere with the administration of justice.This article was generated from an automated news agency feed without modifications to text.

PV Sindhu clinches second title of season with Hylo Open triumph

New Delhi: Double Olympic medallist PV Sindhu clinched her second title of the season after defeating Denmark's Line Hojmark Kjærsfeldt in straight games to win the Hylo Open Super 500 badminton tournament in Saarbrücken, Germany, on Sunday.The former world champion, who had won the Japan Open in July and finished runner-up at the French Open last week, produced a commanding performance to register a 21-12, 21-14 victory over the eighth-seeded Dane in the 39-minute summit clash of the USD 500,000 tournament.

The second-seeded Indian, currently ranked world No. 8, dominated proceedings with her sharp stroke-play, deceptive shots and effective net game to secure the title against her world No. 25 opponent.With the victory, Sindhu collected 9,200 ranking points, strengthening her bid to qualify for the season-ending BWF World Tour Finals.Sindhu entered the final with a dominant 6-1 head-to-head record against Kjærsfeldt, whose only victory over the Indian had come at the 2025 Sudirman Cup Finals.The Indian made a confident start, opening the contest with a cross-court winner, though a couple of unforced errors allowed the Dane to stay in contention at 3-3.Sindhu subsequently took control of the rallies with her deception and sharp net play to move ahead 8-5.She maintained her advantage through the opening game, using a combination of well-placed shots and attacking strokes to put pressure on her opponent. A superb backhand winner helped her move to 17-12 before she converted her first game point to take the opening game 21-12.Sindhu carried the momentum into the second game, establishing a 6-3 lead before Kjærsfeldt attempted to fight her way back into the contest. However, the Indian responded with a series of winners to restore her advantage and move ahead 10-6.The Dane continued to struggle with her net play as Sindhu extended her lead to 17-11.

Dragged for 500 metres, Gujarat cop lunges into fleeing car to stop gold heist



When a getaway car smashed into Inspector S A Gadhvi's vehicle at Viramgam near Ahmedabad Saturday, jamming his driver-side door, the four fleeing thieves thought they had created just enough chaos to make a break for it. As his team pried the door open, the driver put the car in reverse to slip away from the police. Rushing forward on foot, Inspector Gadhvi lunged, grabbed the moving vehicle's door, and held on."The driver slammed the accelerator, dragging the officer along the road for nearly 500 metres. Displaying extraordinary courage and determination, Inspector Gadhvi managed to open the vehicle door, gain control of the steering and pull the handbrake, bringing an end to the chase," said Om Prakash Jat, Superintendent of Ahmedabad Rural police.The dramatic capture marked the climax of an operation by the Ahmedabad Rural police and the Government Railway Police (GRP). Together, they apprehended all four thieves and recovered Rs 3.75 crore worth of stolen gold jewellery hours after it was snatched from a train passenger at Nadiad railway station, nearly 110 km away.Theft at railway station

The heist began at 5 pm on October 3. A passenger, Bharat Karsan Chaudhary, alighted from the Howrah-Ahmedabad Superfast Express at the Nadiad railway station in Anand when a thief suddenly snatched his green bag, which held 2.9 kg of gold jewellery valued at Rs 3.75 crore.Chaudhary gave a chase, but the thief darted into a waiting car and sped away. Before the vehicle disappeared, Chaudhary snapped a quick photo of the getaway car, a Tata Tiago, and immediately handed the crucial lead over to the GRP.By 7.30 pm, the GRP alerted the Gujarat Police state control room, which flashed the details to the Ahmedabad Rural police.Specialist teams traced the registered owner of the Tiago to Banaskantha district. Intelligence inputs and field informants quickly revealed that the car was moving through rural Ahmedabad, closely trailed by an unregistered Maruti Baleno serving as a second getaway vehicle."Based on the intelligence inputs, we identified possible movement routes, particularly towards Sachana and Viramgam. The Local Crime Branch (LCB) and Viramgam Town police immediately activated checkpoints and deployed teams strategically on these roads," the Ahmedabad Rural police said in a statement.Truck blockade and a live-location trap

As the unregistered Baleno approached Viramgam Town, LCB personnel Himanshu and Viramgam Town police officer Siddhraj used heavy trucks and local vehicles to set up a sudden roadblock. They intercepted the Baleno and arrested one occupant on the spot. However, the primary target, the Tata Tiago, had slipped through.During the on-the-spot interrogation, the Baleno driver revealed that his three accomplices had already crossed Viramgam Town in the Tiago, carrying the stolen Rs 3.75-crore gold.Police officers then seized the phone of the arrested suspect to text the gang members in the Tiago, claiming he was lost and persuading them to share their WhatsApp live location to coordinate a meeting point.

Unaware that they were messaging the police, the gang shared their real-time coordinates and drove straight into the trap.High-speed rammingPolice teams rushed to the meeting location and barricaded the road. When the Tiago arrived, the driver refused to pull over and instead accelerated, ramming directly into Inspector Gadhvi's police vehicle.Despite his door jamming from the impact and being dragged 500 metres when he tried to intervene, Inspector Gadhvi managed to reach inside, pull the handbrake, and stop the car."The other police personnel immediately rushed to assist and successfully overpowered the three accused inside the vehicle. Meanwhile, one accused managed to escape from the scene and fled into the adjoining fields, but a systematic search and cordon by the teams led to his apprehension as well," the police statement added.With all four suspects in custody, officers searched the vehicles and found 2.9 kg of stolen gold hidden beneath the seat covers of the Baleno. Both vehicles were seized, and all four men were handed over to the Nadiad GRP, where they were booked and arrested for robbery.

Attacks on gay dating app users rise; reported cases 'tip of iceberg'



Over the last couple of years, there have been several attacks in Pune on men looking for same-sex relationships through apps used by LGBTQIA+ people, the police and activists said.On September 29, three youngsters allegedly attacked a 22-year-old man having sex with another man he met through the Grindr app.

The victim, who hails from Bhosari, and his gay date were attacked by the assailants at a dilapidated building near the Mental Asylum in the Yerwada area around 6 pm, according to the FIR. The other man allegedly ran away to escape from the assailants.The assailants also forcibly transferred Rs 20,000 using the victim's PhonePe account, threatened to kill him, and tried to have sex with him, according to the FIR.When he resisted, the assailants dropped him at Vishrantwadi Chowk on a two-wheeler and left, it added.The man approached the police two days later after receiving counselling from YUTAK Trust, which works among LGBTQIA+ people.Assistant Police Inspector Chandrakant Lohkare said, "We probed the bank account into which the accused had forcibly transferred the victim's money. This led to the arrest of 19-year-old Devendra alias Karan on the same day. A court remanded him to police custody until October 7 for further investigation. Attempts are underway to arrest the remaining two accused."

The police booked the three men on charges including voluntarily causing hurt, robbery, and criminal intimidation.Minor boy lures 25-year-old manIn a previous incident, a minor boy lured a 25-year-old man from Warje Malwadi through a gay dating app and called him for a meeting near a shopping mall in Karve Nagar on the night of April 29. The minor then took the man for a "long drive". They reached a secluded spot, where the minor's aides allegedly attacked the man, stoned his face, snatched his cell phone, and transferred Rs 8,600 from his account.Within an hour after he complained, the police apprehended the minor accused on May 8. His three aides were arrested later.Earlier this year, the police arrested a gang of five who allegedly robbed three users of a gay dating app between December 28, 2025, and January 11, 2026.

According to an FIR registered in these cases, a 27-year-old man received a message on a gay dating app from an ID named "ImTop", used by a person identifying himself as Rahil. They decided to meet in Kondhwa around 9 pm on January 11 for a "hook-up".But when the man reached the spot, Rahil and his friends allegedly took the victim to an isolated spot and robbed him of his gold ornaments.The police arrested Rahil and four others, including a history-sheeter charged under the stringent Maharashtra Control of Organised Crimes Act (MCOCA) in the past.The police said the gang members had similarly robbed at least two more men. They targeted men looking for same-sex dating, believing that victims would not file police complaints.

In July 2025, when a 22-year-old man went to meet another man he met through a gay dating app, two others forced him to take his clothes off and recorded his videos in a car. Threatening to publicise the videos, they allegedly forced the victim into making online transfers of Rs 8,000.A 24-year-old man was allegedly blackmailed into paying Rs 1.09 lakh between August 2024 and January 2025 by people who befriended him on a gay dating app. The FIR in the case was lodged after YUTAK Trust members met top Pune police officials.Later, in April 2025, the police arrested a gang of four youngsters for allegedly robbing several men from Pune and Pimpri-Chinchwad after luring them through a gay dating app.'Many are not willing to approach police'LGBTQIA+ rights activist Bindumadhav Khire of Sampathik Trust said the cases registered represented the tip of the iceberg."Also, gay victims are not targeted only in urban centres, but also in rural parts, for easy money. We have received calls on our helpline from several rural victims. Many are not willing to approach the police due to social pressures," said Khire.Anil Ukarande of Yutak Trust said the police should be prompt in registering the crimes against the LGBTQIA+ community. "These crimes will increase if they go unreported. Efforts like posting reels on such crimes on official social media handles of police establishments should be made to raise public awareness. It will encourage the victims to ignore social taboo and lodge police complaints," he said.

His parents were injured by a pothole. Delhi teen then started tracking road repairs



In October 2025, Parth Anand's parents were driving to Delhi's Karol Bagh to buy clothes for his grandparents' anniversary when their motorcycle hit a pothole.They fell off the vehicle and suffered fractures. It took them about three months to recover.For Anand, the accident was difficult to dismiss as just another bad-road mishap. He noticed that the pothole appeared to have been there for some time.He reported the pothole through the Municipal Corporation of Delhi's (MCD) system. But responses, he found, could take three to four months."What struck me was that more and more people were complaining, but the authorities were still not responding. That frustration kept growing," he said.That experience eventually became the starting point for Project Sadak.

In March this year, the 15-year-old began building a platform that would do more than collect pothole complaints. It would identify the agency responsible, send the complaint to it and, crucially, leave a public trail of what happened next.Anand built the first platform himself, working on it alongside school — he studies at St Francis de Sales School in Janakpuri — during a roughly three-hour window between tuition and his commute home.He later used AI to develop the platform further.As of September, the platform had recorded 1,815 reports across India, including more than 220 from Delhi. Bengaluru accounts for more than 1,500, while other reports have come from Rajasthan, Uttarakhand and Kerala.More than 20 repairs have been documented through the platform.In Vikaspuri, two potholes reported through Sadak in April were fixed in about five days, Anand said. In Bengaluru, a complaint filed in June was followed by a repair within two days. Anand said his analysis of pothole complaints in the city found that repairs typically take three to four months.The number of reports also rose during the monsoon, increasing by 25% in cities such as Bengaluru and Delhi, he added.A resident first uploads a photograph and location of the damaged road. The report then goes through an AI-assisted verification process to identify whether the image actually shows a pothole and to detect duplicate reports.The system also asks the person reporting the pothole to classify the nature of severity. Anand said this determines how the platform follows up with authorities.Once a report is verified, an AI agent identifies the authority responsible for that particular road and files a complaint with it.Depending on the road, this could mean agencies such as the MCD or National Highways Authority of India (NHAI). The AI agent also follows up through email.Each report, Anand said, is photographed, geotagged and timestamped, and its status remains publicly visible."What makes it different is that existing channels like MCD 311 / PWD helplines take complaints, but citizens rarely see what happens next — and there's no public record of how long the fixes take. Sadak's focus is primarily on public tracking," said Anand.Initially, Anand built the platform using his own coding knowledge. As the project grew more complex, he began using AI to further develop and scale it. "The basic reporting form was easy to build myself. It got complex once real reports started coming in."One of the problems was duplicate reporting. "Many people report the same pothole, so the system has to tell if two reports are the same spot using GPS and photos," he said.

Alongside the project, Anand said he is working on AI research in mechanistic interpretability with Prof Manolis Kellis's lab, at MIT Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence Laboratory (CSAIL), and is an Emergent Ventures fellow.The project also received a grant from the Lift Off Grant, an independent microgrant programme, which was used to meet the development costs of the project.On future plans, Anand said he had discussions with another country about adapting the platform to meet its national reporting requirements, and was in talks with an automotive technology company to deploy instant pothole-fixing machines, which could raise awareness about Project Sadak and the need for faster repairs.But the larger problem Anand wants to tackle is simpler than the technology behind Sadak: getting people to stop treating potholes as an unavoidable part of city life. "The issue of potholes is not new. It's very basic. But everybody suffers from it. They see it and ignore it," he said.

In Maharashtra, everybody is protesting – From 'cockroaches' to tribals to women



Protests in Maharashtra have reached a crescendo. In the past few weeks, different parts of Maharashtra have witnessed a string of agitations – from Gen-Z to tribal students to women, though only a few made the headlines. On Friday, October 2, the Cockroach Janata Party (CJP) held a protest in Mumbai, demanding the ouster of CEC Gyanesh Kumar, followed by a similar protest by the Thackeray cousins.As this was happening, another one walked into Mumbai from Nashik over the weekend – the tribal students.The triggers are many – farm loan waiver, student hostel facilities, better roads, noise pollution, irregularities in government recruitment exams, functioning of the Election Commission, among others.The Indian Express has listed what has kept the state government and the Maharashtra Police on their toes over the past few months. Farmers protested in June and July 2026, demanding eligibility relaxations in the Punyashlok Ahilyadevi Holkar farm loan waiver scheme.In September 2026, the All India Kisan Sabha launched protests, demanding regular crop loan payees be given a Rs 2 lakh incentive In June 2026, onion farmers staged Rasta Roko on the Pune-Nashik national highway, demanding MSP for their produce For the past year, farmers from western Maharashtra and Marathwada have protested against the Shaktipeeth road project, refusing to part ways with their lands.For over 2 years, students preparing for Maharashtra Public Service Commission (MPSC) examinations have protested against exam fees, online exams, delayed results and irregularities. The protests intensified after Vivek Bhimanwar was appointed the MPSC chairman.

Students in Pune protested over hostel rules. What worked as a catalyst was the deaths of tribal students in Gadchiroli due to snake bites.In September 2026, resident doctors and interns across Maharashtra's government medical colleges protested against allowing homoeopathy practitioners to be registered with the Maharashtra Medical Council (MMC).Students have been protesting at IIT Bombay since the death of Sahil Wakode on September 18. CJP protests in Mumbai and surrounding areas in support of the Jantar Mantar agitationWomenWomen excluded from Majhi Ladki Bahin scheme are protesting, alleging bias.Pune, Nagpur, and Mumbai witnessed citizens protesting in solidarity with the survivors of sexual assault across India.Social activist Manoj Jarange-Patil held a 20-day hunger strike, demanding Maratha quota To counter Jarange, OBC organisations held protests, alleging the government was diluting OBC reservation.Maharashtra is witnessing protests from Dhangar and Banjara communities, demanding Scheduled Tribe (ST) status.

A road blockade was held in August 2026 across Pune, Nashik and Ahilyanagar districts to demand restoration of the original direct railway alignment between Pune and Nashik. Citizens and environmentalists from across the state are protesting against the felling of trees in Nashik to make arrangements for the upcoming Sinhastha Kumbh Mela.Days before the Ganesh festival, Pune residents took to the streets, demanding a blanket ban on the use of DJs during festivals and religious events.Thane's Balkum, Majiwada and Dhokali saw protests against a hyperscale data centre, expected to consume 422 MW of power, 125 kilolitres of treated water daily and have 193 diesel generators on standby.

India's LNG imports fall 14 per-cent, Oman tops supplier list in September

New Delhi: Oman emerged as India's largest supplier of liquefied natural gas (LNG) in September, replacing the United States as the country continued to diversify its energy imports amid ongoing geopolitical disruptions in West Asia, according to a report.According to Kpler data, India imported 585,000 tonnes of LNG from Oman in September, up 11.6 per cent from August, giving the Gulf nation a 27 per cent share of total LNG imports.Nigeria became the second-largest supplier, with shipments of 351,000 tonnes, although volumes fell 35 per cent from the previous month. The US, which topped the supplier list in August with 848,000 tonnes, slipped to third place after exports to India declined 59 per cent, accounting for 16 per cent of September imports.Qatar, once India's dominant LNG supplier with a market share of around 45 per cent, fell to sixth place and supplied about 94,000 tonnes during the month. The UAE supplied 311,000 tonnes, while Angola exported 205,000 tonnes to India.The sharp decline in Qatari supplies followed disruptions caused by Iran's strike on Ras Laffan Industrial City in March, a key LNG production hub and a



major source of natural gas exports to India.India's overall LNG imports also declined 14 per cent month-on-month to 2.17 million tonnes in September from 2.5 million tonnes in August.Natural gas plays an important role in fertiliser production, industrial heating, power generation and urban transportation. India imports nearly half of its LNG requirements

Dead drops in Punjab to godowns in MP, how drug kingpin's syndicate operated

Narco-trafficking kingpin Navpreet Singh, accused of running an international heroin syndicate, allegedly told investigators that drugs were delivered through dead drops — buried at multiple locations in Punjab and stored in godowns in Madhya Pradesh — according to the prosecution.A Delhi court on Saturday remanded the 34-year-old to 10 days' custody of the Delhi Police Special Cell, which told the court it needed to recover the drugs, trace the syndicate's supply chain, and identify other people involved in the alleged trafficking network.Navpreet, 34, was deported from Türkiye and arrested at Delhi airport on Saturday. Union Home Minister Amit Shah announced his deportation in a post on X, saying Singh had obtained Turkish citizenship using the false identity of Navab Virk.The 2021 heroin caseNavpreet was produced before Special Judge, Narcotic Drugs And Psychotropic Substances (NDPS), Anuradha Shukla, at Rouse Avenue court on October 3 in a case dating back to July 2021.The Special Cell had then arrested a man in South Delhi and followed the trail to Faridabad, where a total of 358.08 kg of heroin was seized.During submissions, Special Public Prosecutor (SPP) Akhand Pratap Singh told the court, "There is ample evidence against this accused (Navpreet) in form of his connection with co-accused Gurpreet and Gurjyot Singh, from whom huge quantity of heroin in total 358.08 kilogram was recovered".He also submitted that the co-accused had made disclosure statements against Navpreet. "A cheque book recovered from the premises of co-accused Ramandeep belonged to the accused," the court order recorded.The court noted that Navpreet was declared a proclaimed offender on February 16, 2022. According to the prosecution, he had avoided investigation and court proceedings for more than four years.The court order also recorded the prosecution's submission that Navpreet had inflicted injuries on his hand and stomach when he was being handed over to the Special Cell. He was taken to Medanta Hospital at the Delhi Airport for medical treatment.Police seek to trace supply chain, identify associatesAccording to the Special Cell's remand papers, it sought Navpreet's custody to question him about the alleged syndicate's operations, his movements and the preparation of his passport in Delhi, as well as to confront him with statements made by other accused. It also sought to identify and apprehend other alleged suppliers, financiers, carriers and facilitators."The disclosure of the accused is on record wherein he has stated that he used to deliver drugs through dead drop," SPP Singh told the court.In a dead drop, a consignment is left at an agreed location for someone else to collect later.SPP Singh said Navpreet had told investigators that drugs had been buried at several places in Punjab and that he could identify the locations and help recover them.… the accused, in his disclosure, also stated that his associates, Labba and Manna, had taken godowns in MP where drugs were kept and there is a house in Punjab also which can be identified," the order reads.Judge Shukla said, The investigation necessitates police custody of the accused to recover the buried drugs which were dead dropped and other drugs which accused has stated that he has kept hidden; to unearth the supply chain,

EDITORIAL

From setbacks to success — ISRO's desi navigation system gets a boost

The successful launch of the navigation satellite NVS-03 came as a shot in the arm for ISRO's efforts to develop a desi navigation system as an Indian answer to the American GPS network. The feat is particularly significant in the wake of technical setbacks in the past that had raised doubts about the feasibility of the indigenous satellite navigation system, called NavIC (Navigation with Indian Constellation). Once NVS-03 is in orbit and commissioned, the system will have four satellites in operation. A functional satellite navigation system requires at least four satellites to be visible simultaneously for reliable positioning. Like the US Global Positioning System (GPS), NavIC is a satellite-based navigation system. However, unlike GPS, which offers global coverage, NavIC is designed to serve India and the region extending roughly 1,500 km beyond its borders. NVS-02, launched in January last year, was expected to bring NavIC back to the minimum number of satellites needed for positioning services. However, a problem arose during orbit-raising, and the engine could not fire. For NVS-03, ISRO adopted a different strategy to avoid a repeat of this problem, and it paid off. The failure of the imported atomic clocks was another blow to NavIC. ISRO has since developed indigenous rubidium atomic clocks, which are now being used on the NVS-class satellites. This reduces dependence on imported hardware. NavIC will play a crucial role in applications ranging from defence and disaster management to agriculture and fleet tracking.

NavIC will provide two types of services—Standard Positioning Service (SPS) and Restricted Service (RS). The SPS provides position accuracy of better than 20 metres and timing accuracy of better than 40 nanoseconds over the service area. NVS-03 also has a key additional feature: support for the L1 frequency band, which is used by many consumer navigation devices. This could, in principle, allow compatible smartphones and smartwatches to receive NavIC signals directly, thereby extending the utility of the system beyond just the defence domain. The benefits for fishermen are potentially huge, especially along the Tamil Nadu and Bengal coasts. NavIC-enabled equipment could alert a fishing vessel as it approaches a neighbouring country's maritime boundary, helping it avoid an inadvertent crossing. With the right equipment, it could also be used for distress alerts. Farmers would benefit from accurate positioning for land surveying and services that combine satellite navigation with weather information. In aviation, NavIC could be used to support operations in poor visibility, provided the appropriate systems and procedures are in place. For the armed forces, an operational NavIC would reduce their reliance on GPS for navigation and guidance. The idea of NavIC was born out of a strategic need for indigenous navigation and timing services, particularly after India was denied access to foreign GPS data during the Kargil War. NavIC was designed to provide precise position, velocity and timing information over India and its surrounding areas.

Strict BS-VI checks for rally supporters at Gurugram border, Noida goes easy

Even as large convoys of vehicles were headed to INDIA bloc's rally against alleged SIR irregularities at Ramlila Maidan in the Capital on Sunday, the enforcement of checks for non-BS-VI vehicles varied along Noida and Gurugram borders. While Gurugram saw stricter checks, many such non-compliant vehicles were allowed to enter the Capital from Uttar Pradesh.Around noon, a cluster of seven buses, followed by some older ones, led by SUVs— including Scorpios and Fortuners — lined up at the Dwarka Expressway toll, ready to enter Delhi from Haryana.

Soon after, the Haryana Police officers started rounding the vehicles up. The brand-new SUVs were allowed to pass, but the old ragged buses — with 200 odd people, carrying Indian flags and Congress banners, aboard — were stopped. None of them were BS-VI compliant.As the Congress supporters came out of the buses, police personnel tried to stop them.Some of them remove the plastic barricades, and start protesting. Slogans such as "Vote chor, gaddi chor" rent the air as commuters honked trying to get past a 2-km jam that ensued. "They have only left this small space open to let vehicles pass from here. They are just trying to slow us down," said Manish, a party worker, claiming that the checks were meant to stop protesters.

Some of the non-compliant buses were then rerouted via Udyog Vihar. "You think we are fools, where will we go from there? How will we reach," an elderly woman protester told the policemen after coming out. Others hopped on to vehicles that were allowed to let go.On the other hand, till 1 pm, buses carrying members of farmer unions and several Opposition parties entered the Capital via Chilla border connecting Delhi and Noida.According to a Delhi Police officer, senior officers told them not to be very strict with checks on the vehicles carrying them."I stopped one private bus carrying around 40 people going to join the rally. It was not BS-VI compliant. The driver took a U-turn, asked the protestors to get down. They were then walking towards Delhi. But within 30 minutes, while I was checking another vehicle, I saw the same bus speeding and passing by. Soon an officer on a bike followed it and stopped it," he said.

However barring one such crackdown, the officers on duty said they mostly resorted to just noting down the number of such cars and buses crossing the border.

CCTV footage from Shiv Sena leader's house lands Punjab cop in trouble



An assistant sub-inspector (ASI) of police in Punjab's Khanna was suspended late Sunday after CCTV footage purportedly showed him placing a packet under a mattress at the house of Shiv Sena leader Mahant Kashmir Giri.This came a day after the Khanna police claimed to have recovered heroin from the same spot and arrested Giri.However, a video clip later went viral on social media, purportedly from a hidden camera at Giri's residence, showing a policeman dressed in plain clothes keeping a packet under a mattress."ASI Sukhdev Singh has been suspended. The suspect, Mahant Kashmir Giri, has been discharged from the case," Darpan Ahluwalia, Senior Superintendent of Police, Khanna, told The Indian Express."A Special Investigation Team (SIT) led by an SP-rank officer has been constituted to probe the matter and the role of other officials who had conducted the search operation at Giri's residence on Sunday," Ahluwalia added.What the footage showsAccording to information, the CCTV footage from Giri's house purportedly showed ASI Sukhdev Singh entering a room in plain clothes and placing something under a mattress.Later, Vijaypal Singh, Station House Officer (SHO), Sadar Police Station, Tarwinder Kumar Bedi, SHO, City-2, and other police personnel arrived at the house. During the search, the police claimed to have recovered around 30 grams of heroin from beneath the same mattress and arrested him.The police initially said Giri's driver, Gurjant Singh alias Janta, was arrested with 7.5 grams of heroin in an FIR registered at Khanna Sadar Police Station. During his interrogation, Giri's name allegedly surfaced, following which a police team visited his house.Giri has faced several criminal cases over the years, with allegations ranging from attempted murder and weapons offences to cheating, impersonation and drug trafficking. His name has figured in cases registered in both Punjab and Delhi, including incidents involving his family members.In October last year, the police arrested Giri and his four accomplices for allegedly running a drug supply racket in Punjab, and claimed recovery of 1.15 kg of heroin from the gang.The racket was operated by Lovepreet Singh, an alleged drug peddler already lodged in Ropar jail, the police had said, adding that Giri was "constantly in touch over phone" with the jailed peddler.

Giri, a resident of Ward Number 15, Khanna, and a former rashtriya pracharak of the Shiv Sena's Punjab unit, has been previously booked in at least six FIRs, including five in Khanna and one in Delhi.In April 2021, Giri was arrested for allegedly orchestrating an attack on himself to get "security cover." Giri had claimed two bike-borne men had opened fire outside his residence and accused "Khalistani radicals" of the attack.However, the Khanna police arrested Giri for allegedly hiring the two men for Rs 1 lakh to carry out the firing.In 2023, Giri, along with his sons Rajan and Shivam, were booked in an alleged cheating and impersonation case at Delhi's Rani Bagh Police Station for allegedly looting 10 kg of gold from a jeweller's employee.The police said his sons allegedly posed as Central Goods and Services Tax inspectors to carry out the heist.Other FIRs against him include charges for attempted murder and weapon offences. He also runs a self-styled, anti-Khalistan outfit.

A Rs 1,200-crore web of promises: How a Gujarat app drew investors nationwide



A 48-year-old teacher from Vadodara, a single mother to a college-going son, has invested Rs 9.5 lakh from the sale of her 1BHK apartment in 2025 in the digital wallet app SD Pay.By mid-2026, her balance in her digital wallet was Rs 50 lakh, but there was a catch: She could not withdraw her money as the app was shut down in mid-2026.A network marketer of religious items earlier, she met one of the men who allegedly handled SD Pay in Vadodara in July 2025."I declined to join but they showed me the escrow wallet and documents. When I still declined, they gave me a signed blank cheque and told me that if I didn't trust them, I could sign in the amount and cash the cheque at any time. That is how they gained my trust," the teacher told Launched in 2024 by Dhaval Patel – the prime accused in the scam – SD Pay or Apna Pay mobile application promised to make users' bill payments and mobile recharges more easy. Building confidence of customers because of high initial monetary returns, the application was downloaded by 15 lakh people, through referrals.gujarat app scam Victims outside Cybercrime police station in Amreli district of Gujarat.

"They used themes of nationalistic propaganda and posed as a bootstrapped startup facing pushback from 'competitors' and the 'government' when the initial arrests were made," an investigator says.When it was first detected in September in Amreli district, the scam touched over Rs 1200 crore with 18 FIRs lodged till date and the arrest of a dozen accused.FIRS Investigators say they know of at least 18 FIRs filed against the accused persons across three states including 13 across 9 districts in Gujarat, 2 in Rajasthan and two in Maharashtra and 1 in Tamil NaduOn September 2, 2026, the Cybercrime Police in Amreli district booked the promoters and directors of these apps along with other accused persons.They were allegedly paying out 0.15% to 0.30% interest per day depending on the investment slab, bringing in a lot of people.Police said, "With no initial capital to pay out these interests and no revenue generation through production, sales or services, the interest was allegedly paid to investors by the income generated from those who came in after them." This model rose to the height of its organic growth in 2025.Police found one victim from Surendranagar who, in order to invest in the scheme, took a personal loan of Rs 20 lakh in his name, another Rs 20 lakh in his wife's name and then a gold loan of Rs 20 lakh and invested all of this in SD Pay hoping to build a house from the returns. He cannot retrieve even his principal deposit now.

After saturating North Gujarat, the main accused Dhaval Patel set up a shop in Gandhinagar where he met Narendrasinh Jhala, a marketer, and together they began a massive marketing blitz, said investigators."It involved marketing the SD Pay application to reach the public and persuading them to invest money through it…" said a police statement."Even though they had incorporated seven companies, none of them created any value, either by production or providing services – they just took money from new investors and paid off the ones who came before," an investigator said.The scheme ploughed into people's savings by convincing them through seminars, zoom calls and marketing techniques. Early bird investors who saw a profit in doing this work full time, began acting on their own to recruit more investors down the line in the greed for commission, thus blurring the lines between perpetrators and victims."The accused initially offered extraordinary cashback; however, the application did not gain significant traction, and the public did not make substantial investments. To attract and entice people, the accused introduced a 'referral cashback' facility," said the police.They had allegedly promised a 'referral cashback' ranging from 30% payout to Level 1 in the matrix to 3% payable to those who were down the chain between Levels 10-15.Three months down the line, the police are still trying hard to separate chaff from grain — perpetrator from victim. For instance, one man from Surat, who invested Rs1,000 and earned Rs1 crore, has created a chain of 1.6 lakh investors under his umbrella alone.The victims range from farmers, teachers, bankers to even a former IAS officer.The Vadodara teacher said that after she put up posts saying that she was happy with her investment in SD Pay, 31 other people in her immediate circle joined. These included 11 family members including a widowed sister, septuagenarian mother and brother, who invested an aggregate amount of Rs 30 lakh; and 20 colleagues who put in Rs12 lakh. "I later learned that down the chain, a total of 800 people had joined through referrals from the investors I had brought in. At one point, I was earning Rs 25,000 per day in interest and referral cashback," she told

"Many people even operated secondary accounts opened in the names of family members in order to increase their revenue from referrals," saidInspector Kamlesh Khatana, who heads the Special Investigation Team in Amreli.With the growth cycle winding down, and source of funds drying out, interest couldn't be paid to those who had already invested earlier. By March 2026, the accused started issuing shares to victims in lieu of their investments, claiming they were soon coming out with an Initial Public Offering (IPO).

"When we told them we did not want interest of notional value, they threatened us to take Rs 40 lakh worth of shares or we wouldn't get any of the money. I fought with them, but to no avail. They said that everyone with more than Rs15 lakh had to accept the shares," said the Vadodara teacher."One accused, Santosh Pathak, arrested recently from Rajkot, who had added 1 lakh investors to the system, had, as of October 30, Rs16 crore accrued to his SD Pay account, had received a receipt for allocation of 2 lakh shares of the company at a notional value of Rs 20 that the accused claimed would rise to Rs100 when the company was listed on the stock market," Amreli SP Sanjay Kharat said.

In March 2026, investors who had put in money in SD Pay and Apna Pay saw that they had stopped receiving their highly lucrative daily accruing interest, and murmurs began.On June 6, 2026, a 32-year-old computer operator from Savarkundla district gave a complaint to Amreli district police naming Ashish Gediya and Bhavesh Chauhan of cheating him of Rs 2 lakh via the app. However, when the accused learnt about the complaint, they refunded him the amount and the complainant withdrew his complaint.Notwithstanding, the Amreli police decided to investigate. And they found that the initial investment was made by cash through angadia (private couriers) but the refund was by bank transfers to their accounts which raised suspicion."Furthermore, it appeared that a major fraudulent scheme was being orchestrated by enticing a large number of people into this application through promises of extraordinary returns and a referral (MLM) structure," the police statement said.They discovered that the money had originated from a Yes Bank account held by a company named 'Shiv Dharti Communication Pvt. Ltd.' The National Cyber Crime Reporting Portal (NCCRP) revealed that at the time, four separate complaints regarding online fraud—originating from different states—had been filed against it.A senior police officer said, "We also learnt that there was already an FIR against the same group of people at CID Crime in Gujarat, filed way back in September 2025."

The police ultimately found a victim uncomfortably close to their own home, when the wife of a policeman filed a complaint stating she had lost Rs10 lakh. Before filing the FIR on September 2, 2026, the team located several accused, who were apprehended later, Amreli SP Kharat said.They were booked at Cybercrime police station of Amreli under BNS sections for cheating and criminal conspiracy, as well as under the Banning of Unregulated Deposit Schemes (BUDS) Act, the Gujarat Protection of Interest of Depositors (in Financial Establishments) Act, the Prize Chits and Money Circulation Schemes (Banning) Act, and the Information Technology (IT) Act.

Five persons were arrested on the same day from different states. On September 12, promoters Dhaval Patel and Hiren Shah were apprehended by a joint team of Gujarat and Odisha Police, when he was on his way to Sambalpur.

Bengal Assembly canteen staff member found dead inside restroom; police begin probe



3A 46-year-old casual staff member of the West Bengal Legislative Assembly canteen died under mysterious circumstances Monday morning after being found unconscious inside a restroom on the Assembly premises in Kolkata. He was rescued and rushed to the Medical College and Hospital, where doctors declared him dead on arrival.

Umesh Chandra Das had been working as a temporary employee in the Assembly canteen for around 15 years. "His body was recovered around 9.10 am inside a washroom in the canteen section," said Kunal Agarwal, Additional Commissioner of Police (Crime).The discovery of the body inside the high-security Assembly premises triggered tension. Officers from the Hare Street police station and the homicide wing of the detective department arrived at the scene to begin an investigation.

The police said they found no visible injuries on his body and suspect no foul play as of now. No formal complaint has been filed regarding the death. The police also made arrangements for an inquest and post-mortem examination, which is expected to explain the cause of death.

Panchkula school assault: School principal, two teachers suspended



The Haryana government has suspended the principal and two JBT teachers of a Panchkula government school following severe administrative lapses surrounding the brutal assault of a six-year-old girl by an eight-year-old boy in an empty classroom.

The Haryana government has suspended the principal and two Junior Basic Training (JBT) teachers of the government school in Panchkula where a six-year-old girl was allegedly assaulted by an eight-year-old boy inside an empty classroom on October 28.The suspension order against the principal was issued on Sunday, a day after the two JBT teachers were suspended.

In the order, Haryana Principal Secretary (School Education) Vijay Singh Dahiya said the principal had been placed under suspension under Rule 5 of the Haryana Civil Services (Punishment and Appeal) Rules, 2016.The six-year-old girl was left battling for her life after the eight-year-old boy allegedly attacked her with a brick and a flower pot, banged her head against a desk, and stomped on her face and body on October 28.

During the police investigation, prima facie lapses on the part of the school administration came to light, following which an FIR was registered on Saturday under relevant provisions of the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015, and the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS).Meanwhile, in a related move, Postgraduate Institute of Medical Education and Research (PGIMER) Director Prof Vivek Lal said on Sunday that the institute is providing the best possible medical care free of cost to the six-year-old girl, who was critically injured in an alleged assault by an eight-year-old boy at a Panchkula school, and will also extend every possible assistance to the family."The circumstances involving this little child are deeply concerning. We want to ensure that she receives the best possible medical care, along with all the support and comfort she needs. The entire treatment is being provided free of cost, and the institute will extend every possible assistance to the family," said Lal, who visited the child and enquired about her health and progress from the treating doctors. He also interacted with the medical team to review the care being provided to her.

At PGIMER, our responsibility goes beyond providing medical treatment. It is equally about standing by patients and their families in their most difficult moments," Lal said.According to a PGIMER spokesperson, Lal has directed that all medical expenses, including the cost of treatment and other facilities, be borne by the institute. A private room has been provided to ensure that the child receives appropriate care, comfort and privacy during her treatment.The girl was left battling for life after the boy allegedly attacked her inside an empty classroom at a government school in Haryana's Panchkula, hitting her with a brick and a flower pot, banging her head against a desk and stomping on her face and body, police said on Saturday.The girl, who suffered facial frctures, including a nasal fracture, is under the supervision of a multidisciplinary team of specialists at PGIME

'Former Punjab Congress president': Warring changes X bio amid exit buzz



Ludhiana MP Amrinder Singh Raja Warring has effectively signalled his exit as Punjab Congress chief by rewriting his bio on X as "Former PPCC President". This comes even as the party has yet to name a successor. Senior Congress leaders in Punjab, including Charanjit Singh Channi and Sukhjinder Singh Randhawa, are in New Delhi amid the transition.Warring first changed the designation from "President, INC Punjab" to "Former President INC Punjab" and, within minutes, to "Former PPCC President". The Indian Express reported on Thursday that the Congress high command has decided to remove Warring as Punjab Congress chief.

Warring's other bio entries – Ludhiana MP, former Punjab cabinet minister, former Gidderbaha MLA and former Indian Youth Congress president – are unchanged. Earlier in the day, he refused to confirm the change to reporters, saying he had just returned from a walk and would speak later.On the speculation about his resignation as Punjab Congress President, he said, "I don't want to comment on anything. When the time is right, I will let you know." On whether he will visit the party office in Delhi, he said, "Some matters are internal…"

The Congress high command, it is learnt, has decided to replace Warring as the state chief, but there has been no formal announcement. Warring has headed the Punjab Pradesh Congress Committee since April 2022, when he succeeded Navjot Singh Sidhu after the party's Assembly defeat. The move follows months of factional pressure and organisational feedback gathered by AICC Punjab in-charge Sachin Pilot, who replaced Bhupesh Baghel on September 5.In July, the high command retained Warring, appointed Channi as chairperson of the campaign committee and gave other roles to leaders, including Randhawa and Vijay Inder Singla. The arrangement did not settle the dissent.

Many contenders for top postThe name of the next state Congress president remains uncertain. Names doing the rounds include former minister and CWC member Singla, Jalandhar Cantonment MLA Pargat Singh, former chief minister and Jalandhar MP Channi, Gurdaspur MP Randhawa, Amritsar MP Gurjeet Singh Aujla and Raja Sansi MLA Sukhbinder Singh Sarkaria.

Asked in Patiala whether he can be the next Punjab Congress president, Singla said, "I am a loyal soldier of the party, and whenever I have been given a responsibility, I have always worked as a party worker. I will continue to work in the same manner with everyone in the future. Today, our president is Amrinder Singh Raja Warring, and all of us, including party leaders and workers, are working with him. Whenever the party has given me responsibility to work in another state, I have gone there and worked for the party…"Sources have suggested an announcement could come within a day or two, possibly after further consultations with Mallikarjun Kharge and Rahul Gandhi. Speaking to reporters in Delhi, Channi said the choice of state president was the party's prerogative. "It is the prerogative of the Congress party, and of Mallikarjun Kharge and Rahul Gandhi. They know where to appoint someone and when to make a change. They will decide whether a change needs to be made or not," he said, adding that reshuffles were routine and that Pilot's appointment had created "a new sense of hope" among workers.

Delhi's September AQI was lowest in 5 years. So why did PM2.5 and PM10 rise?



Delhi's air appeared to improve this September. The city's average Air Quality Index, or AQI – a numerical index that translates concentrations of multiple air pollutants into a single measure of air quality – fell to 102, its lowest September average in five years, according to official data from the Commission for Air Quality Management.But measurements of two specific key pollutants – PM2.5 and PM10 – tell a different story.The concentrations of PM2.5 and PM10, two of the pollutants most closely associated with harmful air pollution, slightly increased this September compared with last year, according to an analysis of data from the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB).At first glance, the two sets of numbers appear contradictory. But they measure different aspects of air quality, and the difference largely lies in how the AQI is calculated and how the data is being compared.AQI is not an average of pollutants

The National Air Quality Index classifies air quality into six categories: Good (0–50), Satisfactory (51–100), Moderately polluted (101–200), Poor (201–300), Very Poor (301–400) and Severe (401–500). With an average AQI of 102, Delhi's air in September fell into the Moderately polluted category.The Air Quality Index is a composite measure based on concentrations of individual pollutants, including PM2.5, PM10, nitrogen dioxide, ozone, sulphur dioxide, carbon monoxide, ammonia and others.For each pollutant, a sub-index is calculated based on its concentration. The overall AQI is determined by the pollutant with the highest sub-index on a given day.This means the AQI is not obtained by simply adding or averaging the concentrations of PM2.5, PM10 and gaseous pollutants.As a result, a rise in PM2.5 does not necessarily mean the AQI will rise by a corresponding amount. If PM2.5 increases but its sub-index remains below that of another pollutant, the overall AQI can remain unchanged or even fall if the dominant pollutant is at a lower level. The same applies to PM10.

What happened in September?

The analysis of the CPCB data for September shows that the average PM10 concentration rose from 104 micrograms per cubic metre in September 2025 to 106 µg/m³ this year. PM2.5 increased from 35 µg/m³ to 39 µg/m³.At the same time, the monthly averages of NO2 and ozone were lower than they were in September 2025.CAQM, meanwhile, reported that Delhi's September average AQI was 102, compared with 105 in both 2025 and 2024, 108 in 2023 and 104 in 2022.So, the decline in the monthly AQI does not mean that concentrations of every pollutant declined. It means the composite AQI outcome was lower.

Why does the AQI not move with PM2.5 alone?

A rise in PM2.5 does not always mean the overall AQI will rise. That is because the AQI is based on several pollutants, and the pollutant with the highest sub-index determines the final AQI. So, even if PM2.5 or PM10 goes up, the overall AQI can still fall if another pollutant that was driving the index drops significantly."If PM2.5 rises from one concentration to another, its sub-index also rises. But if ozone or another pollutant still has the higher sub-index, the overall AQI is controlled by that pollutant. Conversely, if the pollutant that was previously driving the AQI falls substantially, the overall AQI can decline even if PM2.5 or PM10 rises," explained Sunil Dahiya, lead analyst and founder at Delhi-based think tank Envirocatalysts.He also pointed out that month-to-month variations in average AQI can affect the cumulative average when a longer period, such as January to September, is compared with previous years. Even relatively small differences in individual months can result in a slight change in the overall average when aggregated over nine months.On the scientific rationale behind such comparison, a CAQM spokesperson said the commission's evaluation uses a comprehensive approach, looking at cumulative trends from January through the month under review, including monthly averages and the number of days in different AQI categories as a standard practice in its analysis reports.For January 1 to September 28, Delhi recorded 194 days with an average AQI below 200, the highest count in the corresponding period of the last five years. The figure was 187 in 2025, 188 in 2024, 193 in 2023 and 146 in 2022, the Commission noted in a statement Wednesday.The number of days in the Poor to Severe+ categories also fell to 79, compared with 86 each in 2025 and 2024, 80 in 2023 and 127 in 2022.The cumulative PM2.5 average for January 1 to September 28 was 69 µg/m³, the same as in 2025 and below 81 µg/m³ in 2024, 73 µg/m³ in 2023 and 80 µg/m³ in 2022.

Gurgaon Greenopolis buyers paid Rs 1,159 crore, no home after 11 years

From the outside, Greenopolis in Gurgaon's Sector 89 looks like a finished, upscale housing complex. A grand white archway with the project's name in bold green letters opens onto paved roads, trimmed hedges, and a roundabout with a fountain.A cluster of beige buildings sits beyond it, their balconies fitted with glass railings and air-conditioner units, with the occasional line of laundry drying in the sun.But a few metres past these finished homes, the picture changes.



Behind a long, unplastered red-brick boundary wall, much of the complex is a ghost town of raw grey concrete. Windowless towers stand frozen mid-construction, their unfinished frames looming beside the occupied blocks.For around 1,300 homebuyers caught in disputes involving the project's two developers — Three C Shelters and Orris Infrastructure — those towers are a reminder of everything that has been put on hold.This week, two court orders brought some movement in the case: the Delhi High Court set up a monitoring committee to verify homebuyers' claims, while the Supreme Court restored the insolvency proceedings against Three C.But the 11-year wait has meant paying for a home they cannot live in, while making other arrangements for their families and futures.Greenopolis in Gurgaon Sector 89 was launched in 2012 on 47 acres. (Express Photo by Nirbhay Thakur) Greenopolis in Gurgaon Sector 89 was launched in 2012 on 47 acres. (Express Photo by Nirbhay Thakur)'Savings are about to run out'Vinay Bhasin, 56, a former factory automation professional, wanted a home of his own in Gurgaon and was drawn to the location and layout shown to buyers. Possession was promised in 2014, with a one-year grace period.Eleven years later, he is still waiting."I'm living in a small apartment for the time being," he said.Vinay has also been without a job for almost two years. His child is autistic and currently at an intervention centre, while his monthly expenditure has crossed Rs 70,000.

"I was earning a decent salary and if the job would have continued, at least my daily expenses would have been covered, including the additional expenses for the hostel for my son, who needs to be taken care of for life," he said.The flat had been financed through a private bank loan. Vinay said the interest rate kept increasing every few months, pushing up the loan tenure. He eventually borrowed from multiple friends and closed the loan in 2020-21.His savings are now running out. "Life has become so difficult… I had to break my Provident Fund (PF) as well," he said."We've grown tired of fighting legal cases. No one is listening to us. How long can someone without a job sustain this?" he asked.'Six months from retirement, living on rent'Greenopolis was launched in 2012 on 47 acres, with Three C Shelters and Orris Infrastructure agreeing to split the allotments 65:35. Buyers booked their flats in 2012-13, with possession promised by 2016.

According to the Delhi High Court order, Three C collected Rs 776.60 crore from its buyers and Orris about Rs 383.06 crore from its own. Buyers said they had paid 80-90% of the price when construction came to a halt in early 2016.Of the 1,862 units planned, only about 1,650 were allotted — 1,091 by Three C and 559 by Orris — divided across three phases. Phase 1, comprising 512 flats across seven towers, was completed and its flats went to some Orris buyers and purchasers in the open market.Phase 2 with 766 flats across 11 towers and Phase 3 with 584 flats across 10 towers remain unfinished.The delay exposed buyers, like Dipika Mohil, to a second layer of creditors — banks awaiting payments.

The 57-year-old had bought her flat in 2013 and took a home loan. "I paid interest from 2015 till 2024 but I had to default as I had no money to pay the EMIs," she said.Dipika requested a two-year moratorium with an option for a one-time settlement. Instead, she said, she received legal notices. "Now I have to fight banks. They have my original papers – they did due diligence – then why are they not supporting home buyers?"She said she had bought the flat, hoping it would provide financial security after retirement. She is now six months away from retirement, still living on rent. "My entire life savings, accumulated over 30 years of hard work, have gone into this," she said.For Chitranjan Gupta, 72, a retired banker, the flat was meant to be an investment for his daughter.He bought a four-bedroom apartment in 2012, planning to sell it at a profit after delivery. "However, when I retired in March 2014, I started feeling the pinch of the installments," he said.When he realised possession would be delayed, he asked the builder to change his apartment to a smaller one, which it did.But the delay had already begun affecting his plans. "The delay in possession has adversely affected my plans for my daughter's higher education," he said.Chitranjan moved to a smaller apartment in 2016. More than a decade later, he is still waiting for the dispute over the project to be resolved."After over 10 years, can we be asked to wait indefinitely? We're suffering. Many of us are senior citizens, middle-class people who invested their entire life savings. We have no homes, almost no money left and banks are after us," he said.'We had to sell our jewellery'"When we purchased our home, the project was running in full swing, and we trusted the reputed names associated with it, including 3C in Noida and Orris in Gurgaon. We took a bank loan, believing we were securing a safe and stable future for our family," she said.Construction stopped soon after.The financial pressure forced the family to sell jewellery.

"Selling our jewellery was one of the most painful decisions we have ever had to make. These were not just ornaments. They represented years of savings, memories and security. We had to give them up simply to keep meeting our financial obligations," she said."For years, we have lived with the anxiety of not knowing when the matter would finally be resolved. The uncertainty has affected our family life, our ability to plan for the future and our emotional well-being."On Tuesday, the Delhi High Court constituted a three-member monitoring committee headed by former Chief Justice of India Sanjiv Khanna. This committee will verify genuine buyers, whether they paid Three C or Orris, and will try to finish this task in eight months.

Justice Anup Bhambhani outlined that the Monitoring Committee "shall formulate an expeditious and transparent procedure to verify genuine homebuyers and the quantum of payments made by them, cross-referencing the material provided by the Directorate of Enforcement and the homebuyers".On Wednesday, the Supreme Court set aside a 2023 order by the National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT) order terminating insolvency proceedings against Three C.Homebuyers had appealed against shutting down the insolvency process, arguing that ending it at such a late stage left them with no structured way to recover their money.The top court restored the proceedings before the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT), directing it to reconsider the matter after hearing the Resolution Professional, the Committee of Creditors and other stakeholders, including the homebuyers. If the insolvency process continues, the NCLT was directed to proceed expeditiously.But for buyers, the latest legal developments bring another round of uncertainty."We have paid for our homes so we want them. Does nobody understand this? Can we be made to wait indefinitely?… At times, it feels as though we have been failed by the very justice system meant to protect us," Sushma said.

'Until Gyanesh Kumar resigns': CJP's Abhijeet Dipke announces Goa, Bengaluru, Kolkata 'morcha'

Ahead of their "Jail Bharo Andolan" from Mumbai's Shivaji Park on October 2, Cockroach Janta Party founder Abhijeet Dipke declared on Thursday that their movement against Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar would also spread to Goa, Bengaluru, Kolkata, and other cities.Abhijeet Dipke and fellow CJP leaders, including Saurav Das, held a press conference in Mumbai on Thursday, October 1, demanding criminal action against Gyanesh Kumar.

The trigger for CJP's Mumbai protest on Friday against the Election Commission is an Express investigation which exposed an internal rift within the poll body over SIR voter deletions.Dipke also appealed to political parties to join the agitation, but declared: "CJP will not be a part of INDIA bloc protests.""There is an andolan tomorrow; we would go to Jantar Mantar also…until Gyanesh Kumar resigns," Dipke said. Calling CEC Gyanesh Kumar a "puppet", Dipke said, "Next election commissioner should be elected transparently and civil society should be allowed to take part in the process."Ajinkya Shinde said, "After tomorrow, there will morcha protest in Goa, Bangalore, Kolkata, Ranchi. It will reach Jantar Mantar at the end of the month."Dipke also said that deletion of 13 crore names from the draft rolls across the three phases of SIR was "very significant". "This is 14 percent of the votes and they have gotten rid of it…then the decision is already made."There is an illusion of democracy. EVM machine is not reliable as every electronic machine can be rigged," the CJP founder said.Dipke urged those joining the CJP protest not to carry banners or party flags.



"Tomorrow, get the national flag. If possible, wear a Gandhi T-Shirt and sunscreen," Pranay Ahir, the Mumbai coordinator of the CJP, said.Referring to the violence-marred CJP protest at Jantar Mantar in July, Dipke said Mumbai Police would cooperate with the protesters."They are not like Delhi Police," he said.Addressing the younger generation, Dipke said they should respond to the brutality "by memes and humor as the government doesn't know how to respond to it."When asked about possible legal action against the protesters, Dipke said, "The government is free to proceed any legal action against me for protesting."Earlier, cousins Raj and Uddhav Thackeray also announced a joint protest on October 4 against the functioning of the Election Commission.

2 priests killed, bodies set on fire at UP temple; 'goon' out on bail prime suspect



Two priests were burnt to death on a temple premises in Uttar Pradesh's Shahjahanpur district Thursday morning, with police probing allegations that a local "goon" who got out on bail recently killed the victims to grab temple property.Police said the suspect has been detained and is being questioned.

Shahjahanpur Superintendent of Police, Saurabh Dixit, in a statement, said police received information around 7 am of the bodies being found at the temple in Sootha village, which falls under the jurisdiction of Khudaganj police station.A police team rushed to the spot and found the victims were two priests, Gopal Das (70) and Bihari Das (60), who lived there. A forensic team collected evidence and the remains were sent for further examination and autopsy, Dixit added.Dixit further said the temple's patron, Shiv Kumar Singh, had submitted an application alleging that a man named Sumit from the same village killed the priests and burnt their bodies to destroy evidence of the murders.

Police said villagers also claimed that Sumit regularly visited the temple and sat with the two priests. They alleged that he had been pressuring the priests to leave the temple premises so that he could live there.The SP said questioning of the suspect and the findings of the investigation would establish the circumstances surrounding the priests' deaths, after which a case would be registered. He said Sumit had been in jail in a criminal case and had got out on bail recently.Police said Gopal was from a village a few kilometres away and had left home after his wife died about 22 years ago. The other priest was from Sootha village and became Gopal Das's disciple about 10 years ago. Both had been living on the temple premises.

45-year-old man bludgeoned to death with cricket bats in Kokapet

Hyderabad: A man was brutally beaten to death with cricket bats near Neopolis in Kokapet, creating a stir in the area on Thursday.

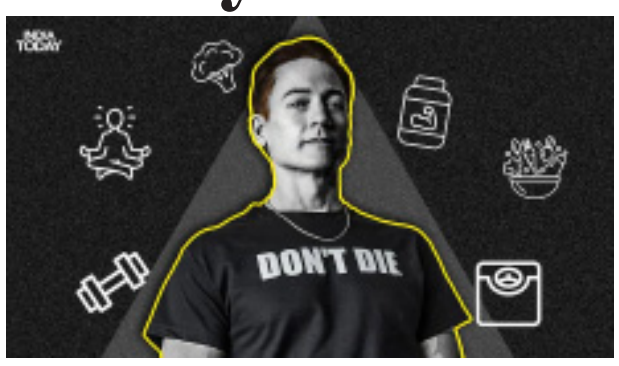
The victim was identified as Venkanna (45), a native of Thirumalayapalem in Khammam district.

Powered By VidCrunchAccording to the police, Venkanna was staying at a PG hostel in Kokapet and was involved in money lending business. He was allegedly attacked with cricket bats during the night and succumbed to his injuries.

Washerman murdered in Asifabad over alleged dispute

Kumram Bheem Asifabad: A washerman was brutally murdered by unidentified persons at Gambhiraopet village on Wednesday night.Police said Rachakonda Sattaiah (50) was killed on the spot after the assailants slit his throat at around 10 pm. They suspected that some members of his community might have been involved following disputes over fixing charges for washing clothes.It is learnt that members of the community had demanded a hefty charge for washing clothes of villagers during a meeting recently. However, Sattaiah came forward to do the job for a nominal price, drawing the ire of the members. It was suspected that some members nursed a grudge against him.Meanwhile, police said a murder case was booked against a person from the village on Thursday, but withheld the accused person's identity for undisclosed reasons.

Can you live forever like Bryan Johnson wants to?



Who doesn't want to live forever? The idea of living a long, healthy life appeals to almost everyone. The quest for immortality has fascinated humans for centuries, serving as a central theme in numerous Bollywood and Hollywood films.But one man is taking this dream seriously—Bryan Johnson, a millionaire from the US, is actively trying to reverse his biological age and achieve what many fictional characters have only dreamed of: living forever. In fact, he believes it's possible. Bryan even shares his daily routine on his website, offering people the chance to "subscribe" to his "Blueprint" if they want to follow in his footsteps. But is it really possible to extend your lifespan or, better yet, live forever? What do experts have to say about Bryan's lifestyle? And could you apply his routine to your own life?Before diving into these questions, let's explore exactly what Bryan Johnson is doing in his pursuit of immortality.

Bryan Johnson's blueprintIn 2013, after selling his company to eBay's PayPal for $800 million, Bryan had plenty of options on how to spend his fortune. He could have travelled the world, bought a mansion, and lived a life of luxury.But instead, he decided to dedicate his life to chasing immortality — a quest that has earned him significant attention, especially after making headlines with his "Project Blueprint", a protocol-based lifestyle designed to help people live longer.The Blueprint, which is available for free, outlines Bryan's daily routine and how it has allegedly helped him achieve the biological age of an 18-year-old. For context, biological age refers to how old your cells are, and some experts consider it a more accurate measure of ageing than chronological age.Recently, Bryan visited India to promote his "Blueprint", and since it's starting to create a buzz, we decided to decode his routine.A day in the life of BryanBryan starts his day at 4:30 am, and, by 11:30 am, he's done with dinner. His daily routine includes light therapy, and taking 111 supplements, including the widely discussed 'Rapamycin' (he paused taking it after a few years).

Good sleep and daily workouts are also a few key aspects of Bryan's lifestyle.He consumes precisely 1,977 calories a day and eats 70 pounds of vegetables per month. His breakfast consists of a standard mix of broccoli, cauliflower, black lentils, mushrooms, garlic, and ginger. His next meal is "nutty pudding" with nuts and berries, and his final meal includes vegetables, berries, nuts, seeds, 15 grams of 100% dark chocolate, and 30 millilitres of extra virgin olive oil.He also allows himself 'three' ounces of wine to end his day.Managing stress is vital for him, and he claims it plays a key role in living longer.PS: Although Bryan's Blueprint is technically free to access, he also sells products like protein powder and (soon-to-be-released) sunscreen under the guise of promoting health and longevity.

What has Bryan achieved so far?

Bryan claims his lifestyle has helped him reverse his biological age by over 5 years, and his blood transfusion has helped his father do the same.After having poor health habits as a kid, running myself into the ground from 20 years of building companies, and a decade of chronic depression, now, at the chronological age of 46, my health biomarkers are in the top 1%Bryan on his Blueprint websiteHis website further claims that his lifestyle has placed him in the top 1% of 46-year-olds and, in some markers, even in the top 1% of 18-year-olds.

But can you escape death with his routine?

India Today spoke to various experts to evaluate Bryan's routine. Here's what they had to say about its key components.1. Working out

Bryan prioritises workouts, recommending three days of strength training and three days of cardio each week. Dr Aijaaz Ashai, a physiotherapist and celebrity fitness expert, supports this, stating that exercise can delay age-related diseases, preserve mobility, and enhance mental sharpness.

On a cellular level, regular exercise helps maintain the length of telomeres—protective caps on DNA—which slow down the ageing process. "While no one lives forever, a regular exercise routine can certainly add to your lifespan and improve the quality of your remaining years," says Dr Ashai.

2. Mental healthAccording to Bryan's Blueprint, if you buy his products — especially his "Best-selling longevity kit" with 70+ health actives — you'll be able to manage daily challenges "with ease as stress-reducing ingredients promote calm and balanced emotions".While managing stress is undoubtedly a priority for Bryan, can it help you live forever? According to mental health expert Shreya Kaul, the answer is a firm no."Our bodies naturally start to deteriorate after a certain point. Our cells, organs, and genetics all begin to disintegrate. No living being is truly immortal," she says.However, she does agree that managing stress is essential for leading a better, healthier life. She highlights that mental and physical health are deeply connected, with better mental health leading to improved immunity, energy, and agility.

3. Clean diet and supplementsOne of the biggest pillars of Bryan's Blueprint is his ultra-clean diet and daily consumption of 111 supplements. While research does show that healthy eating can reduce the risk of premature death by nearly 20%, it's unlikely to guarantee immortality.Dr Nivedita Pandey, a senior gastroenterologist and director of Dr Good Deed Clinic, Patna, agrees. She highlights that free radicals (unstable molecules generated during digestion) damage our organs, leading to ageing. Eating natural, whole foods can help reduce free radicals, promoting longer and healthier lives.Now let's talk about supplements. When it comes to supplements, dietician Sohom Singh Roy says they can bridge nutrient gaps in our diet. Targeted supplements can support immunity, brain function, and overall health.However, Kumaar Bagrodia, a neuroscientist from Mumbai and founder of various companies like HALE, NeuroLeap, Arkni and PhotoBioLife, tells us, not all supplements have enough scientific evidence as to their benefits. He notes that while calcium, iron, Vitamin D, folic acid, and omega-3 have strong evidence supporting their benefits, supplements alone can never replace a balanced diet.

4. Sleep, sleep, sleepBryan treats sleep as a non-negotiable part of his day. Experts agree. Kumaar calls it the "golden hour" for mental health, as it helps with memory consolidation, emotional processing, and tissue repair.Good sleep is essential for a healthy living."Sleep is crucial for mood regulation. It reduces symptoms of anxiety and depression and promotes emotional balance. It also supports biological well-being by enhancing energy levels and strengthening immunity," he says.5. Light therapyBryan's routine also includes light therapy - a growing trend, with even celebrities like Kim Kardashian adopting it."It naturally improves cellular mitochondria function. The therapy is non-invasive and promotes cellular repair, similar to how sunlight influences vitamin D synthesis," he says.

The final breath: Can you live forever?

After speaking with various experts, one thing becomes clear - biological immortality is still a fantasy. While Bryan's lifestyle may help him maintain youthful biomarkers, there's no scientific evidence that it will prevent death.Biologically, the human body is subject to the processes of ageing and senescence," says Kumaar."Cells accumulate damage over time due to oxidative stress, DNA mutations, and telomere shortening. Despite advances in regenerative medicine and anti-ageing therapies, these natural constraints make true immortality unlikely," he adds.Shreya also points out that discussions on health and longevity are often rooted in privilege. "Bryan Johnson's 'Don't die' movement is great. Everyone wants to live longer and healthier, so why not? But not everyone has the luxury of prioritising longevity," she explains.

Pilates vs weight training: Which one helps you lose weight faster?



If there's one thing Bollywood icons like Kareena Kapoor Khan, Alia Bhatt, and Janhvi Kapoor all have in common in their fitness routines, it isn't a magical elixir for their youth and glamour - it's their dedication to Pilates.In the past few years, Pilates has become quite the buzzword in the fitness industry. Though in India, it is gaining prominence now, Bollywood celebs have been obsessed with pilates for some time now.But if you're not aware, let us give you a crash course.What exactly is Pilates?Pilates is a form of low-impact exercise that focusses on strengthening muscles and improving flexibility, balance, and posture."The practice emphasises controlled movements, core strength, and proper alignment," says Dr Vipul Lunawat, a fitness expert and the founder-director of the Institute of Sports Science and Technology of Pune.Pilates has become the Bollywood favorite. Photo: InstagramDr Lunawat says that there are a few core principles of Pilates, like:

1. Concentration: Mindful engagement with each movement.

2. Control: Precision and mastery of your body's movements.

3. Centering: Focus on your core, often referred to as the "powerhouse".

4. Flow: Smooth, continuous movements.

5. Precision: Attention to detail in form and technique.

6. Breathing: Proper breath control to enhance movement and relaxation.From World War I to celeb favoriteMeenal Pathak, tells India Today that Pilates was developed by Joseph Pilates in the early 20th century during World War I as a method to rehabilitate injured soldiers and dancers."Today, it has become particularly relevant because of our sedentary lifestyles, poor posture, and long sitting hours, which often lead to issues like wrist pain, shoulder pain, and joint discomfort," says Meenal.According to her, Pilates is highly effective (for both men and women) for addressing these problems as it, focuses on improving mobility and flexibility, alongside other benefits. It works wonders for posture, core strength, and spinal health. Pilates is all about strengthening, lengthening, and protecting your spine, which makes it an excellent choice.Now, there are two ways of doing Pilates: mat Pilates (which is done with very minimal or no equipment) and the more famous and preferred one by celebs is the other type - which uses a machine called reformer.This reformer Pilates has not only made quite a buzz on social media, as they are preferred by not only Bollywood celebs but by also influencers.According to Meenal, "Mat Pilates is a fantastic way to start. It allows you to build strength and learn proper alignment without any tools. Small props like resistance bands can enhance the workout, but they're not essential."For those who want more variety, reformer Pilates uses machines with springs and straps to add resistance. Abhishek Bhadauria, Head Coach at MultiFit, notes, "The essence of Pilates lies in core engagement, and that can be achieved with or without equipment."

Weight training and Pilates: which can help you lose weight faster?

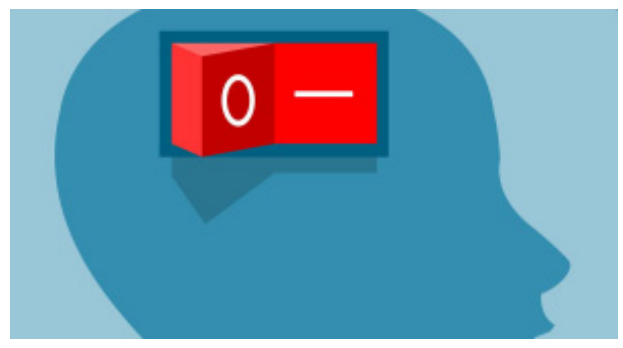
Now, the question of the hour is, if you are trying to lose weight, which one can help to reach the goal faster, and which one should you prefer? We spoke to experts, and let's have a look at both of them in depth.1. Calorie burn Weight training: A single high-intensity session burns more calories than Pilates and induces the afterburn effect (EPOC), where the body continues to burn calories post-workout. Pilates: While it generally burns fewer calories, advanced Pilates sessions incorporating faster transitions or reformer machines can boost calorie expenditure.2. Muscle building and metabolism Weight training: Builds lean muscle, increasing resting metabolic rate (RMR) for long-term calorie burn. Pilates: Tones muscles and enhances functional strength, but its impact on RMR is less significant.Abhishek says, "Pilates excels in improving flexibility, balance, and core strength, making it an excellent choice for those seeking low-impact exercise or rehabilitation. Weight training, on the other hand, is ideal for building muscle mass and boosting metabolism. Ultimately, the best choice depends on individual goals and preferences."3. Functional benefits Pilates: Excels in flexibility, balance, and posture, reducing injury risk. As Dr Lunawat, explains, "Pilates is crucial for mobility and flexibility, which are often overlooked in traditional strength training but are vital for long-term health and injury prevention. Weight training: Improves bone density and overall strength, which is essential for physical resilience and metabolism.Finally, as Jashan Bhumkar, fitness enthusiast, notes, "Both have their merits, but if Pilates motivates you to stay active, it's just as effective in the long term."

Which is faster for weight loss?

In simple terms, weight training has the edge for rapid weight loss, largely due to its calorie-burning potential and metabolic benefits. A 2019 study in the Journal of Strength and Conditioning Research found that resistance training significantly improves body composition by reducing fat while preserving lean muscle.Dr Lunawat adds, "A combination of weight training and a calorie-controlled diet is ideal for quicker results. But Pilates can play a complementary role, improving mobility and aiding recovery."Meenal says, "If your goal is to lose weight, you need to create a calorie deficit. Pilates tones and builds functional strength, but adding weight training will help preserve muscle mass."

Why not combine the two?For maximum benefits, a balanced routine combining Pilates and weight training is ideal.Dr Lunawat advises, "Strength training is crucial for athletes, but ensuring optimal flexibility and mobility is equally important to enhance performance and prevent injuries."For example, your weekly routine could include: 3 sessions of weight training to build muscle and boost metabolism sessions of Pilates for recovery, flexibility, and functional strength.The final wordChoosing between Pilates and weight training depends on your fitness goals:However, the ultimate solution lies in integration. As Dr Lunawat says, "Fitness is not about choosing one over the other. It's about finding the balance that works best for you.

Indians need the right to disconnect



India must recognise that the right to disconnect will increase productivity and ensure the overall growth and well being of employees and employers

Soon after death of an EY employee in September, allegedly due to work pressure, MP Shashi Tharoor had said that he would raise the issue in Parliament. He said that "inhumanity at the workplace must be legislated out of existence." A recent report by The Hindu reveals that Indian women in professional jobs, such as auditing, Information Technology, and media, work more than 55 hours a week. The working hours vary for those who belong to the marginalised sections of society and work in the unorganised sector. According to a study by ADP Research Institute, 49% of Indian workers said workplace stress negatively impacts their mental health. As French politician Benoit Hamon said, "Employees physically leave the office, but they do not leave their work. They remain attached by a kind of electronic leash like a dog. The text, the messages, the emails colonise the life of the individual to the point where he or she eventually breaks down".

Right to disconnect lawsSuch tragic incidents, research, and statements highlight how the right to disconnect is an important right. It allows employees to disconnect from their employer outside of working hours. The Labour Chamber of the French Supreme Court ruled in 2001 that an employee is under no obligation to work from home or take home files and working tools. This decision was subsequently confirmed by the Cour de Cassation (the highest court in the French judiciary), which said, "The fact that [the employee] was not reachable on his cell phone outside working hours cannot be considered as a misconduct". Portugal has a Right to Disconnect law, which makes it illegal for employers to contact employees outside working hours, except in emergencies. Similarly, according to Article 88 of the Organic Law 3/2018 on the Protection of Personal Data and Guarantee of Digital Rights in Spain, "Public workers and employees shall have the right to switch off devices in order to guarantee that, outside of legal or conventionally established working hours, their time off, leave and holidays are respected, in addition to their personal and family privacy, with the aim of promoting a good work-life balance". This year, the Australian Parliament passed the Fair Work Legislation Amendment, which gave employees the right to disconnect from work outside of working hours. Ireland has also recognised the right to disconnect for employees.

Where does India stand?

India does not have specific laws recognising the right to disconnect from work. However, the Constitution, the Directive Principles of State Policy, and various judicial pronouncements have spoken of the right to work in a conducive and healthy environment. Article 38 of the Constitution mandates that "the State shall strive to promote the welfare of the people". Article 39(e) of the Directive Principles of State Policy directs the state to direct its policy towards securing the strength and health of its workers. The Supreme Court, in Vishakha v State of Rajasthan (1997), ruled that sexual harassment at the workplace violates fundamental rights, recognised the right to dignity at the workplace, and issued guidelines to ensure that there is a safe working environment for women and gender equality. In Ravindra Kumar Dhariwal and Ors v. Union of India (2021), the Court read Article 14 to include ideas of inclusive equality to reasonably accommodate persons with disabilities. Justice D.Y. Chandrachud said that an employer must consider an employee's individual differences and capabilities. In Praveen Pradhan v. State of Uttaranchal (2012), the High Court of Uttarakhand held that "under the pretext of administrative control and discipline, a superior officer cannot be left to enjoy extreme liberty to make the intense humiliation and scolding inhumanly in front of all the subordinate staff members for a little lapse." Despite the clear recognition of the right to dignity at the workplace and a direction for employers to be sensitive towards mental health concerns, and also laws that fix accountability in the case of breaching working hours, violating dignity is unfortunately common in Indian workplaces.

Prolonged working hoursIn 2018, MP Supriya Sule introduced a Private Member Bill in the Lok Sabha, which delineated the right to disconnect from work after working hours. The bill included the provision of a penalty of 1% of the total renumeration of all employees to be paid by companies for noncompliance with its provisions.However, in recent years, there has been no significant legislative effort to recognise employees' right to disconnect from work outside working hours or to impose a duty on employers to be mindful of employee well-being and avoid overworking them. Research by Harvard Business Review shows that working prolonged hours causes stress, coronary heart diseases, and impacts overall health. Contrary to the widespread belief that overworked human beings bring in productivity,

Why a turtleneck is the fashion BFF you need this (and every) winter

POV: It's time to get up! The alarm rings, but you're so cosy under your layers of blankets that the snooze button is just too tempting. You give in and drift back into sweet sleep, only to be awakened by the alarm again a few minutes later. You may hit snooze once more, but eventually, you know it's time to muster the courage to face the bone-chilling cold.As you prepare for the day, you begin the usual routine - brushing your teeth, enjoying a hot shower, and finally gearing up to pick your OOTD. You want something that keeps you warm while also checking the style box. Sounds like a daily sartorial conundrum? You're not alone. But here's the good news—we have a suggestion: befriend a few turtlenecks.You can go experimental or keep it classy when it comes to styling turtleneck sweaters. Photos: Instagram/ShanayaKapoor (left) and Instagram/KhushiKapoor (right)Warm and cosy, turtlenecks are a basic winter staple, but when styled well, they can be the secret to a fabulous winter wardrobe. On mornings when you're running late and don't want to spend hours deciding what to wear, turtlenecks come in handy. Pair one with a pair of jeans, and you're good to go! If it's too cold, layer up with a faux-leather jacket or an overcoat, and you're all set.For party nights when you want to slay without freezing, pair your turtleneck with a leather skirt and boots. It's as simple as that!

Stylists highly recommend including turtlenecks, even when building a minimalist winter capsule wardrobe. Think of it as the white T-shirt of your summer wardrobe. From beach outings to workdays and brunch dates, your favourite white T-shirt works for almost any occasion, right? A turtleneck serves the same purpose during winter.And let's not forget how it keeps your neck warm, protecting it from the winter chill.Its versatility is its biggest strength! It goes well with just about anything. You can wear it on its own or layer it with an open jacket or a cosy cardigan.

No surprises here that celebrity winter looks are incomplete without a few iconic turtleneck moments every year!This winter, it has already begun! Priyanka Chopra



recently flaunted an ivory turtleneck that she teamed with matching trousers and a black jacket with faux fur accents. So luxe!Priyanka Chopra's monochrome winter fashion moment with a turtleneck sweater.Priyanka has had several stunning turtleneck moments in the last few years! She often throws over long overcoats.Deepika Padukone is the quintessential poster girl for turtleneck sweaters. Whenever the temperatures dip in Mumbai, she turns to her trusted turtlenecks – especially for her airport looks.Deepika Padukone wears her love for turtlenecksweaters every winter.Sonam Kapoor, the OG fashionista, loves her turtlenecks too. A stylish skirt is her usual choice to serve an edgy winter fashion moment.Here are some celeb-approved ways to rock a turtleneck that are sure to inspire your winter wardrobe:Turtleneck blouses make for great winter blouses to go with your sarees. Here's Shilpa Shetty proving the same.Winter brings with it a series of parties to attend. Take a cue from Hailey Bieber on how to keep it cute and stylish.

Hailey Bieber styled a classic black turtleneck with a checkered mini skirt. Shorts for parties is a good idea! But in winter, rock it with a turtleneck and a long fur coat like Beyonce did.You can take Ananya Panday's turtleneck + blazer + skirt set easily to your office as well as to a winter holiday. Invest in basic turtlenecks like black, beige, fawn, and maroon first.To give a glam makeover to a turtleneck, add a statement piece – it can be a skirt, a stunning jacket, or a quirky jewellery piece

Language belongs to a different realm



From sails to steam engines, from bullock carts to motor cars, from huts to skyscrapers, every stage of human history has been marked by breathtaking technological progress. Each new invention has made life faster, easier and more comfortable. Yet, amid all this change, one aspect of human experience has remained strikingly constant: how we communicate.The medium has evolved dramatically — from messengers and handwritten letters to telephones and instant messaging, but the essence has not. It is still one human being reaching out to another. The town crier's drumbeat in the village square has become a digital notice on a government website, but both are acts of connection. The tools have changed but the impulse to communicate has not.Artificial Intelligence (AI) is now rewriting the rules of learning and work. It solves equations, drafts essays, designs buildings and composes music. It can act as a tutor, a translator, a researcher, and even a companion. In subjects that rely on logic, structure and fixed systems — mathematics, physics, engineering — AI has already become transformative. Students can now get instant explanations of complex formulas or visualise difficult scientific concepts at the click of a button.What a machine cannot feel

Language, however, belongs to a different realm. It is not only a system of rules but also a living, breathing expression of culture and emotion. AI can process grammar and vocabulary, but it cannot capture humour, irony, affection or hesitation. A sentence translated by a machine may be correct in words, yet wrong in spirit. When someone says "I miss you" or "Te extraño", the meaning is inseparable from emotion, something a machine cannot feel.Technology has made translation almost effortless. A Hindi email can appear in flawless English; a Japanese article can be read in French in seconds. Yet, these translations, however precise, may sound sterile. The tone, the rhythm and the subtle warmth that define human speech are easily lost. Translation can transfer meaning but not experience. Understanding a language requires more than decoding its words. It demands entering its world.In the lived moments

That is why learning a language has always been different from learning a formula. It is not an abstract skill but a human interaction. It happens in conversation, in laughter, in mistakes. It happens when someone struggles to express a thought and is gently corrected, or when a joke finally lands after weeks of practice. These small, lived moments build confidence and connection, something that no app or chatbot can replicate.AI tools can certainly assist. They can correct pronunciation, explain grammar and offer personalised practice. For teachers, they make lesson planning and feedback faster and more efficient. But they cannot replace the very heart of language learning, the emotional effort of trying to be understood by another person. Fluency is not achieved by perfection alone, but by empathy. To speak a language well, one must also learn how others think and feel.Moreover, languages constantly evolve. Slang, idioms and even tones of politeness change from year to year. A machine can record these shifts, but it cannot belong to a community. It can predict usage, but it cannot participate in the living rhythm of speech. True mastery requires being part of that rhythm — listening, adapting, responding.The biggest riskPerhaps the greatest risk is not that AI will replace language learning, but that it will make people believe they no longer need to learn. If machines can translate instantly, the temptation to skip the effort grows. Yet, in doing so, we would lose something vital: the humility and the patience that come from learning another's tongue. When we learn a language, we do not just acquire words. We learn another way of seeing the world.AI will continue to build our bridges, design our cities, and analyse our data. But when it comes to building bridges etween people, it will remain an assistant, not a substitute. The process of learning a language — slow, emotional, and deeply human — will outlast every technological revolution.Technology can help us talk across borders, but only effort and empathy can help us truly understand one another. And that is something no machine, however intelligent, will ever be able to automate.

Prince Andrew stripped of all titles after Virginia Giuffre's memoir



Toowoomba: Prince Andrew will be stripped of his royal titles, including prince, and will move out of his home, Royal Lodge, to a private residence.Buckingham Palace issued a statement today that King Charles has initiated a formal process to remove the "style, titles and honours of Prince Andrew", who "will now be known as Andrew Mountbatten Windsor".The decision comes in the wake of Virginia Giuffre's posthumous memoir Nobody's Girl, published this fortnight.The memoir includes an inside account of the two years Giuffre spent as a "sex slave" working for Jeffrey Epstein and co-conspirator Ghislaine Maxwell. Giuffre died by suicide in April this year, aged 41, on her farm in Western Australia.

Three weeks before she died, she emailed her co-author, journalist Amy Wallace, and longtime publicist Dini von Mueffling: "In the event of my passing, I would like to ensure that Nobody's Girl is still released." "Today," Giuffre's family said, "she declares a victory. She has brought down a British prince with her truth and extraordinary courage".British historian and author Andrew Lownie (author of a book about Andrew and his ex-wife Sarah Ferguson, called Entitled), told Sky News earlier this month, "the only way the story will go away is if [Andrew] leaves Royal Lodge, goes into exile abroad with his ex-wife, and is basically stripped of all his honours, including Prince Andrew". Sarah Ferguson will also move out of Royal Lodge.As a trauma memoir, Nobody's Girl forces us to bear witness to an uncomfortable truth: Giuffre's abuse was hidden in plain sight."Don't be fooled by those in Epstein's circle who say they didn't know what Epstein was doing," she writes."Anyone who spent any significant amount of time with Epstein saw him touching girls." She continues: "They can say they didn't know he was raping children. But they were not blind." Four days before the memoir was published, Prince Andrew announced he would no longer use the titles conferred upon him, including Duke of York.Three days later, leaked emails from 2011 suggested he gave Giuffre's date of birth and social security number to one of his protection officers, hours before the infamous photograph of him with her was published.Maxwell's brother, Ian Maxwell, published an article in the Spectator today, headlined "Don't take Virginia Giuffre's memoir at face value". The memoir keeps his sister, who was convicted of charges including sex trafficking of a minor, in world headlines – at a time Donald Trump has said he will "take a look" at pardoning her.Earlier this year, Maxwell was moved to a lower security prison to continue her 20-year sentence.Allegations of parental abuseGiuffre writes that her father began molesting her at the age of seven. He "strenuously" denies this. While the memoir makes this public for the first time, Giuffre's older brother Danny Wilson told ABC's 7.30 he first heard the allegations years before the memoir was published – and confronted his father about it.

Giuffre regularly wet her pants at school – earning her the cruel nickname "Pee Girl". She recalls: "I began to get painful urinary tract infections. My infections were so severe, I couldn't hold my urine."After one (of several) medical examinations, a doctor told her mother her primary school-aged daughter's hymen was broken. Giuffre writes of this moment: My mother didn't hesitate. 'Oh, she rides horses bareback,' she explained. That was the end of that. I didn't even know what a hymen was.Later, she recalls her mother raising suspicions about her involvement with Epstein and "apex predator" Maxwell, questioning "what this older couple wanted with a teenage girl who had no credentials".Giuffre writes: "I guess I was glad she cared enough to have suspicions, but at the same time, wasn't it a little late for that? I knew she couldn't save me; she'd never saved me before." Around the time of her doctor's visit, the memoir alleges, Giuffre's father began "trading" his daughter to a friend – a tall, muscular man with "a military bearing" who was also abusing his own stepdaughter.In 2000, the man was convicted of molesting another girl in North Carolina. He spent 14 months in prison and a decade as a registered sex offender.Giuffre writes that she was abused by these men for five years, from ages seven to eleven; it only stopped when she began menstruating.Heartbreakingly, Giuffre discloses that at one point she imagined Maxwell (or "G-Max" as she wanted to be known) as her mother: "While I was hardly equipped to judge, it often seemed to me that Epstein and Maxwell behaved like actual parents." Among other things, the pair gave Giuffre her first cell phone, whitened her teeth, and taught her how to hold a knife and fork "just so".'The younger, the better'Giuffre's memoir is a courageous and clear-eyed account of what trauma takes – and what recovery demands.Told in four chronological parts – "Daughter", "Prisoner", "Survivor" and "Warrior" – the memoir meticulously records the "sexual assaulting, battering, exploiting, and abusing" Giuffre endured throughout her life, most notably at the hands of Epstein and Maxwell.The result is a devastating expose of the fetishisation and abuse of girls – "the younger, the better", Epstein said – and society's failure to protect the most vulnerable.It is also a damning indictment of everyone who knew and looked away.'Please don't stop reading'Giuffre was 16 and working as a locker-room attendant at Trump's Mar-a-Lago resort when Ghislaine Maxwell recruited her to "service Epstein", under the pretence of training as a masseuse.(In October 2007, Trump – who is portrayed favourably in the memoir – reportedly banned Epstein from his resort after Epstein hit on the teenage daughter of another member.) Over the next two years, and roughly 350 pages, Giuffre tells how she was trafficked to "a multitude of powerful men", including Prince Andrew, French modelling agent Jean-Luc Brunel, a prominent psychology professor and a respected United States senator.In one of the most distressing scenes, Giuffre describes how she was trafficked to "a former minister", who raped her so "savagely" she was left "bleeding from [her] mouth, vagina, and anus".When Virginia told Epstein about the brutal attack, which made it hurt to breathe and swallow, he said, "You'll get that sometimes." Eight weeks later, he returned Giuffre to the politician, who this time abused her on one of Epstein's private jets. In the US version of the memoir, the politician is described not as a "former minister" but as "a former Prime Minister"."I know this is a lot to take in," Giuffre writes. "The violence. The neglect. The bad decisions. The self-harm. But please don't stop reading." One of the most devastating revelations comes toward the end of the memoir. Giuffre – now in her forties – receives a phone call from a confidant claiming to have evidence that Epstein paid off her father when she was a girl.In 2000, when Epstein and Maxwell started abusing the teenager at El Brillo Way, it is alleged that her father accepted "a sum of money" from the paedophile.According to Giuffre, when she confronted her father, there was "a brief silence" before "he started yelling at [her] for being an ungrateful daughter".Of all the betrayals she endured, this one stands alone: "I will never get over it".Girls, no one cared about

"When a molester shows his face," Giuffre writes, "many people tend to look the other way." In chapter 11, Giuffre describes how Epstein's personal chef, the celebrity cook Adam Perry Lang, made her her favourite food – pizza. This, apparently, became something of a tradition – Lang feeding Giuffre, but never "ogling", "even if I was standing naked in front of him, which was not unusual".She wrote: "When I'd finished attending to Epstein or one of the other guests, Lang would have a cheesy hot pie waiting." In 2019, Lang issued a statement about working for Epstein: "My role was limited to meal preparation. I was unaware of the depraved behaviour and have great sympathy and admiration for the brave women who have come forward." In another scene, Giuffre reveals that Epstein "never wore a condom". After falling pregnant at the age of 17, she suffered an ectopic pregnancy.On this day, Giuffre recalls how Epstein and Maxwell ("two halves of a wicked whole") – with the help of Epstein's New York butler – drove her to the hospital after she woke in "a pool of blood".Epstein lied to the doctor about her age, Giuffre alleges, and the two men seemed to enter "a gentlemen's agreement" in which "whatever was going on between this middle-aged man and his teenage acquaintance […] would be kept quiet"."We were girls who no one cared about, and Epstein pretended to care," Giuffre writes. "At times I think he even believed he cared." She describes how Epstein "threw what looked like a lifeline to girls who were drowning, girls who had nothing, girls who wished to be and do better." As a self-described "pleaser" who "survived by acquiescing", Giuffre writes that Epstein and Maxwell "knew just how to tap into that same crooked vein" her childhood abusers had: abuse cloaked in "a fake mantle of 'love. '"

In March 2001, at Maxwell's upscale townhouse in London's Belgravia – where Prince Andrew was famously pictured with his arm around the teenager – Giuffre recalls how Maxwell invited Andrew to guess her age. When the prince correctly guessed 17, he reportedly told her, "My daughters are just a little younger than you." Later that night, she writes, Prince Andrew bought the teenager cocktails at Tramp – an exclusive London nightclub – where she and the prince danced awkwardly and the prince "sweated profusely". In the car, on the way home, Maxwell instructed Giuffre "to do for [Andy] what you do for Jeffrey".In November 2019, in his calamitous interview with BBC's Newsnight, Prince Andrew denied any wrongdoing, claiming he had "no recollection of ever meeting this lady".He told presenter Emily Maitlis he could not have danced sweatily at Tramp because he had "a peculiar medical condition" that prevented perspiration, caused by what he described as "an overdose of adrenaline" in the Falklands War.

In that interview, Andrew admitted his decision to stay at Epstein's New York home in December 2010 – months after Epstein was released from jail for soliciting and procuring minors for prostitution – was "the wrong thing to do". However, the prince claimed his decision was "probably coloured by [his] tendency to be too honourable".In her memoir, Giuffre describes Andrew as "friendly enough but entitled" – "as if he believed having sex with [her] was his birthright." She alleges she had sex with the prince on two more occasions.Publishing a book posthumously can be an ethical minefield. Critics often question whether posthumous publication is what the author would have wanted. They point to the author's right to protect their work and their literary reputation – a right that cannot survive them.However, Giuffre left no space for speculation. In the email she sent her co-author and publicist before her death, she made her wishes clear: It is my heartfelt wish that this work be published, regardless of my circumstances at the time. The content of this book is crucial, as it aims to shed light on the systemic failures that allow the trafficking of vulnerable individuals.As the memoir progresses, Giuffre's health spirals. The physical, emotional and mental toll of trauma closes in on her. Epstein is dead. Maxwell is in prison. But Giuffre is still "trapped in an invisible cage"."From the start," she says, "I was groomed to be complicit in my own devastation. Of all the terrible wounds they inflicted, that forced complicity was the most destructive." Before she died, Giuffre made a promise to her husband and children that she would try with "all her might" to believe her life mattered. Her final goal was to prevent "the emotional time-bomb" inside her from detonating.While Giuffre may at last be beyond harm, the truth remains. She – like the hundreds of girls abused by Epstein and his associates – was wronged.Her fight, like theirs, transcends death: release the Epstein files; hold abusers and their enablers accountable; expose the systems that protect predators; abolish statutes of limitations for the sexual abuse of minors. Ensure no other child suffers. This is what Giuffre wanted.By publishing her memoir, she ensured the fight would survive her. She made certain her voice would outlast her pain. In this way, she got the last word.

Study reveals heat-linked kidney strain among Tamil Nadu's agricultural workers

A new population-based study published in The Lancet has found that Tamil Nadu's agricultural workers face a growing risk of kidney disease linked to heat exposure, dehydration and long outdoor work hours.Conducted between August and December 2023, the Chronic Kidney Disease of unknown etiology (or uncertain cause) CKDu - AGRI study surveyed agricultural workers across all five agro-climatic zones of the State -- the North-East, North-West, Western, Cauvery Delta, and Southern regions. Using a stratified multi-stage cluster sampling method, researchers studied 3,350 farm workers from 125 villages, collecting data on occupation, health and environmental exposures.

The researchers observed a striking seasonal variation in kidney function. During August -- one of Tamil Nadu's hottest months -- 17.4% of participants had an estimated glomerular filtration rate (eGFR) below 60 mL/min/1.73 m². When tested again in December, kidney function had returned to normal in most."These were asymptomatic, sub-clinical episodes of acute kidney injury," says R. Sakthirajan,co-author of the study, senior assistant professor, Institute of Nephrology, Madras Medical College. "Because all assays were done in a single reference laboratory, the variation almost certainly reflects physiological stress rather than measurement error."The team point out that these transient injuries are linked to repetitive heat and dehydration stress during fieldwork -- a pattern also documented in Central America and Sri Lanka. "We plan to follow participants across different seasons to track kidney markers, hydration, and individual heat exposure," adds Sudharshini Subramaniam, co-author of the study, associate professor, Institute of Community Medicine. "This will help confirm whether repeated seasonal stress leads to chronic kidney disease over time."The study found an overall CKD prevalence of 5.31%, with nearly half of these cases classified as Chronic Kidney Disease of Unknown aetiology (CKDu) -- that is, not linked to diabetes, hypertension or heart disease. The burden was significantly higher in the North-East (7.68%) and Southern (6.4%) zones compared to the North-West (2.16%).The Universal Thermal Climate Index (UTCI) used to model heat exposure showed levels above 38°C for more than four hours per day - an indicator of "very strong heat stress" across the North-East and South in August. Workers with CKD spent an average of 36.18 hours a week outdoors, compared to 33.42 hours among those with normal kidney function. For those with CKDu, the average was even higher, at 38.07 hours.

Risk factors included older age (above 53.5 years), male sex, hypertension, anaemia, history of renal stones, smokeless tobacco use, and long hours of outdoor work.



Interestingly, factors such as potable water source, snake bite, COVID infection and alcohol intake showed no association with CKD prevalence. The prevalence was 7.9% among those without formal education, compared to 2.5% among graduates.The prevalence of diabetes (13.4%) and hypertension (30.6%) was similar to national averages, yet two-thirds of people living with hypertension and 40% of people living with diabetes were newly diagnosed during the study, underscoring low awareness.The researchers note that the Tamil Nadu findings mirror global CKDu "hotspots" -- first reported among sugarcane and corn workers in El Salvador and later in Nicaragua, Mexico and Panama where heat and dehydration are suspected to play a key role.Preventive measures"Simple preventive measures can help," says Gopalakrishnan Natarajan, co-author of the study, member secretary of TRANSTAN and former Director, Institute of Nephrology. "Following the Water–Rest–Shade protocol around 750 mL of cool water every hour and 10–15 minutes of rest each hour can protect workers from heat strain."The researchers also recommend flexible work hours to avoid peak heat, and the inclusion of renal function monitoring in routine occupational health checks. At a policy level, they point to the absence of heat-specific labour standards in India. "There is an urgent need to integrate heat-stress thresholds and kidney health monitoring into workplace safety frameworks," the team notes.Need of early detectionOnly 1.6% of participants reported symptoms such as swelling, and nocturia -- waking at night to urinate was the only common complaint, seen in 12.9%. "The silent profile of CKD means symptom-based diagnosis misses most cases," says Dr. Subramaniam.The authors recommend annual serum creatinine and urine albumin–creatinine testing for agricultural workers through existing primary health programmes. Village health nurses and multipurpose health workers could be trained to identify high-risk groups -- men above 50, those with anaemia, tobacco users and those exposed to prolonged heat.

Five more arrests made, says Paris prosecutor

Five more people have been arrested in the investigation into the theft of crown jewels from the Louvre Museum, but the treasures remain missing, the Paris prosecutor announced Thursday (October 30, 2025).The five were detained on late Wednesday night (October 29, 2025) in separate police operations in Paris and surrounding areas, including the Seine-Saint-Denis region, prosecutor Laure Beccuau told RTL radio. She did not release their identities or other details.One is suspected of being part of the four-person team that robbed the Louvre's Apollo Gallery in broad daylight on October 19, the prosecutor said. Two other members of the team were arrested on Sunday (October 26, 2025) and given preliminary charges on Wednesday (October 29, 2025) of criminal conspiracy and theft committed by an organised gang. Both partially admitted their involvement, according to the prosecutor."Searches last night and overnight did not allow us to find the goods," Ms. Beccuau said.It took thieves less than eight minutes to steal the jewels valued at 88 million euros ($102 million), shocking the world. The robbers forced open a window, cut into cases with power tools, and fled with eight pieces of the French crown jewels.One of those who has been charged is a 34-year-old Algerian national who has been living in France since 2010, Ms. Beccuau said. He was arrested at Charles de Gaulle Airport as he was about to fly to Algeria with no return ticket. He was living in a suburb north of Paris, Aubervilliers, and was known to police mostly for road traffic offenses. His DNA was found on one of the scooters used by robbers to leave the scene, she said.The other suspect, 39, was arrested at his home in Aubervilliers. The man was known to police for several thefts, and his DNA was found on one of the glass cases where the jewels were displayed and on items the thieves left behind, she added.Video surveillance cameras showed there were at least four criminals involved, Ms. Beccuau said.The four suspected robbers arrived onboard a truck equipped with a freight lift that two of them used to climb up to the museum's window. The four of them left onboard two motor scooters along the Seine River toward eastern Paris,

L&T signs pact with US firm to manufacture unmanned aircraft systems for Indian Army

New Delhi: Infrastructure major Larsen & Toubro (L&T) on Friday said that it has entered into a strategic pact with US-based Atomics Aeronautical Systems, Inc. (GA-ASI) for manufacturing unmanned aircraft systems for the Indian Army.Under the partnership, both the firms will together manufacture Medium Altitude Long Endurance (MALE) Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems (RPAS) in India.L&T's engineering, precision manufacturing and system integration capabilities in defence and aerospace and GA-ASI operational expertise will be utilised in this strategic pact."

Language belongs to a different realm



From sails to steam engines, from bullock carts to motor cars, from huts to skyscrapers, every stage of human history has been marked by breathtaking technological progress. Each new invention has made life faster, easier and more comfortable. Yet, amid all this change, one aspect of human experience has remained strikingly constant: how we communicate.The medium has evolved dramatically — from messengers and handwritten letters to telephones and instant messaging, but the essence has not. It is still one human being reaching out to another. The town crier's drumbeat in the village square has become a digital notice on a government website, but both are acts of connection. The tools have changed but the impulse to communicate has not.Artificial Intelligence (AI) is now rewriting the rules of learning and work. It solves equations, drafts essays, designs buildings and composes music. It can act as a tutor, a translator, a researcher, and even a companion. In subjects that rely on logic, structure and fixed systems — mathematics, physics, engineering — AI has already become transformative. Students can now get instant explanations of complex formulas or visualise difficult scientific concepts at the click of a button.What a machine cannot feel

Language, however, belongs to a different realm. It is not only a system of rules but also a living, breathing expression of culture and emotion. AI can process grammar and vocabulary, but it cannot capture humour, irony, affection or hesitation. A sentence translated by a machine may be correct in words, yet wrong in spirit. When someone says "I miss you" or "Te extraño", the meaning is inseparable from emotion, something a machine cannot feel.Technology has made translation almost effortless. A Hindi email can appear in flawless English; a Japanese article can be read in French in seconds. Yet, these translations, however precise, may sound sterile. The tone, the rhythm and the subtle warmth that define human speech are easily lost. Translation can transfer meaning but not experience. Understanding a language requires more than decoding its words. It demands entering its world.In the lived moments

That is why learning a language has always been different from learning a formula. It is not an abstract skill but a human interaction. It happens in conversation, in laughter, in mistakes. It happens when someone struggles to express a thought and is gently corrected, or when a joke finally lands after weeks of practice. These small, lived moments build confidence and connection, something that no app or chatbot can replicate.AI tools can certainly assist. They can correct pronunciation, explain grammar and offer personalised practice. For teachers, they make lesson planning and feedback faster and more efficient. But they cannot replace the very heart of language learning, the emotional effort of trying to be understood by another person. Fluency is not achieved by perfection alone, but by empathy. To speak a language well, one must also learn how others think and feel.Moreover, languages constantly evolve. Slang, idioms and even tones of politeness change from year to year. A machine can record these shifts, but it cannot belong to a community. It can predict usage, but it cannot participate in the living rhythm of speech. True mastery requires being part of that rhythm — listening, adapting, responding.The biggest riskPerhaps the greatest risk is not that AI will replace language learning, but that it will make people believe they no longer need to learn. If machines can translate instantly, the temptation to skip the effort grows. Yet, in doing so, we would lose something vital: the humility and the patience that come from learning another's tongue. When we learn a language, we do not just acquire words. We learn another way of seeing the world.AI will continue to build our bridges, design our cities, and analyse our data. But when it comes to building bridges etween people, it will remain an assistant, not a substitute. The process of learning a language — slow, emotional, and deeply human — will outlast every technological revolution.Technology can help us talk across borders, but only effort and empathy can help us truly understand one another. And that is something no machine, however intelligent, will ever be able to automate.

Study reveals heat-linked kidney strain among Tamil Nadu's agricultural workers

A new population-based study published in The Lancet has found that Tamil Nadu's agricultural workers face a growing risk of kidney disease linked to heat exposure, dehydration and long outdoor work hours.Conducted between August and December 2023, the Chronic Kidney Disease of unknown etiology (or uncertain cause) CKDu - AGRI study surveyed agricultural workers across all five agro-climatic zones of the State -- the North-East, North-West, Western, Cauvery Delta, and Southern regions. Using a stratified multi-stage cluster sampling method, researchers studied 3,350 farm workers from 125 villages, collecting data on occupation, health and environmental exposures.

The researchers observed a striking seasonal variation in kidney function. During August -- one of Tamil Nadu's hottest months -- 17.4% of participants had an estimated glomerular filtration rate (eGFR) below 60 mL/min/1.73 m². When tested again in December, kidney function had returned to normal in most."These were asymptomatic, sub-clinical episodes of acute kidney injury," says R. Sakthirajan,co-author of the study, senior assistant professor, Institute of Nephrology, Madras Medical College. "Because all assays were done in a single reference laboratory, the variation almost certainly reflects physiological stress rather than measurement error."The team point out that these transient injuries are linked to repetitive heat and dehydration stress during fieldwork -- a pattern also documented in Central America and Sri Lanka. "We plan to follow participants across different seasons to track kidney markers, hydration, and individual heat exposure," adds Sudharshini Subramaniam, co-author of the study, associate professor, Institute of Community Medicine. "This will help confirm whether repeated seasonal stress leads to chronic kidney disease over time."The study found an overall CKD prevalence of 5.31%, with nearly half of these cases classified as Chronic Kidney Disease of Unknown aetiology (CKDu) -- that is, not linked to diabetes, hypertension or heart disease. The burden was significantly higher in the North-East (7.68%) and Southern (6.4%) zones compared to the North-West (2.16%).The Universal Thermal Climate Index (UTCI) used to model heat exposure showed levels above 38°C for more than four hours per day - an indicator of "very strong heat stress" across the North-East and South in August. Workers with CKD spent an average of 36.18 hours a week outdoors, compared to 33.42 hours among those with normal kidney function. For those with CKDu, the average was even higher, at 38.07 hours.

Risk factors included older age (above 53.5 years), male sex, hypertension, anaemia, history of renal stones, smokeless tobacco use, and long hours of outdoor work.



Interestingly, factors such as potable water source, snake bite, COVID infection and alcohol intake showed no association with CKD prevalence. The prevalence was 7.9% among those without formal education, compared to 2.5% among graduates.The prevalence of diabetes (13.4%) and hypertension (30.6%) was similar to national averages, yet two-thirds of people living with hypertension and 40% of people living with diabetes were newly diagnosed during the study, underscoring low awareness.The researchers note that the Tamil Nadu findings mirror global CKDu "hotspots" -- first reported among sugarcane and corn workers in El Salvador and later in Nicaragua, Mexico and Panama where heat and dehydration are suspected to play a key role.Preventive measures"Simple preventive measures can help," says Gopalakrishnan Natarajan, co-author of the study, member secretary of TRANSTAN and former Director, Institute of Nephrology. "Following the Water–Rest–Shade protocol around 750 mL of cool water every hour and 10–15 minutes of rest each hour can protect workers from heat strain."The researchers also recommend flexible work hours to avoid peak heat, and the inclusion of renal function monitoring in routine occupational health checks. At a policy level, they point to the absence of heat-specific labour standards in India. "There is an urgent need to integrate heat-stress thresholds and kidney health monitoring into workplace safety frameworks," the team notes.Need of early detectionOnly 1.6% of participants reported symptoms such as swelling, and nocturia -- waking at night to urinate was the only common complaint, seen in 12.9%. "The silent profile of CKD means symptom-based diagnosis misses most cases," says Dr. Subramaniam.The authors recommend annual serum creatinine and urine albumin–creatinine testing for agricultural workers through existing primary health programmes. Village health nurses and multipurpose health workers could be trained to identify high-risk groups -- men above 50, those with anaemia,

Five more arrests made, says Paris prosecutor

Five more people have been arrested in the investigation into the theft of crown jewels from the Louvre Museum, but the treasures remain missing, the Paris prosecutor announced Thursday (October 30, 2025).The five were detained on late Wednesday night (October 29, 2025) in separate police operations in Paris and surrounding areas, including the Seine-Saint-Denis region, prosecutor Laure Beccuau told RTL radio. She did not release their identities or other details.One is suspected of being part of the four-person team that robbed the Louvre's Apollo Gallery in broad daylight on October 19, the prosecutor said. Two other members of the team were arrested on Sunday (October 26, 2025) and given preliminary charges on Wednesday (October 29, 2025) of criminal conspiracy and theft committed by an organised gang. Both partially admitted their involvement, according to the prosecutor."Searches last night and overnight did not allow us to find the goods," Ms. Beccuau said.It took thieves less than eight minutes to steal the jewels valued at 88 million euros ($102 million), shocking the world. The robbers forced open a window, cut into cases with power tools, and fled with eight pieces of the French crown jewels.One of those who has been charged is a 34-year-old Algerian national who has been living in France since 2010, Ms. Beccuau said. He was arrested at Charles de Gaulle Airport as he was about to fly to Algeria with no return ticket. He was living in a suburb north of Paris, Aubervilliers, and was known to police mostly for road traffic offenses.

Prince Andrew stripped of all titles after Virginia Giuffre's memoir



Toowoomba: Prince Andrew will be stripped of his royal titles, including prince, and will move out of his home, Royal Lodge, to a private residence.Buckingham Palace issued a statement today that King Charles has initiated a formal process to remove the "style, titles and honours of Prince Andrew", who "will now be known as Andrew Mountbatten Windsor".The decision comes in the wake of Virginia Giuffre's posthumous memoir Nobody's Girl, published this fortnight.The memoir includes an inside account of the two years Giuffre spent as a "sex slave" working for Jeffrey Epstein and co-conspirator Ghislaine Maxwell. Giuffre died by suicide in April this year, aged 41, on her farm in Western Australia.

Three weeks before she died, she emailed her co-author, journalist Amy Wallace, and longtime publicist Dini von Mueffling: "In the event of my passing, I would like to ensure that Nobody's Girl is still released." "Today," Giuffre's family said, "she declares a victory. She has brought down a British prince with her truth and extraordinary courage".British historian and author Andrew Lownie (author of a book about Andrew and his ex-wife Sarah Ferguson, called Entitled), told Sky News earlier this month, "the only way the story will go away is if [Andrew] leaves Royal Lodge, goes into exile abroad with his ex-wife, and is basically stripped of all his honours, including Prince Andrew". Sarah Ferguson will also move out of Royal Lodge.As a trauma memoir, Nobody's Girl forces us to bear witness to an uncomfortable truth: Giuffre's abuse was hidden in plain sight."Don't be fooled by those in Epstein's circle who say they didn't know what Epstein was doing," she writes."Anyone who spent any significant amount of time with Epstein saw him touching girls." She continues: "They can say they didn't know he was raping children. But they were not blind." Four days before the memoir was published, Prince Andrew announced he would no longer use the titles conferred upon him, including Duke of York.Three days later, leaked emails from 2011 suggested he gave Giuffre's date of birth and social security number to one of his protection officers, hours before the infamous photograph of him with her was published.Maxwell's brother, Ian Maxwell, published an article in the Spectator today, headlined "Don't take Virginia Giuffre's memoir at face value". The memoir keeps his sister, who was convicted of charges including sex trafficking of a minor, in world headlines – at a time Donald Trump has said he will "take a look" at pardoning her.Earlier this year, Maxwell was moved to a lower security prison to continue her 20-year sentence.Allegations of parental abuseGiuffre writes that her father began molesting her at the age of seven. He "strenuously" denies this. While the memoir makes this public for the first time, Giuffre's older brother Danny Wilson told ABC's 7.30 he first heard the allegations years before the memoir was published – and confronted his father about it.

Giuffre regularly wet her pants at school – earning her the cruel nickname "Pee Girl". She recalls: "I began to get painful urinary tract infections. My infections were so severe, I couldn't hold my urine."After one (of several) medical examinations, a doctor told her mother her primary school-aged daughter's hymen was broken. Giuffre writes of this moment: My mother didn't hesitate. 'Oh, she rides horses bareback,' she explained. That was the end of that. I didn't even know what a hymen was.Later, she recalls her mother raising suspicions about her involvement with Epstein and "apex predator" Maxwell, questioning "what this older couple wanted with a teenage girl who had no credentials".Giuffre writes: "I guess I was glad she cared enough to have suspicions, but at the same time, wasn't it a little late for that? I knew she couldn't save me; she'd never saved me before." Around the time of her doctor's visit, the memoir alleges, Giuffre's father began "trading" his daughter to a friend – a tall, muscular man with "a military bearing" who was also abusing his own stepdaughter.In 2000, the man was convicted of molesting another girl in North Carolina. He spent 14 months in prison and a decade as a registered sex offender.Giuffre writes that she was abused by these men for five years, from ages seven to eleven; it only stopped when she began menstruating.Heartbreakingly, Giuffre discloses that at one point she imagined Maxwell (or "G-Max" as she wanted to be known) as her mother: "While I was hardly equipped to judge, it often seemed to me that Epstein and Maxwell behaved like actual parents." Among other things, the pair gave Giuffre her first cell phone, whitened her teeth, and taught her how to hold a knife and fork "just so".'The younger, the better'Giuffre's memoir is a courageous and clear-eyed account of what trauma takes – and what recovery demands.Told in four chronological parts – "Daughter", "Prisoner", "Survivor" and "Warrior" – the memoir meticulously records the "sexual assaulting, battering, exploiting, and abusing" Giuffre endured throughout her life, most notably at the hands of Epstein and Maxwell.The result is a devastating expose of the fetishisation and abuse of girls – "the younger, the better", Epstein said – and society's failure to protect the most vulnerable.It is also a damning indictment of everyone who knew and looked away.'Please don't stop reading'Giuffre was 16 and working as a locker-room attendant at Trump's Mar-a-Lago resort when Ghislaine Maxwell recruited her to "service Epstein", under the pretence of training as a masseuse.(In October 2007, Trump – who is portrayed favourably in the memoir – reportedly banned Epstein from his resort after Epstein hit on the teenage daughter of another member.) Over the next two years, and roughly 350 pages, Giuffre tells how she was trafficked to "a multitude of powerful men", including Prince Andrew, French modelling agent Jean-Luc Brunel, a prominent psychology professor and a respected United States senator.In one of the most distressing scenes, Giuffre describes how she was trafficked to "a former minister", who raped her so "savagely" she was left "bleeding from [her] mouth, vagina, and anus".When Virginia told Epstein about the brutal attack, which made it hurt to breathe and swallow, he said, "You'll get that sometimes." Eight weeks later, he returned Giuffre to the politician, who this time abused her on one of Epstein's private jets. In the US version of the memoir, the politician is described not as a "former minister" but as "a former Prime Minister"."I know this is a lot to take in," Giuffre writes. "The violence. The neglect. The bad decisions. The self-harm. But please don't stop reading." One of the most devastating revelations comes toward the end of the memoir. Giuffre – now in her forties – receives a phone call from a confidant claiming to have evidence that Epstein paid off her father when she was a girl.In 2000, when Epstein and Maxwell started abusing the teenager at El Brillo Way, it is alleged that her father accepted "a sum of money" from the paedophile.According to Giuffre, when she confronted her father, there was "a brief silence" before "he started yelling at [her] for being an ungrateful daughter".Of all the betrayals she endured, this one stands alone: "I will never get over it".Girls, no one cared about

"When a molester shows his face," Giuffre writes, "many people tend to look the other way." In chapter 11, Giuffre describes how Epstein's personal chef, the celebrity cook Adam Perry Lang, made her her favourite food – pizza. This, apparently, became something of a tradition – Lang feeding Giuffre, but never "ogling", "even if I was standing naked in front of him, which was not unusual".She wrote: "When I'd finished attending to Epstein or one of the other guests, Lang would have a cheesy hot pie waiting." In 2019, Lang issued a statement about working for Epstein: "My role was limited to meal preparation. I was unaware of the depraved behaviour and have great sympathy and admiration for the brave women who have come forward." In another scene, Giuffre reveals that Epstein "never wore a condom". After falling pregnant at the age of 17, she suffered an ectopic pregnancy.On this day, Giuffre recalls how Epstein and Maxwell ("two halves of a wicked whole") – with the help of Epstein's New York butler – drove her to the hospital after she woke in "a pool of blood".Epstein lied to the doctor about her age, Giuffre alleges, and the two men seemed to enter "a gentlemen's agreement" in which "whatever was going on between this middle-aged man and his teenage acquaintance […] would be kept quiet"."We were girls who no one cared about, and Epstein pretended to care," Giuffre writes. "At times I think he even believed he cared." She describes how Epstein "threw what looked like a lifeline to girls who were drowning, girls who had nothing, girls who wished to be and do better." As a self-described "pleaser" who "survived by acquiescing", Giuffre writes that Epstein and Maxwell "knew just how to tap into that same crooked vein" her childhood abusers had: abuse cloaked in "a fake mantle of 'love. '"

In March 2001, at Maxwell's upscale townhouse in London's Belgravia – where Prince Andrew was famously pictured with his arm around the teenager – Giuffre recalls how Maxwell invited Andrew to guess her age. When the prince correctly guessed 17, he reportedly told her, "My daughters are just a little younger than you." Later that night, she writes, Prince Andrew bought the teenager cocktails at Tramp – an exclusive London nightclub – where she and the prince danced awkwardly and the prince "sweated profusely". In the car, on the way home, Maxwell instructed Giuffre "to do for [Andy] what you do for Jeffrey".In November 2019, in his calamitous interview with BBC's Newsnight, Prince Andrew denied any wrongdoing, claiming he had "no recollection of ever meeting this lady".He told presenter Emily Maitlis he could not have danced sweatily at Tramp because he had "a peculiar medical condition" that prevented perspiration, caused by what he described as "an overdose of adrenaline" in the Falklands War.

In that interview, Andrew admitted his decision to stay at Epstein's New York home in December 2010 – months after Epstein was released from jail for soliciting and procuring minors for prostitution – was "the wrong thing to do". However, the prince claimed his decision was "probably coloured by [his] tendency to be too honourable".In her memoir, Giuffre describes Andrew as "friendly enough but entitled" – "as if he believed having sex with [her] was his birthright." She alleges she had sex with the prince on two more occasions.Publishing a book posthumously can be an ethical minefield. Critics often question whether posthumous publication is what the author would have wanted. They point to the author's right to protect their work and their literary reputation – a right that cannot survive them.However, Giuffre left no space for speculation. In the email she sent her co-author and publicist before her death, she made her wishes clear: It is my heartfelt wish that this work be published, regardless of my circumstances at the time. The content of this book is crucial, as it aims to shed light on the systemic failures that allow the trafficking of vulnerable individuals.As the memoir progresses, Giuffre's health spirals. The physical, emotional and mental toll of trauma closes in on her. Epstein is dead. Maxwell is in prison. But Giuffre is still "trapped in an invisible cage"."From the start," she says, "I was groomed to be complicit in my own devastation. Of all the terrible wounds they inflicted, that forced complicity was the most destructive." Before she died, Giuffre made a promise to her husband and children that she would try with "all her might" to believe her life mattered. Her final goal was to prevent "the emotional time-bomb" inside her from detonating.While Giuffre may at last be beyond harm, the truth remains. She – like the hundreds of girls abused by Epstein and his associates – was wronged.Her fight, like theirs, transcends death: release the Epstein files; hold abusers and their enablers accountable; expose the systems that protect predators; abolish statutes of limitations for the sexual abuse of minors. Ensure no other child suffers. This is what Giuffre wanted.By publishing her memoir, she ensured the fight would survive her. She made certain her voice would outlast her pain. In this way, she got the last word.

L&T signs pact with US firm to manufacture unmanned aircraft systems for Indian Army

New Delhi: Infrastructure major Larsen & Toubro (L&T) on Friday said that it has entered into a strategic pact with US-based Atomics Aeronautical Systems, Inc. (GA-ASI) for manufacturing unmanned

Printed at SMILYS ONLINE 6-7-48,VANASTHALIPURAM SHOPPING COMPLEX RANGAREDDY , RANGAREDDY, TELANGANA - 500070
Publisher,Editor: Kasoju Shankara Chary, PRGI NO: TGENG/26/A3169, Ph No: 9949791999, Email Id: eyesecretdaily@gmail.com