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# THE JAZZBAAT

NO THEORY, NO FICTION, ONLY JAZBAAT OF BHARAT

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## Ajit Doval Dares Foreign Media regarding Operation Sindoor

JAZZBAAT NEWS DESK



**Chennai:** In a firm rebuttal to international media reports, National Security Adviser Ajit Doval publicly dared foreign press to “show me one photograph” that proves any damage was sustained in India during Operation Sindoor. The statement was delivered at the 62nd convocation of IIT Madras, where he also recapped the scope and precision of the military strike.

Doval reaffirmed that the operation, conducted at 1 a.m. on 7 May, targeted nine terrorist strongholds deep inside Pakistan and PoK, lasting a mere 23 minutes, with no collateral damage on Indian soil. “We missed none. We hit nowhere else except that,” he asserted, underlining the mission’s precision and restraint. He criticised foreign media outlets, including the New York Times, for asserting that India came under retaliatory attacks. “Foreign press said that Pakistan did that and this, you tell me one photograph, one image, which shows any damage, even a glass pane having been broken,” he demanded.

These remarks contrast sharply with foreign reports asserting disruptions at 13 Pakistani air bases, such as Sargodha, Rahim Yar Khan, and Chaklala. Doval maintained that, unlike Pakistan, India emerged unscathed.

..... Contd. to P6

## Centre Releases ₹1,066.80 Cr for Flood and Landslide Relief

JAZZBAAT NEWS DESK



**New Delhi:** The Union Government has approved the release of ₹1,066.80 crore from the State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) to help six states: Assam, Kerala, Uttarakhand, Manipur, Meghalaya, and Mizoram. These states are facing severe floods, landslides, and cloudbursts due to the ongoing monsoon. Union Home Minister Amit Shah announced this decision on Wednesday, emphasizing the Centre’s commitment to support the states in all situations. He

stated that the financial assistance would enable state governments to speed up relief, rescue, and rehabilitation efforts in the affected areas. “The Modi government stands firmly beside the states in all situations. Today, the central government has approved ₹1,066.80 crore for flood- and landslide-affected states of Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Kerala, and Uttarakhand as part of the Central share under SDRF. More than ₹8,000

crore from SDRF/NDRF funds has been provided to 19 states this year. Besides financial aid, providing all logistical support, including deploying the necessary NDRF, Army, and Air Force, has been our priority,” he posted on the social media platform X. According to the allocation, Uttarakhand receives the highest share of ₹455.60 crore, followed by Assam with ₹375.60 crore. Kerala will get ₹153.20 crore, Manipur ₹29.20 crore, Meghalaya ₹30.40 crore, and

Mizoram ₹22.80 crore. In addition to this latest funding, the Centre has already released ₹6,166 crore from the SDRF to 14 states this year. Another ₹1,988.91 crore has been distributed from the National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) to 12 states. Funds from the State Disaster Mitigation Fund (₹726.20 crore) and the National Disaster Mitigation Fund (₹17.55 crore) have also been approved for 2025. .... Contd. to P2

## Vadodara Bridge Collapse Toll Rises to 18, Rescue Underway

JAZZBAAT NEWS DESK

**Vadodara:** On July 11, officials confirmed that 18 people died when the Gambhira Bridge over the Mahi River in Padra taluka partially collapsed. Rescuers are still looking for two people who are still missing.

There are worries that more people may be trapped under slush and debris.

Six vehicles, including two trucks, a pickup van, a micro van, and two motorcycles, fell into the river below on July 9th when a 15-20 m section of the concrete bridge, which had been constructed in 1985, broke down during rush hour traffic.

“The bridge had been maintained periodically but had shown signs of deterioration, and residents had raised concerns about its safety,” said Gujarat Health Minister Rushikesh Patel.

Rescue operations are being led by ten teams from the Vadodara Fire Brigade and the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF), supported by divers and local volunteers. The Ministry of Home Affairs stated that efforts were “expect-

ed to continue late into the night” as they comb through thick slush for signs of life.

On 10 July, rescuers recovered five more bodies: four were discovered under one of the trucks in the riverbed, and a fifth was found around five kilometres downstream near Dabka village.

The victims have been identified as Yogesh Chauhan of Bharuch and Atul Rathod, Bhupendra Parmar, Dilip Padhiyar and Yogesh Patel, all from Anand district. The identities of those still missing have not been released.

Intermittent rainfall has further hindered the rescue operation, with officials warning that pumps and water dispersing measures would remain in place through Friday, as search efforts resume at first light.

Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel has ordered an immediate technical investigation into the collapse and dispatched senior officials, including the Vadodara Collector, to oversee relief and rescue operations. A compensation package of

₹2 lakh for families of the deceased and ₹50,000 for the injured has been announced from the Prime Minister’s National Relief Fund.

Civil society and opposition voices have highlighted that several warnings about the bridge’s structural condition had been issued since 2021, drawing parallels to the Morbi collapse of 2022.

A letter from local leaders had reportedly flagged the bridge as “unfit for use”, but corrective action was not pursued.

While the district police continue their investigation, the Road and Building Department has filed a case for accidental death and initiated a forensic structural assessment.

This tragedy has brought back into the public eye the need for regular safety audits and the problems with old infrastructure.

As the rescue teams work through the night, people in Padra, Mulpur, and Gambhira hold vigil, hoping for one last sign of survivors.

Rescue operations being conducted over the Mahi River by the rescuers



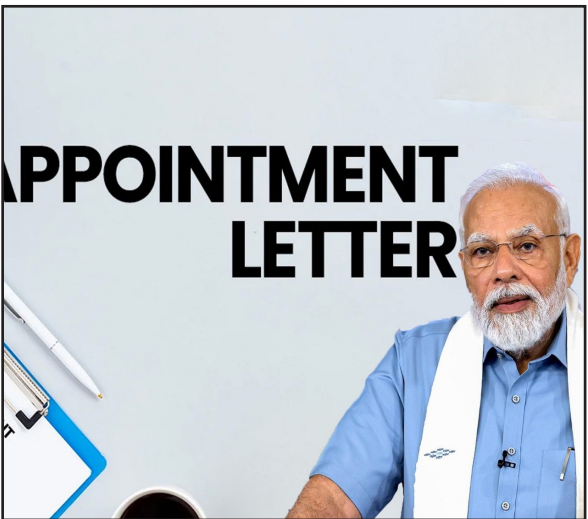
## PM to Address Youth Nationwide as Govt Pushes Job Creation Drive Over 51,000 Appointment Letters Under Rozgar Mela

Recruitment in various departments of the Central Government, including the Ministry of Railways, the Ministry of Home Affairs, the Department of Posts, the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, the Department of Financial Services, and the Ministry of Labour & Employment

DIPANJAN MONDAL

**New Delhi:** In a push for large-scale job creation, Prime Minister Narendra Modi will hand out more than 51,000 appointment letters to newly hired young people in various central government departments and organizations on Friday, July 12. The ceremony will be held online at 11:00 AM, and the Prime Minister will also speak to the appointees.

This initiative is part of the ongoing Rozgar Mela, a national employment campaign aimed at providing meaningful job opportunities to young Indians and en-



abling them to contribute to nation-building. Government data shows that over 10 lakh appointment letters have already

been given out across the country in earlier editions of the Rozgar Mela.

The 16th edition of the Rozgar Mela will take

place at 47 locations across India. Recruitment is happening in several ministries and departments of the central government, including the Ministry of Railways, the Ministry of Home Affairs, the Department of Posts, the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, the Department of Financial Services, and the Ministry of Labour & Employment, among others.

Rozgar Mela shows the government’s commitment to focus on job creation and increase workforce participation in important areas of governance and public service.

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# India Launches first Electric Truck Incentive Scheme under PM Modi's Green Mobility Vision

JAZZBATT NEWS DESK

**New Delhi:** In a major move to change India's freight transport system, the Government of India has introduced the country's first incentive program for electric trucks under the PM E-DRIVE initiative. Led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Minister for Heavy Industries and Steel H.D. Kumaraswamy, the scheme aims to encourage the use of electric trucks and cut emissions in the logistics sector.

Announced by the Ministry of Heavy Industries, the plan offers a maximum incentive of ₹9.6 lakh for each electric truck. This marks the first time the government is providing direct financial support for electric trucks, representing a key step in India's shift towards sustainable and low-emission freight transport.

At the launch, Union Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy stated, "Diesel trucks make up only 3% of the total vehicle population, yet they contribute to 42% of transport-related greenhouse gas emissions and greatly worsen air pollution. This innovative scheme, driven by the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, is India's first dedicated support for electric trucks. It will lead our nation towards sustainable freight transport, a cleaner future, and the goal of Viksit Bharat by 2047, in line with our net-zero emissions target by 2070."

The scheme will apply to electric trucks in the N2 and N3 categories as defined by the Central

Motor Vehicle Rules. N2 vehicles include trucks with a gross vehicle weight (GVW) between 3.5 tonnes and 12 tonnes, while N3 vehicles cover those weighing more than 12 tonnes and up to 55 tonnes. For articulated trucks, the incentive will specifically apply to the puller tractor in the N3 category.

To guarantee reliability and performance, stringent warranty requirements are now compulsory. Batteries in the e-trucks must have a warranty for five years or 5 lakh kilometers, whichever comes first. The vehicle and motor must also be covered by a warranty of five years or 2.5 lakh kilometers. These stipulations aim to boost consumer confidence and promote the long-term use of electric trucks.

The financial incentive will directly reduce the purchase price and will later be reimbursed to Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs) through the PM E-DRIVE portal, which will follow a first-come, first-served approach. This initiative targets the deployment of about 5,600 e-trucks across India in its first phase. A specific allocation has also been set for Delhi, where around 1,100 e-trucks will be registered under the scheme. An estimated budget of ₹100 crore has been allocated for the capital to tackle its ongoing air quality crisis.

Various sectors such as cement, steel, ports, and logistics



are likely to benefit from the scheme, especially since major OEMs like Volvo Eicher, Tata Motors, and Ashok Leyland have already started manufacturing electric trucks in India. This development also strongly supports India's Atmanirbhar Bharat mission, enhancing local capabilities in clean technology production.

Public sector leader Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) has taken the initiative by committing to purchase 150 e-trucks over the next two years. These trucks will be deployed across SAIL units nationwide. To further promote green operations, the company aims to ensure that at least 15 percent of all vehicles hired at its sites are electric.

Importantly, to qualify for the incentives, it will be necessary to scrap old and highly polluting diesel trucks. This will not only encourage fleet modernization

but also maximize the environmental benefits by removing older, emissions-heavy vehicles from Indian roads.

The launch of this program is seen as a strategic move in India's larger electric mobility plan. By lowering the high upfront costs of electric trucks, the initiative aims to decrease operating costs for fleet operators and speed up the transition to clean energy in the heavy vehicle sector.

It also highlights the government's commitment to improving air quality in urban and industrial areas, steering the nation closer to its climate goals under the Paris Agreement.

With strong industry backing and a clear plan, the electric truck incentive scheme under PM E-DRIVE is poised to transform the future of freight transportation in India.

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## India's Space Pride on Hold: Shubhanshu Shukla's Return from ISS Delayed

SABYASACHI BHATTACHERJEE

**New Delhi :** Indian Group Captain Subhanshu Shukla, who went on a space mission to the International Space Station (ISS) as part of the Axiom-4 mission, had plans to return to Earth postponed for now. Although they were originally scheduled to return to Earth on July 10 in a SpaceX Dragon capsule, that schedule has been postponed due to weather and technical limitations, according to a joint statement from NASA and the European Space Agency (ESA). It is estimated that astronauts will not be able to leave the ISS before July 14th.

Subhanshu is joined by three other astronauts on this mission, all of whom have participated in space exploration through private initiatives. The Axiom-4 mission, a joint project of Axiom Space, SpaceX, and NASA, launched on June 25. After a 28-hour journey, they arrived at the International Space Station and began a series of important scientific studies. Their space-based mission is seen as part of preparations for long-term human habitation and research in space.

One of the major features of this mission was the germination test of Indian food grains, especially moong and fenugreek seeds, in the microgravity environment inside the ISS. In addition, they have participated in more than 60 scientific experiments related to biotechnology, materials science, artificial intelligence, and space medicine. Through this, not only India's research field but also international space research has been enriched.

Despite the success of the mission, there were some complications in returning it from the ISS to Earth. The Euro-

pean Space Agency said that a pressure loss problem was recently detected in the Russian Zvezda module of the ISS, which was later brought under control, but NASA is taking all precautions to ensure the safety of astronauts. Weather conditions are also an important consideration for the return, as the journey can be risky if sea conditions are not favorable during splashdown.

Just as the astronauts' families are concerned about this delay, ordinary people across the country are also waiting for their safe return. Shubhangshu's father, Shambhudayal Shukla, told the media, "We are proud of his space journey, but our hearts will not rest until we get news of his return." His mother, Asha Shukla, said, "We are keeping an eye on the news every day, hoping to know the date of his return."

Subhanshu Shukla is one of the rare group of people who have directly contributed to international space exploration on behalf of India. In 1984, Rakesh Sharma made history by traveling into space in a Soviet spacecraft. Now, Shubhangshu Shukla has repeated that history, albeit in a different context, through a private initiative. The Axiom-4 mission remains a significant chapter in the history of Indian spaceflight. The entire nation is now looking forward to that glorious moment—the day when Shubhangshu Shukla and his companions will successfully return to Earth. Their journey is not just a scientific mission, but also a source of inspiration for teaching the new generation to think about space.

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## India Prepares for Quantum Future: MeitY Launches Whitepaper to Strengthen Cybersecurity



**New Delhi:** In a significant move to strengthen India's cybersecurity in the era of quantum technologies, the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), along with the Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) and global cybersecurity firm SISA, launched a whitepaper titled "Transitioning to Quantum Cyber Readiness" in New Delhi on Friday. The whitepaper guides India's public and private sectors, including strategic industries, in preparing for a quantum-resilient digital future. It urges immediate action to secure vulnerable areas, especially in national security, sensitive public service data, and financial transactions. India, a global leader in digital payments and online services, faces challenges as encryption systems like RSA and ECC may soon become obsolete due to advancing quantum computing. This has prompted a government push for quantum-safe cybersecurity. "Quantum readiness is a strategic necessity. As digital, AI, and quantum technologies evolve, we must upgrade ICT infrastructures quickly. This whitepaper offers the tools," said MeitY Secretary Shri S. Krishnan. The document outlines how quantum computing affects current cryptographic systems and provides guidance on adopting quantum-resistant algorithms and security protocols without disrupting ongoing operations.

CERT-In Director General Dr. Sanjay Bahl stressed early preparedness: "Quantum computing will redefine the threat landscape. We must evolve today to protect tomorrow's digital infrastructure. This partnership with SISA demonstrates the power of public-private collaboration." SISA CEO Dharshan Shanthamurthy added, "Quantum computing presents the biggest cybersecurity shift in over 30 years. It's a redefinition of computing limits. Systems we trust are vulnerable in a quantum context. For digital-first nations like India, our joint strategy with CERT-In offers real-world visibility and future-proof cryptographic defenses at the data layer." Tailored for regulated sectors like BFSI, healthcare, and government, the whitepaper includes technical recommendations and promotes a culture of cybersecurity and digital resilience. CERT-In, the national agency for cyber incident response under the IT Amendment Act, 2008, is responsible for threat analysis, alerts, and response coordination. SISA is a global cybersecurity leader in digital payments, certified by the PCI Security Standards Council, protecting over 1,000 organizations in more than 40 countries. As quantum computing reshapes digital security, the whitepaper marks a vital step in making India's digital infrastructure resilient and future-ready.

## Flood Relief & Land Slide

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To improve response efforts, 104 teams from the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) have been deployed across 21 states and Union Territories. The Indian Army and Air Force are also assisting state authorities with evacuation, medical care, and distribution of essential relief supplies.

In the Northeast, Operation Jal Rahat-2, led by the Army, has rescued over 3,800 people in flood-affected areas. Relief teams have been sent to Upper Assam, where rivers like the Dhansiri in Golaghat have exceeded danger levels. Army units have also been dispatched to flood-hit areas in Dimapur, Nagaland, and in Imphal West and Bishnupur districts of Manipur, where rivers have overflowed.

The Centre's financial and logistical support comes amid significant damage to infrastructure, homes, and livelihoods across the affected states. This monsoon season has caused major disruptions, leading to a coordinated national response for both immediate relief and long-term recovery.

## Indian Coast Guard Saves Two Americans around Andaman and Nicobar Islands

SULAGNA HALDER

**New Delhi:** Indian Coast Guard (ICG) on 11 July 2025 confirmed that it had successfully saved two citizens of the US stranded on a yacht in the vicinity of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands as the US boat encountered a mechanical fault.

A statement released by the ICG said that the Sea Angel, an American-owned and flagged sail boat, had been sighted some 53 nautical miles south of Indira Point earlier on 10 July. The two on board, a US citizen and a Turkish national, had fancied a distress call through the US Consulate in Chennai in the face of rough sea conditions and the propulsion failure.

As a prompt reaction, ICG launched Ship Rajveer, which then sailed through dangerous waves to find the yacht. ICG said that the rescuers arrived at the boat when the sail was blown away and the propeller was caught in ropes. Both those in need of rescue were said to be in good health as the rescue took place.

The Sea Angel thereupon was taken under tow and in the morning of 11 July was safely landed in the harbour of Campbell Bay. A Defence Ministry communiqué added that this operation was well coordinated by the ICG with the help of the Maritime Rescue Coordination Centre (MRCC) Port Blair which also

alerted the merchant vessels nearby to join in case of need.

It comes barely a month after another international maritime rescue exercise by the ICG, under which three Sri Lankans stranded in a sandbar off the shores of Tamil Nadu were rescued and handed over to the local authorities.

It is worth noting that the Indian Coast Guard organisation has even in a worst-case scenario, rescued the Sea Angel, and to think that it was a challenging environment in the Indian Ocean area underlines the increased efficiency and role of the Indian Coast Guard in emergency responses. Over the past few years, the ICG and Indian Navy have assumed a greater responsibility as first responders in the event of an incident of a foreign vessel.

These US nationals, whose identity and sailing route remained unknown, allegedly raised a distress call in the wee hours of 10 July, which is during the monsoon season. The mechanical problem on the yacht made it immobile, and this was a huge risk with deteriorating weather conditions.

After being towed to Campbell Bay, the persons were examined medically to see whether they were healthy. The yacht is locked in the dock awaiting technical examination and repair.



The ICG reiterated that it still upholds the so-called rescue coordination protocols and patrolling in the region to follow up with distressed vessels. One of the officials of the Ministry of Defence made the comment, saying that this shows that India extends its hand of security in the seas and is responsible for foreign vessels that might experience trouble in the waters of this region.

The rescue has earned rave reviews among maritime experts as a major demonstration that India can pull off timely and successful search and rescue operations in far-flung waters. It is also a lesson to all seafarers to be calm and highly prepared before untoward incidents happen at sea.



# Row Erupts as University Paper Labels Freedom Fighters ‘Terrorists’

JAZZBATT NEWS DESK

**Midnapore:** A storm erupted at Vidyasagar University after a history exam paper wrongly described early 1930s freedom fighters from Midnapore as “terrorists”, triggering outrage among students, academics, and political leaders. The university’s Vice-Chancellor, Dipak Kumar Kar, has attributed the incident to a “printing mistake” and promised corrective action.

The contentious question, posed in Bengali, asked students to “name three district magistrates of Midnapore who were killed by terrorists,” prompting immediate backlash once the paper was distributed on 10 July, the sixth semester exam day.

VC Kar addressed the issue in a statement issued on 11 July, saying, “A printing mistake occurred, it was unintentional and not detected during proofreading.” He confirmed that two professors responsible for question setting and moderation had been relieved of their duties.

The History Department confirmed the English version had referred to “militant nationalists”, but the Bengali translation omitted quotation marks, changing the context entirely. As Professor Nirmal Mahato, head of the department, explained: “The Bengali

translation would have been correct had the term been placed within quotation marks.” The mistake has sparked fierce criticism, with the BJP’s West Bengal unit accusing the state administration of rewriting history to “poison young minds”. Their social media post stated: “Freedom Fighters are now Terrorists in West Bengal!!!!”

The controversy has reignited longstanding debates. Observers note that during the colonial era, the British often labelled armed revolutionaries as terrorists, a contested interpretation today. Renowned historian Pabitra Sarkar has urged the state to revise history textbooks, warning: “It is very wrong to attribute negative things to these people.”

The university says it has initiated a review of the question-setting process to strengthen moderation and translation protocols. VC Kar remarked, “I am sincerely ashamed and extremely hurt. Those responsible for this typographical error and printing mistake were removed from their duties.”

Political reactions have been swift. BJP state chief Samik Bhattacharya blamed the ruling Trinamool Congress, stating the party “carries the legacy” of Congress-era

historical misinterpretations. In contrast, TMC spokesperson Kunal Ghosh argued that the error was confined to a few individuals: “Who made the question paper? It is entirely a matter related to a handful of individuals responsible for this.”

Members of the Congress and CPM have condemned the gaffe as well, though they cautioned against politicising the issue. Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury of the Congress remarked on the need to stop “teaching incorrect history” and keep the debate centred on factual accuracy.

The incident comes mere months before West Bengal’s assembly elections, injecting fresh tension into historical narratives and education policies. The VC assured that corrective measures will be taken before the next semester’s exams: “We apologise for this inadvertent error, it is being investigated.”

The university administration plans to publish revised question papers and offer re-examinations if needed. Academics urge that oversight mechanisms be tightened across the curriculum to prevent similar mistakes, stressing the need for vigilance when dealing with sensitive historical terminology.

# Haryana School Principal Stabbed to Death by Students Over Haircut Order

JAZZBATT NEWS DESK

**Hisar:** In a shocking incident where a school principal in the Hisar district of the state of Haryana was stabbed to death by two school students of Class 12 when he rebuked them on the refusal to take haircuts and follow the school discipline. This took place on 10 July on the school campus, which the police confirmed.

According to police reports, the principal, who was about 52, had confronted the students due to their untrimmed hair, which contravened the school dress code. Having requested them to be disciplined, he was later stabbed with a knife by the two boys, which caused his death on the spot.

A top police officer of Hisar said, the students were angered because they were advised to trim their hair and be disciplined according to school regulations. They picked a knife and stabbed him several times.” The untimely demise of the principal has not only shocked the local community, but it has also cast great doubts concerning the safety of students in schools.

After the attack, the attackers escaped and have yet to be captured. A manhunt is currently on whereby teams of the Haryana Police, local administration, have been placed in road blocks and raising alerts district-wise to identify the suspects.

The incident has elicited a strict reaction from the education authorities and parents. One district education officer said the killing is something that is deeply offensive to them, and schools must be areas in which teachers and pupils are safe.

People who live around the school in the village have become shocked and alarmed. One of the parents, who talked anonymously, noted that we take our children to school in the hope of dis-

cipline and learning. We have never thought it could be so violent simply because of a haircut.

Answering back, the Minister of Education of the Haryana State ordered all the district schools to examine security measures. Among measures, one can distinguish the tightening of supervision on campus, the counselling of problem students, and the development of the concrete procedures of disciplinary action.

Child rights experts and activists have asked to strengthen counselling frameworks in schools. A local social worker, Anita Sharma, emphasised that students require having their directions and emotions supported. Discipline has to be taught in schools mixed with respect and empathy.”

The Haryana government has said that it will assist the family of the deceased principal with ex gratia. In the meantime, the police have promised quick justice and requested that any person who may have information regarding the suspects present it to the authorities.

This case highlights a frightening trend in the degree to which there is student-on-teacher violence in India. It comes at a time when the issue of safety within educational institutions and psychological pressures exerted on adolescents are becoming major points of concern to the nation.

Going by the nature of the investigation, the police are likely to identify the possible suspects based on sections of the Indian Penal Code, such as section 302 against murder. The case has also come to light on the importance of schools to find a balance between discipline and emotional well-being.

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## JDU President Meets J&K Chief Secretary, Raises Key Public Welfare Issues

DANISHWAR HAMEED

**Srinagar:** Janata Dal United (JDU) Jammu and Kashmir President, Shri G.M. Shaheen, held a significant meeting with Chief Secretary Shri Atal Dulloo to discuss various developmental and public welfare issues in the Union Territory. Shri Shaheen strongly advocated for resolving the long-pending demands of daily wagers, urging the administration to expedite their regularization and clear pending dues. He stressed these workers form the backbone of essential services and deserve timely justice. Chief Secretary Dulloo assured that the matter is under active consider-

ation and the administration is committed to finding a prompt solution. Shri Shaheen also reviewed the progress of infrastructure and welfare projects in the region, urging their swift implementation to ensure benefits reach the common people. He further raised the issue of high power tariffs and requested measures to reduce the burden on economically weaker sections amid rising living costs. The meeting reflected JDU’s ongoing engagement with policy issues and commitment to representing the people of Jammu and Kashmir.

## Residents of Kulgam Appeal for Urgent Drainage Solution Amid Rainwater Logging

DANISHWAR HAMEED

**Kulgam:** The residents of Astan Mohalla in Lai-soo area of Kulgam have appealed to the district administration to take immediate steps to address the persistent issue of rainwater logging that has severely affected the locality.

Locals reported that with every spell of rain, water accumulates not only in the residential areas but also on the main road that connects Astan Mohalla to the district headquarters. The situation has worsened to the extent that rainwater enters several houses, creating hardships for families, particularly for school-going children who struggle to navigate through the waterlogged roads.

“Children find it difficult to reach their schools during rainy days, and the condition of the main road becomes dangerous and unhygienic,” said a concerned resident. The locals stressed the urgent need for a proper drainage system in the area to prevent further inconvenience and damage to property.

When contacted, SDM Noorabad Bashir Ullah Hassan said, “We have already deputed a team to assess the situation, and the issue will be resolved within a few days.” The residents expressed hope that the administration’s response will translate into quick action on the ground and bring long-term relief to the affected area.



## Sports Activities at Peak in Kulgam, Coaching Camps Held for Volleyball, Handball, and Baseball

DANISHWAR HAMEED

**Kulgam:** Sports fervor is running high in Kulgam as the Department of Youth Services and Sports (DYSS) intensifies its efforts to foster a vibrant sporting culture among the youth. Inter-zonal district-level tournaments in Volleyball, Handball, and Baseball are currently underway for boys and girls in the under-14, under-17, and under-19 age categories.

On the second day of the tournament, young athletes showcased remarkable skill, enthusiasm, and team spirit, highlighting the growing passion for sports in the region. The Sports Office Kulgam, extended words of encouragement to the participants, urging them to stay committed and work hard, both on and off the field.

The tournaments have featured thrilling encounters and impressive perfor-

mances, reflecting the department's success in engaging young talent at the grassroots level. The initiative aims not only to promote physical activity but also to identify and nurture athletes who can represent Kulgam at state and national platforms.

In addition to the tournaments, DYSS Kulgam is also conducting specialized coaching camps in Volleyball, Handball, and Baseball. These camps provide structured training under the guidance of experienced coaches, allowing participants to sharpen their techniques and develop a competitive edge.

Department officials are ensuring smooth conduct of the activities, reaffirming their commitment to empowering youth through sports and building a strong foundation for future champions.

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## Key Accused in 1998 Coimbatore Blasts Arrested After 27 Years on the Run

JAZZBATT NEWS DESK

**COIMBATORE:** One of the most wanted suspects in the 1998 Coimbatore serial bombings, A. Sadiq, also known as Tailor Raja, was apprehended in Vijayapura, Karnataka, on July 10, 2025, marking a significant breakthrough. Law enforcement agencies’ nearly three-decade-long pursuit has come to an end. One of the most horrific terrorism cases in the nation is now nearing the end of the Supreme Court-monitored investigation.

The 1998 Coimbatore bombings, carried out on 14 February, saw 58 people killed and over 200 injured in a coordinated attack across 11 locations within a seven-kilometre radius, targeting a rally that senior BJP leader L. K. Advani was due to attend. Al-Umma, led by S. A. Basha, was identified as the mastermind organisation; Basha has since died in prison.

A special team comprising Coimbatore City Police and Tamil Nadu’s Anti Terrorism Squad arrested Sadiq on intelligence suggesting he was living under the alias “Shahjahan Shaik” and working as a chilli commission agent. Officials say he had shifted between Hubballi, Solapur, Guntur, and finally Vijayapura, evading capture since 1996. Sadiq, now aged 50, is accused of orchestrating the bomb manufacturing at a rented house on Vallal Nagar in Ukkadam, from where he supplied explosives to other Al-Umma operatives in the days leading up to the blasts. He is also allegedly linked to a 1996 petrol bomb attack inside Coimbatore Central Prison that claimed the life of a jail warder and is further accused of murder during those years.

The investigation into the blasts has been a long-standing priority, with three

special teams forming across Coimbatore, Madurai, and Trichy since 2022 to trace the remaining fugitives. A reward of ₹4 lakh was announced for information leading to the arrest of Sadiq and his associate, Mujibur Rahman, who also remains at large.

Tamil Nadu Director General of Police Shankar Jiwai confirmed the arrest, noting that two other wanted suspects had been apprehended recently in Andhra Pradesh. He emphasised that “Operation Aram” and “Operation Agali” are active intelligence-driven efforts to eliminate terrorism from the region.

The Tamil Nadu Chief Minister, M. K. Stalin, praised the collaborative efforts of the Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh police and lauded the Anti Terrorism Squad, established in 2023, for its role in securing Sadiq’s arrest.

This arrest marks a critical milestone in the Coimbatore investigations. Despite the death of the alleged mastermind, Basha, in December 2024, and successful convictions including those against Basha and 12 other fugitives like Sadiq, had continued to elude justice.

Sadiq has been remanded in judicial custody until 24 July and will be lodged in Coimbatore Central Prison. Authorities intend to subject him to rigorous interrogation before seeking his transfer for trial under the Indian Penal Code and Terrorist and Disruptive Activities Prevention Act (TADA).

The search for the other suspects, such as Abubacker Siddiq, Ayub alias Ashraf Ali, and Mujibur Rahman, who are still thought to be hiding in four states, is still ongoing. For the victims of the 1998 attacks, their capture would be another step toward justice.

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## Bhagwat’s Retirement Hint at 75 Sparks Buzz Over BJP’s Future Leadership

DIPANJAN MONDAL

**New Delhi:** In a political climate often filled with bold statements from BJP leaders about their long-term power, a single comment from Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) Chief Mohan Bhagwat has triggered a flurry of speculation. Bhagwat, who shapes the ideology of the ruling party, suggested he might step aside after turning 75. This raises new questions about the future of the BJP.

While the BJP leadership confidently talks about its grip on power, Bhagwat’s words have prompted many to wonder if a leadership change is in the works. Could the RSS be hinting at a new direction for the party it helped create?

Speaking at a book release event honoring late RSS ideologue Moropant Pingle in Nagpur on Wednesday evening, Bhagwat stated, “When you turn 75, it means you should stop now and make way for others.” He recalled Pingle’s message, saying, “Moropant Pingle once said that if you are honoured with a shawl after turning 75, it means that you should stop now, you are old, step aside and let others come in.”

Notably, Bhagwat will turn 75 on September 11 this year, just six days before PM Modi, who has faced speculation from the Opposition about retiring at this age.

The BJP has previously stated that



there are no retirement plans for the Prime Minister, and he will continue to lead. “Modi ji will continue to lead till 2029. There’s no truth in retirement rumours,” Union Home Minister Amit Shah affirmed back in May 2023.

What’s even more interesting is

that on the same day Bhagwat made his comments, Amit Shah discussed his own post-retirement plans at a separate event. “I would like to dedicate my time to the Vedas, Upanishads, and organic farming,” Shah said. He turned 60 in April this year.

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## THE BATTLE FOR BIHAR

### Democracy at the Crossroads



JAZZBAAT NEWS DESK

The Bihar Assembly election set for later this year is shaping up to be more than just a political contest. It is becoming a critical test for India's democratic processes. The pre-election narrative, led by the Election Commission's controversial Special Intensive Revision of electoral rolls, has sparked a heated debate about voter rights and disenfranchisement. With 8 crore registered voters in the state under scrutiny, the stakes could not be higher.

The Election Commission says the revision aims to clean up the rolls by removing duplicates and outdated entries. However, opposition parties argue that the effort mainly targets voters from marginalized and backward communities. Concerns grew when the Commission reportedly refused to accept Aadhaar cards, voter IDs, or ration cards as valid proof, bringing the issue to the Supreme Court. In a key hearing on July 10, the Court directed the Commission to accept these documents and to avoid arbitrary deletions. Congress leader Jairam Ramesh criticized the Election Commission's stance, calling it a "spin" and warning that the credibility of the electoral process was at risk. Editorials in major newspapers have echoed similar worries, urging the Commission to prioritize transparency and inclusion. As The Economic Times pointed out, the poll body must "update the rolls, not erase citizens."

As this situation develops, Bihar's political landscape is changing quickly.

The ruling NDA, led by the Bharatiya Janata Party and Janata Dal (United), is actively courting Bihar's three crore migrant voters. Many of these voters live and work in other states but still retain voting rights in Bihar. The BJP has launched a large outreach effort, sending teams to over 150 districts nationwide to encourage migrants to return for polling day.

Within the NDA, a new voice is stepping forward. Chirag Paswan, president of the Lok Janshakti Party (Ram Vilas), is back as a strong contender. Running under the slogan "Bihar First, Bihari First," Chirag is presenting himself as a youthful alternative to both Tejashwi Yadav and Nitish Kumar. His party has been especially active in Dalit-majority constituencies and urban areas, where development promises resonate with voters aiming for progress.

Chirag's challenge is to balance legacy politics with a fresh image. As the son of the late Ram Vilas Paswan, a significant Dalit leader, he has strong emotional support from Paswan voters. Yet, he is also promoting a governance-focused message, criticizing both the RJD and JD(U) for years of neglect and tokenism.

Meanwhile, the Mahagathbandhan is showing a united front. RJD's Tejashwi Yadav has been officially named as the chief ministerial candidate by all alliance partners, including the Congress and the Left. Kanhaiya Kumar, a key Congress figure in Bihar, recently stated that there is "no confusion or dispute" over Tejashwi's leadership. The alliance is finalizing seat-sharing deals, with the Congress expected to contest around 40 to 45 seats, while VIP leader Mukesh Sahani is seeking more than 10.

Tejashwi's campaign emphasizes job creation, education, and social justice. He is also trying to regain the Extremely Backward Class vote, which was once a stronghold for Nitish Kumar, by invoking his father Lalu Prasad Yadav's legacy of Mandal politics.

Further adding to the contest is the rise of a new generation of political leaders. Tejashwi Yadav, Chirag Paswan, Samrat Choudhary of the BJP, and political strategist-turned-politician Prashant Kishor are working to reshape Bihar's politics from caste dynamics to development-focused narratives. While caste still plays a big role, young leaders are offering a more varied vision.

Ultimately, this election is a test for Bihar's institutions and its voters. Will the Election Commission fulfill its constitutional duty to protect voter rights? Can Bihar rise above political gimmicks and polarization to select leadership based on vision, performance, and inclusiveness?

As Bihar approaches polling day, the emphasis must stay on fair processes, real representation, and meaningful public discussion. The 2025 election is not just about who wins. It is about whether democracy wins.

## THE MAN WHO SAVES 95% OF HIS INCOME

# A Financial Advisor's Radical Approach to Wealth Building

JAZZBAAT NEWS DESK



The greatest destroyer of wealth is lifestyle inflation, which leads us to believe we deserve more as we can afford more. That elevation prompts an apartment upgrade. The bonus justifies the more luxurious car. New job requires a new wardrobe. By itself, each choice seems rational, but they all end up creating an illusion of luxurious spending and lifestyle inflation, something that has resonated with users on social media in the world of social media FOMO and lifestyle inflation.

A tweet by Akshat Shrivastava about saving 95 percent of his annual income has become a controversial subject, with hundreds of thousands of views and arguments about financial discipline and quality of life.

The story of Shrivastava starts at a modest point. After leaving college, he got a salary of only 10000 rupees per month and lived with his parents. Owning a second-hand phone and living on home-cooked food, he could still save about 1000-2000

a month. According to him, he was in no debt, did not have a fancy lifestyle, and had simple habits.

The main challenge was when his revenue went up to 50 lakh per year. However, majority would improve their lifestyle in the same ratio, Shrivastava kept his habits of frugality. He has continued to live debt-free and saves 20 lakh per annum investing much in high-growth investments.

Shrivastava says today, being a married man with kids and staying in one of the costliest metropolitan cities that he still ably manages to save 95% of his income as he travels both to foreign countries and still fulfils his family.

His secret? There is one non-negotiable rule stated, and this is: never spend the money unless you can afford to pay twice. Is there one exception? Investment in abilities.

Increased income makes most people succumb to lifestyle inflation, Shrivastava says. However, I never

allowed my lifestyle to increase at a faster rate than my income rate. Such an attitude is everything."

While Shrivastava's discipline has earned widespread admiration, critics point to a harsh reality. Many Indians simply don't earn enough to save such astronomical percentages. "In India, 90% of people have salaries between ₹40,000 to ₹50,000, with annual growth of just 5-7%," commented one user. "With this situation, how much can one really save?"

Others argue that while financial discipline is admirable, quality of life matters too.

The debate highlights a fundamental tension between aggressive wealth building and enjoying life's experiences.

Shrivastava insists his approach isn't about deprivation. "I've enjoyed every phase of life and remain deeply grateful. It's about conscious, values-based decisions, not austerity."

His investment strategy has clearly

paid off. As his portfolio began generating passive income, his path to financial independence accelerated, creating a snowball effect that now allows him to maintain his high savings rate despite increased responsibilities.

The viral response to Shrivastava's post reflects a growing hunger for financial literacy in India. Many users shared their own struggles with impulse purchases and debt traps, underscoring the importance of building strong money habits early.

Whether or not the average person can replicate Shrivastava's extreme savings rate, his core message resonates: build wealth through steady, mindful financial habits rather than chasing trends.

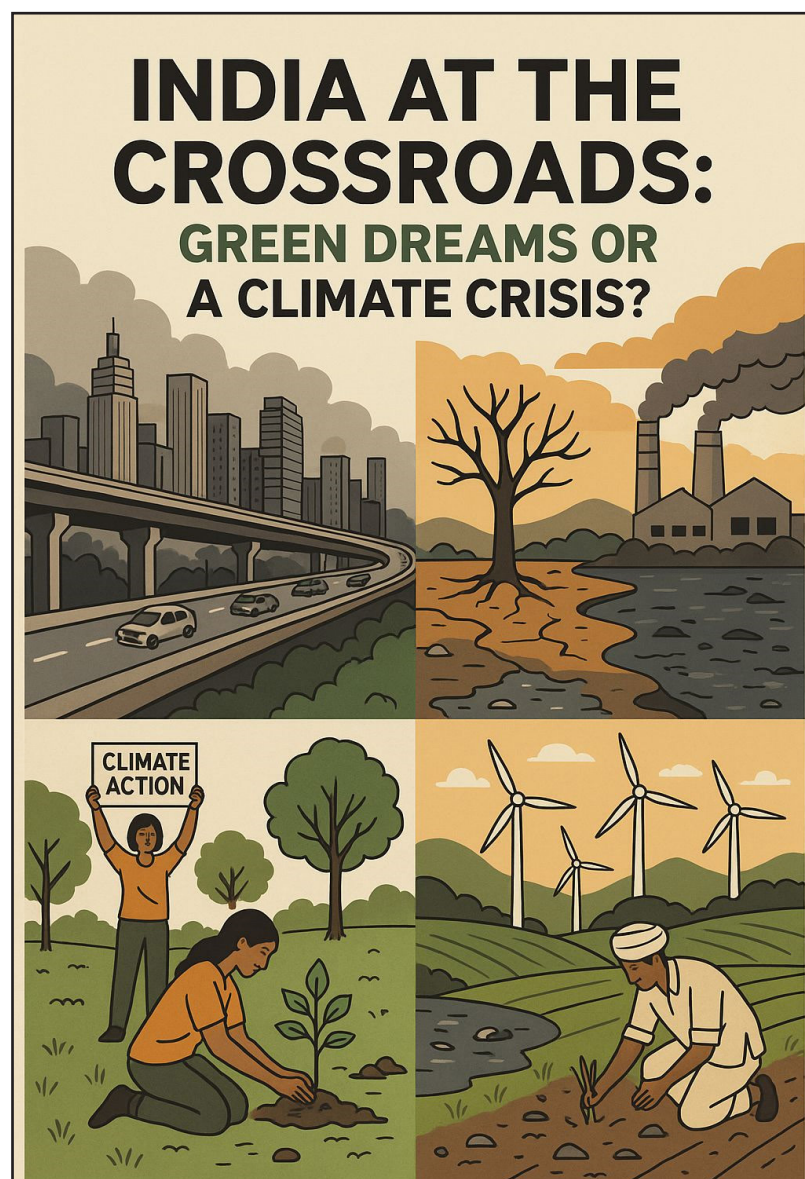
"Save, invest, and live below your means, even when you start making more," he advises. "That's how you win long-term."

In an era of instant gratification, perhaps that's the most radical advice of all.

## India at the Crossroads: Green Dreams or a Climate Crisis?

FULL STORY IN TOMORROW'S EDITION

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NO THEORY, NO FICTION, ONLY JAZZBAAT OF BOMBAY





# The Middle-Class Money Trap: When Your Salary Grows But Your Savings Don’t

PRIYA DAGA

**New Delhi:** It’s a paradox that’s becoming increasingly common across urban India: professionals earning more than ever before, yet feeling financially stretched at the end of each month. The salary has doubled, the job title has been upgraded, but somehow the bank balance tells a different story.

Despite impressive packages that would have seemed unimaginable just a few years ago, many working professionals find themselves caught in a peculiar trap. The money flows in, but it flows out just as quickly, leaving little room for the financial security they thought higher earnings would bring.

The culprit behind this modern financial dilemma isn’t rising costs alone; it’s something far more insidious called lifestyle inflation.

Lifestyle inflation is the unseen wealth killer that makes us believe we deserve something superior as we become richer. Such promotion induces upgrading to an apartment. The reason behind the fancier car is the bonus. The new job will require a wardrobe makeover. Every choice seems logical on its own, but the combination creates a trap of charges, from which even a high-income earner can be imprisoned.

For someone earning ₹20 lakh annually, the take-home salary after taxes and deductions is roughly ₹1.25 lakh per month. In metro cities, a decent apartment consumes ₹40,000, while a car EMI adds another ₹25,000. Monthly household expenses, including groceries, utilities, and dining out, easily reach ₹30,000. Add phone bills, subscriptions, and unexpected social expenses,

and barely ₹15,000-20,000 remains for savings.

“That’s assuming you resist every temptation,” CA Kaushik warns.



“Most people don’t.”

Social media has weaponised lifestyle inflation. Curated feeds showcase endless upgrades, exotic vacations, trendy restaurants, and the latest gadgets. The fear of missing out pushes spending beyond rational limits.

“Everyone seems to be living better than you,” observes financial advisor Abhishek Kumar. “That psychological pressure is real and expensive.”

The rise of Buy Now, Pay Later schemes and no-cost EMIs has made overspending dangerously convenient. Expensive purchases are disguised as affordable monthly payments, creating an illusion of financial control while building a mountain of debt.

Living paycheck to paycheck despite a healthy income is the first red flag. Using credit cards for groceries or monthly bills, dipping into savings for routine expenses, and constantly juggling EMIs are other danger signals.

Personal loan growth among urban professionals has hit record highs, while delinquencies in BNPL accounts continue rising. The middle class is borrowing to maintain a lifestyle that their actual income can’t support.

The solution isn’t about living like a monk. It’s about conscious spending. Financial experts recommend the 50-30-20 rule: 50% for needs, 30% for wants, and 20% for savings and investments.

The 24-hour rule for big purchases can prevent impulse buying. Limiting EMIs to essential items and tracking expenses can reveal surprising

spending patterns.

The middle-class dream in modern India isn’t about earning more, it’s about keeping more. Because in the end, it’s not your salary that builds wealth. It’s what you do with it that counts.

## Mobile Recharge Rates Set to Rise by Up to 12% in India by Year-End

JAZZBAAT NEWS DESK

**New Delhi:** Mobile recharge plan prices in India are set to increase once again. Major private telecom companies like Airtel, Reliance Jio are set to increase their recharge plan prices by 10 to 12 percent by the end of this year, according to multiple reports. As soon as this news came to light, concern has arisen among the country’s billions of mobile users.

The tariff hike is planned to increase revenue per user (ARPU). According to

become to generate more revenue, especially from premium customers.

It doesn’t end here. In July last year, several telecom companies, including Jio and Airtel, drastically increased the prices of their tariff plans. Especially for those who use a lot of internet or take long-term calling plans, the recharge costs increased by 11% to 23%. The same scenario is set to unfold again, with these companies almost certainly increasing the cost of their services.

while others are looking for a temporary solution by making small recharges as needed.

However, it is certain that this continuous price increase by telecom companies will continue in the future. Because on the one hand, as the number of subscribers is increasing, on the other hand, the infrastructure and technology costs of the companies are also very high.

As a result, the burden of that cost is being



the companies, a huge amount of money has been invested in the expansion of 5G networks. This additional pressure is going to come on premium services and high data users to cover that cost.

In May this year, the telecom world set a new record. Jio added about 5.5 million new customers in that month, and Airtel added 1.3 million. The total number of active mobile subscribers now stands at over 1.08 billion. It is understood that in this competitive market, the main goal of telecom companies has

According to a report by specialist firm BofA Securities, the price of recharge plans will be increased by 10-12 percent by the end of 2025. This means that a customer who currently recharges for ₹200 a month may have to pay ₹220 to ₹225.

In this situation, the biggest challenge for consumers now is choosing the right plan. Many are comparing different plans to get better service at a lower cost. Some are leaning towards long-term plans to ensure service for a few months at the current price,

passed on to ordinary mobile users. It is clear that 5G, OTT bundled services, cloud storage, and better call quality—these benefits come at a huge cost. if this is reflected only in the price increase of general recharge plans, then this will be a very difficult situation for lower and middle-class customers.

It is certain that mobile recharge costs will never be the same again. Now is the time to understand your usage and choose a plan that suits you and is cost-effective.

WEATHER

Weather Today in Chandigarh, Chandigarh

Feels Like

33°

05:28 19:28

High/Low

--/26°

Wind

← 6 km/h

Humidity

77%

Dew Point

24°

Pressure

↑ 1001.4 mb

UV Index

0 (Low)

Visibility

Unlimited

sunsilk

स्टेप 1

दो लॉक को टिकाव दो

स्टेप 2

बालों को चमकाने और चिकने हो लेबर करो

स्टेप 3

बालों को दो दिशाओं में बाँट दो और फिर एक दिशा में करो

स्टेप 4

साफ़ कर दो बालों को

कॉलेज का पहला दिन?

जब बाल हों थिक, ऐनी स्टाइल करो पिक!

साफ़ कर दो बालों को एक रात में जब से आसके पास, दो दिशाओं में पहले दिन ही अपने बालों को हेयर स्टाइल से जगाइए ऐसा सुनने इंग्रेशन कि वो दिन हमेशा के लिए बन जाए यादगार

180

कि.मी. से ज्यादा के लिए



## Elon Musk Steps into Politics: Could He Run for U.S. President?

JAZZBATT NEWS DESK



**California:** Elon Musk, the CEO of Tesla and SpaceX and the world's richest person, played a major role in Donald Trump's second term in office in 2024. But now he has entered American politics himself. Last Saturday, he announced a new political party called the "America Party." Musk claims that this party will become the voice of the 80 percent of middle-class voters in America who are neither Republicans nor Democrats.

According to those close to Elon Musk, his announcement was very natural, because Donald Trump recently passed the "Big Beautiful" law in the US Congress. Musk was against the bill. While Trump was supporting the bill and presenting its merits to opponents, Musk said that if the bill passed, he would announce a new party for the American people. Musk also said that this bill would be disastrous for the American people. According to Musk, this bill would only benefit the rich, not the poor and middle class.

Meanwhile, the most important question that has been raised since the announcement of Elon Musk's party is whether Elon Musk himself will be able to run for president this time. In this context, it is not easy for anyone to run for president in America.

According to Article II, Section 1 of the US Constitution, a person can only become President of the US if they meet

three specific conditions. The first condition is that he must be a natural-born American citizen. The second condition is that he must be at least 35 years old and have lived in America for at least 14 years.

One of these important conditions is not met in the case of Elon Musk. In fact, Musk is not an American citizen by birth. Musk was born on June 28, 1971 in Pretoria, South Africa. He later became a US citizen. But because he is not a "natural born U.S. citizen," the Constitution does not allow him to run for president.

Despite his vast wealth and control over technology and business, that provision of the US Constitution has blocked his path to becoming President of the United States. In this situation, Elon Musk will never be able to become the US President unless the Constitution is amended. Meanwhile, such an amendment is extremely difficult. Because it requires a two-thirds majority in both houses and then the approval of 38 out of 50 states.

According to political analysts, Elon Musk is now moving from "kingmaker" to "powerbroker." He may nominate his candidate in the 2026 midterm elections. He may also nominate an American-born leader for the 2028 presidential election. In addition, he himself may be the head, policy director, or source of funding for that party.

## Canada Braces as US President Trump Imposes 35 % Tariffs, What's Next?

SULAGNA HALDER

**Ottawa:** Canada is preparing to retaliate diplomatically and economically after US President Donald Trump announced on 10 July a steep 35 percent tariff on a wide range of Canadian imports, due to take effect on 1 August. The announcement, sent in an open letter via Trump's Truth Social account to Prime Minister Mark Carney, cited Canada's alleged failure to curb fentanyl trafficking and border enforcement as the primary justification.

Mr Carney responded swiftly. He pledged to "defend Canadian workers and businesses" and signalled willingness to negotiate a new trade deal before the deadline, aiming to avert what he called "unjustified" measures. He also pointed to progress in Canada's efforts to counter fentanyl flows, dismissing the US claims as "not supported by evidence".

The 35 percent levy exceeds prior tariffs, which stood at 25 percent for non-USMCA goods. The latest proposal could override existing exemptions under the North American Trade Agreement. Canada's dollar fell initially, although markets later regained some composure as investors speculated on the outcome of negotiations.

In response, Ottawa is evaluating countermeasures. Government officials confirmed that Canada has already imposed equal retaliatory tariffs on US steel, aluminium, and various other goods, with the option to extend such measures. Another possible tool is non-tariff actions affecting energy, critical minerals or procurement policies.

Analysts caution that the move could reverberate through both economies, disrupting everything from automotive supply chains

to agricultural exports. Canadian premiers are urging the defence of domestic industries, with some provinces hinting at boycotts of American goods. During earlier rounds of tariff escalation, nearly 90 percent of Canadians reportedly favoured reducing reliance on the US.

Mr Trump's letter offered a sliver of flexibility: he indicated the tariffs may be revised, "upward or downward" depending on Canadian cooperation. He further suggested a broad expansion of general tariffs (15-20 percent) on other trading partners. Observers noted that this message followed similar tariff threats to 23 other nations, including Brazil and Mexico.

Markets reflected the uncertainty. The Canadian dollar dipped against the US currency after the announcement, and stock futures showed signs of volatility, even

as the S&P 500 and Nasdaq held record highs.

Canada remains open to diplomacy. Mr Carney has set 21 July as a revised deadline to conclude new trade terms, signalling his government's intent to restore stability.

Experts believe the US may soften its approach if Canada demonstrates a willingness to resolve contentious issues, particularly on trade barriers and drug control.

However, analysts warn that the broader climate of "tariff whiplash" marks a departure from post-war free-trade norms, reviving fears of escalating protectionism. As negotiations proceed, both governments face mounting pressure: Canada to defend its industries and sovereignty, and the US to balance domestic political demands with the risks of alienating its top trading partner.



## US Warns Citizens Against Iran Travel Amid Rising Detention, Terror Risk

JAZZBATT NEWS DESK

**WASHINGTON:** The US State Department on 11 July issued its strongest warning yet for American citizens, advising them not to travel to Iran for any reason. The updated Level-4 advisory, the government's highest travel alert, cites escalating threats, including wrongful detention of US nationals, heightened terrorism risk, and misleading surrogacy practices.

In a statement, spokesperson Tammy Bruce emphasised the severe danger faced particularly by dual US-Iranian nationals, warning that the Iranian authorities "do not recognise dual nationality" and may treat such individuals solely as Iranian citizens. She noted that "US citizens in Iran face serious dangers. They have been kidnapped and wrongfully arrested. Some have been held for years on false charges, subjected to psychological torture, and even sentenced to death."

The State Department also

warned of threats from Iranian-affiliated extremist organisations, including an intensified risk of bombings and violent crimes perpetrated by ISIS and similar groups. In parallel, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has barred US airlines and aircraft from flying to, from, or through Iran due to heightened risks in Iranian airspace.

A notable addition to the advisory is a caution over Iran's unregulated surrogacy industry. US officials warned that some surrogacy providers in Iran have misrepresented US citizenship rules. "If a child born overseas to a surrogate is not genetically or gestationally related to a US citizen parent, the child will not automatically acquire US citizenship at birth and will not be able to obtain a US passport to leave Iran," the advisory stated.

To help travellers plan ahead, the State Department launched a new website offering detailed country-level guidance and se-

curity updates for Americans considering travel to Iran. It also continues to recommend that US citizens contact the Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP) to receive alerts from US embassies and consulates.

The warning comes against a backdrop of sharply deteriorating Iran-US relations following a series of Israeli strikes on Iranian nuclear facilities in June, supported by US military assets. The strikes prompted a broader 'Worldwide Caution' alert for potential retaliatory violence and cyber attacks against American citizens and interests abroad.

Recent State Department cables revealed that hundreds of US citizens have left Iran recently via land routes following airspace closures. These evacuations were marked by delays, reports of harassment, and at least two detentions.

The warning underlines the absence of diplomatic channels,



leaving the Swiss Embassy in Tehran as the US's "protecting power," although access to detained Americans, particularly dual nationals, has often been delayed or denied.

US officials emphasised that the advisory is not merely cautionary but reflects grave risks. They urged any American still in Iran to plan immediate departure via land to neighbouring nations such as Azerbaijan, Ar-

menia, or Turkey.

Countries under Level 4 "Do Not Travel" include Iran, Israel, Iraq, Syria, Yemen, and Lebanon, with threats spanning terrorism, kidnapping, civil unrest, and arbitrary detention.

This advisory is a stark reminder of the tenuous safety for US citizens in Iran. It leaves little room for exceptions, especially as geopolitical tensions in the region continue to escalate.

## Ajit Doval : Foreign Media

.....Contd. from P 1

India's retaliation with Operation Sindoor followed the 22 April terror attack in Pahalgam, where 26 civilians, including Indians and Nepalese, were killed. Doval emphasised that the military response was "calibrated, measured and non-escalatory", aimed solely at terrorist infrastructure.

In coordination with global partners, Doval detailed that he had briefed security counterparts in the US, UK, Japan, Russia, China, and Gulf nations on India's non-escalatory strategy. "India had no intent to escalate but was prepared to retaliate resolutely if Pakistan decided to escalate," he said.

At the same gathering, Doval pressed for consistency in global count-

er-terror messaging, denouncing "double standards" and urging collective action against groups like LeT, JeM, Al-Qaida, and ISIS.

He reminded the audience that India maintains an unwavering commitment to sovereignty and strategic deterrence. Reports of damage within Indian territory, he stressed, were misleading and lacked substantiation. "I'm only telling you what the foreign media put out on the basis of images," he added.

Operation Sindoor ended on 10 May when India and Pakistan agreed to resume a ceasefire, marking a tenuous return to relative calm. However, Doval warned that India remains "closely monitoring" the situation and will "retaliate resolutely" if cross-border terrorism persists.



## Superman review: James Gunn and David Corenswet bring hope back to the Man of Steel

**New Delhi:** It happens to us all. It is yet another Superman film, another vow that this time they will get it right. However, here is the thing: James Gunn comes through. His Superman not only crashes into theatres with a splash, but flies with the kind of joyous exuberance that we forgot was possible in superhero films.

In a landscape littered with grim-faced heroes wrestling with their demons, Gunn's film feels almost rebellious in its optimism. This isn't your typical Hollywood reboot designed by committee; it's a love letter to everything that makes the Man of Steel endure, wrapped in the kind of genuine heart that makes you remember why you fell in love with superheroes in the first place.

David Corenswet gives an impressively confident and confidently fitting jump in the legendary cape and gets a Superman who is both classical and invigoratingly new. In contrast to other versions that could not find a balance between the two versions of Clark Kent, Corenswet has a unified character: earnest, vulnerable, and hopeful indeed. His Superman doesn't brood about the burden of his powers; instead, he wrestles with finding his place in a world that desperately needs heroes but isn't sure it wants them.

The film wisely skips the tired origin story, dropping us into Superman's third year of heroism. When an international intervention goes sideways, our hero faces his first real crisis of confidence. It's a smart narrative choice that allows Gunn to explore what makes Superman compelling: not his invulnerability, but his humanity.

Rachel Brosnahan's Lois Lane is a revelation, sharp, fearless, and every bit Superman's equal. The chemistry between Corenswet and Brosnahan crackles with the wit and warmth that made the Christopher Reeve films so beloved. Their banter feels natural, their ro-

mance genuine, and their partnership essential to the story's emotional core.

Nicholas Hoult brings a calculating menace to Lex Luthor, crafting a villain who's both intellectually formidable and disturbingly petty. His Luthor doesn't just want to destroy Superman; he wants to prove that hope itself is a lie.

Gunn's signature style, vibrant colours, quirky humour, and genuine heart transform Superman into a living comic book. The film embraces its source material's inherent absurdity while never mocking it. From Krypto the Superdog's scene-stealing antics to the Justice Gang's eccentric heroics, every element feels purposeful rather than gratuitous.

The action sequences are spectacular, particularly a breathtaking single-take fight scene that showcases Superman's powers with genuine awe. John Murphy's soaring score pays homage to John Williams while establishing its own identity.

Superman occasionally stumbles under the weight of its ambitions. The film juggles numerous subplots and supporting characters, sometimes at the expense of deeper character development. Gunn's penchant for humour, while mostly successful, occasionally undercuts moments that could use more emotional weight.

What Superman accomplishes is remarkable: it makes the Man of Steel relevant again. In an era of cynicism, Gunn presents a hero who chooses hope not because it's easy, but because it's necessary. The film's optimism feels radical, its earnestness punk rock.

This isn't just a successful Superman film; it's a blueprint for how superhero movies can evolve beyond darkness into something more inspiring. With stellar performances, spectacular action, and a heart bigger than Metropolis, Superman proves that sometimes the world needs saving, and sometimes the movies do too.

## Kapil Sharma's Canada Cafe Targeted by Khalistani Terrorists Over TV Show

JAZZBATT NEWS DESK



**Mumbai:** Mumbai Police visit comedian's residence as cafe vows to continue operations despite attack. Comedian Kapil Sharma's newly opened restaurant in Canada became the target of an attack by Khalistani terrorists, who claimed responsibility for firing multiple shots at the establishment in Surrey, British Columbia, on Wednesday night. The attack on Kap's Cafe, which opened just a week ago on July 4, was orchestrated by Harjit Singh Laddi, a member of the proscribed terror outfit Babbar Khalsa International (BKI). Laddi, who appears on India's NIA most-wanted list, claimed the assault was in response to Sharma's comedy show allegedly mocking Nihang Sikhs. According to Laddi, a participant had made "humorous remarks" about Nihang Sikh dress and conduct, offending reli-

gious sentiments. He alleged that no public apology was issued despite repeated calls to Sharma's team. "No religion or spiritual identity can be mocked under the guise of comedy," he said, naming himself and associate Toofan Singh as the shooters. Surrey Police responded around 1:50 AM local time, confirming shots were fired while staff were present. No injuries were reported, but the property was damaged. Mumbai Police visited Sharma's Oshiwara residence on Friday to confirm his address. Officials said no statement was recorded, and security was not increased. The cafe released a statement expressing shock but determination to continue: "We opened Kap's Cafe with hopes of bringing warmth, community, and joy... To have violence intersect with that dream is heartbreaking.

We are not giving up." The cafe reaffirmed its stance against violence, promising to remain a space for community. This incident highlights growing concerns over extremist actions in Canada and groups like BKI, considered terrorist organisations by the Canadian government. It raises safety concerns for Indian diaspora businesses amid rising radicalism.

The terrorists claimed to protect Nihang Sikhs, a traditional Sikh martial order known for blue robes and adherence to classical Sikh values. The community is historically associated with defending Sikh religious and cultural traditions. As investigations continue, the incident stands as a stark reminder of how extremist groups exploit cultural sensitivities to justify violence against civilians and businesses.

## Frames of Poetry

### When Cinema Becomes Art, in India and Beyond

SULAGNA HALDAR



**New Delhi:** On 9 July 2025, India celebrated the 100th birthday anniversary of Guru Dutt, a filmmaker whose work lives in the mystery of light and darkness, unsaid thoughts, and shots dipped in melancholy. He was not just a filmmaker; he was a painter of movies. Films like Pyaasa and Kaagaz Ke Phool feel more like poems. But to make this milestone

solely about one man is to ignore a larger question: Can cinema, in this algorithm-driven age, still be art? Indian cinema has long existed in a binary. On one hand, there's Bollywood — mass-market entertainment based on star power, music, and drama. On the other, a quieter current exists: films born from solitude, thought, and artistic risk. Filmmakers

like Rima Das, Lijo Jose Pellissery, and Chaitanya Tamhane create intimate stories with aesthetic integrity, echoing Guru Dutt's style where visuals carried deep meaning. Guru Dutt showed us that cinema can transcend storytelling. In Pyaasa, metaphors and emotions take center stage: betrayal, solitude, and ironic success. Kaagaz Ke Phool, ahead of its time, por-

trayed the emotional downfall of a filmmaker. V.K. Murthy's chiaroscuro cinematography remains iconic. Guru Dutt used light as emotion, and his camera like a poet's pen capturing despair in a time of escapism. This tension between art and industry isn't unique to India. Hollywood too balances billion-dollar franchises with auteur voices like Wes Anderson, Barry Jenkins, and Chloé Zhao. Films like Nomadland speak through silence and imagery much like Dutt's. Streaming platforms have widened access. Today's viewers can watch an Assamese indie, a Korean drama, or a Chilean documentary in one night. This has created a cine-literate generation familiar with both Tarkovsky and Tarantino, and helped global audiences rediscover Indian masters like Dutt. India's 2025 film scene is more crowded than ever. The OTT boom enabled more stories, though often formulaic. Yet, gems shine through. The Disciple by Tamhane and Writing with Fire, an Oscar-nominated documentary, prove cinema's role in social and personal commentary.

Young Indian filmmakers are experimenting with narrative and form. With greater access to global cinema, they're embracing stillness, ambient sound, and symbolism. Though niche, this movement grows, supported by clubs, forums, and workshops. Artistic cinema reflects society. It expresses what words cannot, offering plural voices in a diverse nation. Guru Dutt's films challenged fame, solitude, and creative struggle, reminding us to pause, think, and appreciate. Even in 2025, art in cinema lives quietly, passionately, and truthfully. And in that survival, Guru Dutt lives on.





## SPORTS

## More Than Just a Game Star-Studded Celebrity Gathering Lights Up London

JAZZBATT NEWS DESK



**London:** The Wimbledon Tennis Championships, to be held in London in 2025, are not just a sporting competition, but have become a gathering place for celebrities and one of the focal points of the glamour world.

The way celebrities, athletes, fashion icons, and Bollywood-Hollywood stars are attending Wimbledon this year from all over the world, it is clear that this traditional tennis competition has now become an important part of world culture.

From David Beckham, Olivia Rodrigo, Nick Jonas to India's Virat Kohli and Anushka Sharma -

everyone was in the Wimbledon gallery. Not only for the love of sports, but it has become a huge social and media event. Every day, pictures and videos of stars attending Wimbledon go viral on social media, showing them watching the game in the gallery on one side, and showcasing style and fashion on the other.

Wimbledon's organizing body, the AELTC, has strategically tried to increase the presence of Indian stars this year. To increase the popularity of Wimbledon among Indian cricket fans, they have invited popular players and celebrities like Virat

Kohli, Anushka Sharma, Deepak Chahar, and Rishabh Pant. This is increasing the interest of Indian viewers in Wimbledon, while attracting international sponsors.

Wimbledon is no longer just a tennis tournament—it is an international brand, a style statement, where sport, entertainment, fashion, and business merge. The presence of stars makes the tournament more attractive and popular, and also increases the focus of international media. Star-studded moments of Wimbledon are constantly being shared on social media, YouTube, Instagram, and X (Twitter).

Wimbledon 2025 is no longer just a tennis tournament, but a gathering of world stars, an international stage for fashion and culture, and a unique symbol of a new era of sports and media events. This new Wimbledon is winning the hearts of the world every day, every moment.

## Has Rishabh Pant been ruled out of the match?

Rishabh Pant's injury raises concern for India — Dhruv Jurel steps in as substitute wicketkeeper

SABYASACHI BHATTACHERJEE

**Lords:** A dramatic situation has arisen in the ongoing India vs England Test match due to Rishabh Pant's injury. India's reliable wicketkeeper and aggressive batsman Rishabh Pant injured his left finger during the match on Wednesday, causing a sudden disruption to the team's balance, and Dhruv Jurel was brought in as wicketkeeper in his place.

The incident occurred in the second session, when Jasprit Bumrah was bowling. England batter Ollie Pope misses the ball on a delivery, and the ball is going down leg, and Rishabh tries to catch the ball, but the ball hits his hand. He immediately left the field in pain. His condition was immediately taken under the care of the team doctors, and a few minutes later, it was announced that he would not be able to return to the field for the time being.

In this situation, the Indian team's coaching staff made a quick decision and brought in Dhruv Jurel as a substitute wicketkeeper. According to ICC rules, if a cricketer leaves the field due to injury, a fielder or wicketkeeper can be brought in to replace him, even though he will not be able to bat.

Commenting on this incident, former wicketkeeper and analyst Dinesh Karthik said, "Jurel is standing much closer to the stumps than Pant, which is very helpful for the spinners. It's clear that he had already prepared himself for such a situation," Karthik added. "His gloves and positioning are quite good, and he is handling the responsibility with confidence."

It is not yet clear how serious Rishabh Pant's injury is. However, doctors have scanned his hand, and further decisions will

be taken once the report comes. If his injury is serious, then there could be uncertainty about his performance for the rest of the series, which would be a major blow to India's batting unit. Pant is not just a batsman; he is a key driving force for the team in the middle order.

The incident has raised the alert level in the Indian camp. Coach Gambhir and Captain Shubman are monitoring Jurel's performance on the field and are making alternative plans for the upcoming matches if necessary. On the other hand, England is trying to use this opportunity to strengthen their batting.

This situation has added a new dimension to the Test match. The audience is also eagerly waiting to see when Pant will return to the field after recovering, and how the young Jurel will prove his talent on this big stage.



## Rising Star Radhika Yadav Shot Dead by Her Father From Tennis Court to Tragedy

SABYASACHI BHATTACHERJEE



**New Delhi:** Radhika Yadav was a rising star in the tennis world. The 25-year-old from Haryana had become a symbol of pride for the country. Her doubles ranking was 113 in the International Tennis Federation (ITF) rankings, and she was in the top five among women players from Haryana. Not only as a player, she was also a coach—she used to open her own ten-

nis academy and train the new generation. Yet such a talented and hardworking player had to brutally lose his life to a bullet fired by his own father.

The incident took place on Thursday morning, July 10, 2025, in a posh residence in Sector 57, Gurgaon. According to the initial police report, around 11 am, when Radhika was in the kitchen, her father, Deepak

Yadav, a former security in-charge by profession, suddenly took out his licensed revolver and fired five shots in quick succession. Three bullets hit Radhika, causing her to fall, bleeding on the spot. She was rushed to a local hospital, but the doctors declared her dead.

The incident has left the entire country in mourning. The tennis fraternity and sports lovers are deeply shocked by her untimely death. Many initially assumed that there might have been a dispute between the father and daughter over Radhika's social media activities, especially her Instagram reels. But the investigation by the Gurgaon police revealed a shocking fact - Radhika's independence, building her own career, and taking financial responsibility on her own shoulders had become unbearable for her father.

According to police sources, Deepak Yadav

had been depressed for a long time. He became mentally agitated at the thought that his wife and daughter were both financially independent and that control of the family was slipping away from him. Especially since Radhika was earning her own money and started making her own decisions, it started to feel like an insult to her father. At one point, this tension reached its peak, and this brutal murder took place.

Deepak Yadav surrendered to the police after the incident.

A case of murder has been registered against him, and he was sent to one-day police custody when he was produced in court. Police said that three bullet marks were found on Radhika's body, and that apart from Radhika, her mother and brother were also present at the house at the time of the incident.

This incident left a deep scar in the history of In-

dian sports. A female athlete, who was gaining recognition and respect for her abilities, had to give up her life in this way at the hands of her own family—it was not just a family tragedy, it was a reflection of societal failure.

Radhika's death has raised several questions - is women's freedom still safe in the family? Why could a father not tolerate his daughter's success?

This incident reminds us that no matter how successful women are in the outside world, their safety is still not guaranteed at home. The deeply rooted patriarchal attitudes in society still threaten women's advancement.

Radhika Yadav is no more today. But her story, her dreams, her struggle will force us to rethink the position of women in our society. If we truly want to honor her, we need to build a society where no woman has to die like this in her own home.

From Bazball to Blockball

## England's Cautious Approach at Lord's Sparks Criticism and Banter

JAZZBATT NEWS DESK

**London:** The 'buzzball' tactic that once revolutionised Test cricket at Lord's appeared to vanish during England's second session on Thursday.

The team, known for scoring 300 runs in a session, managed only 70 in 24 overs at a run rate of 2.91 — the second-lowest at home in three years. Cricket analysts were disappointed, while Indian

players mocked the shift.

Shubman Gill joked, "Welcome back to boring Test cricket, boys!" and Mohammad Siraj taunted, "Buzzball! I want to see it!" — throwing a mental challenge to the English side.

England's openers fell early, and while Joe Root and Ollie Pope buildup the innings, their cautious

play lacked buzzball flair.

By tea, the score was 153/2 in 53.4 overs. India's sledging and sarcasm stole the spotlight, with England's shift to "Blockball" triggering debates: Is buzzball fading, or is it a pause under pressure from India's relentless bowling attack?

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## England bowled out as Bumrah shines with another five-wicket haul; India begin the chase but lose two early wickets, with Nayar departing for 40 — England



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