

IN BRIEF

India hopes for cessation of hostilities between Cambodia and Thailand

New Delhi, July 26 (UNI) : India today said it is closely monitoring the situation along the border between Cambodia and Thailand, where armed clashes have broken out between the two Southeast Asian neighbours, claiming around 30 lives so far.

The Ministry of External Affairs spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal, in a statement, said that “India has close and friendly relations with both countries and hopes that both sides will take measures for a cessation of hostilities and prevention of further escalation.” “Indian travellers in the region may contact our respective Embassies in the two countries for any assistance. Embassy of India in Bangkok, Thailand

Helpline: + 66 61 881 9218 (what’s app calls also) Embassy of India in Phnom Penh, Cambodia Helpline: +855 92 881 676 (for what’s app calls also) Earlier, the Indian Embassy in Phnom Penh advised Indian nationals in Cambodia to avoid travelling to the Thailand-Cambodia border areas in view of the armed clashes there.

India sends essential medical supplies to Somalia

New Delhi, July 26 (UNI) : Continuing its humanitarian assistance, India today sent 10 tonnes of essential medicines and surgical items to Somalia, while also sending 5 MT of Black-eyed Cowpea Seeds to Pacific partner Fiji to support agricultural production.

In posts on X, the MEA spokesperson said : “ India’s humanitarian assistance to the people of Somalia continues. “ A consignment comprising of 10 tonnes of humanitarian assistance, which includes essential medicines, surgical items, hospital essentials and biomedical equipment has departed for Somalia.” “Standing in solidarity with our partners in the Indo-Pacific.”

As part of its ‘Act East Policy’, India sends humanitarian assistance of 5MT Black-eyed Cowpea Seeds to our Pacific partner Fiji to support agricultural production.

“The 1st tranche of seeds departed from Delhi today for Fiji.”

Vijay Kargil Diwas: CM felicitates Col Joy Dasgupta



(Standard Post Bureau)

Hyderabad, July 26 : On the occasion of Vijay Kargil Diwas, Chief Minister of Telangana, Revanth Reddy met and felicitated Col Joy Dasgupta of the 18 Grenadiers, one of Hyderabad’s Kargil war heroes, here today evening.

The-then Major Joy Dasgupta was part of the Ops to capture Tololing Hill, which was being used by Pakistani forces. As the Pakistani enemy forces kept firing from the hill that

overlooks National Highway 1A, affecting operational logistics of the entire theatre till Batalik, Turtuk and Kargil - 18 Grenadiers were tasked with the capture of Tololing. 18 Grenadiers launched multi-pronged attacks and captured Tololing.

Col Dasgupta, a Hyderabad, who studied intermediate from Wesley College, graduated from Osmania University and received training at the Officers’ Training Academy,

Chennai, and commissioned in May 1995, was tasked to lead two Army Companies, was awarded the Sena Medal for his gallantry.

The braveheart, accompanied by his Octogenarian mother, discussed with the Chief Minister Revanth on strategies and ways in which the state government could encourage more youth to join the armed forces.

Lok Sabha MP Mallu Ravi also participated in the meeting and felicitated.

Two police officials die after car rams into divider at Yadadri Dist

Hyderabad, July 26 (UNI) Two Deputy Superintendent of Police rank officials were killed and two other policemen were injured in a road accident when the car they were travelling in lost control and crashed into a divider at Khaitapuram, Yadadri District, this morning.

The accident occurred when a police team comprising DSPs Chandrakar Rao and Shanta Rao, along with ASP Prasad and Head Constable Narsing Rao, was on its way to Hyderabad after attending official work at Vijayawada (Andhra



Pradesh), police said here. The DSPs died on the spot, while the driver, Narsing Rao, and ASP Prasad suffered injuries and were rushed to the nearby hospital, police added.

World seeing its growth in India, Centre committed to modernise TN : PM

Chennai, July 26 (UNI) Asserting that the World was seeing its growth in India’s growth due to various initiatives launched by his government, Prime Minister Narendra Modi tonight said Infrastructure and energy are the backbone of any state’s development and said the Centre was working to modernise Tamil Nadu’s infrastructure and expressed his commitment in this regard.

“Over the last 11 years, our focus on these sectors has reflected the high priority Tamil Nadu’s development holds for us. The Union Government is working to modernise TN’s infrastructure and it is making the state’s port infrastructure high-tech, while also integrating airports, highways and roadways for seamless connectivity, he said.

A massive campaign is underway to develop mega and modern infrastructure across the country, he said after laying the foundation stone, inaugurating and dedicating to the nation development projects, including a new terminal building of Tuticorin airport worth over Rs 4900 crore in the southern Thoothukudi district of Tamil Nadu today.

A series of landmark projects across multiple sectors which will significantly enhance regional connectivity, boost logistics efficiency, strengthen clean energy infrastructure, and improve the quality of life for citizens across Tamil Nadu.

On the occasion of Kargil Vijay Diwas, Modi paid tributes to the brave soldiers of Kargil and saluted the valiant warriors and offered heartfelt homage to the martyrs who made the ultimate sacrifice for the nation.

Heavy rains in next 24 hrs in Telangana

Hyderabad, July 26 (UNI) : Heavy to Very Heavy rain is likely to occur at isolated places in Adilabad, KomaramBheem Asifabad districts of Telangana during the next 24-hours, according to the weather department.

Heavy rain is likely to occur at isolated places in Mancherial, Nirmal, Nizamabad, Jagtial, Peddapalli, Jayashankar Bhupalpally, Mulugu, Kamareddy, Rajanna Sirisilla districts in the state, the weather said in its bulletin released on Saturday.

Thunderstorms accompanied with Lightning and Gusty winds (30-40 kmph) are likely to prevail at isolated places in all districts of Telangana during the next 24-hours from Sunday.

In view of heavy rains in the state and after careful examination, the government today sanctioned an amount of Rs 33 crore for each district @ Rs 1 crore to procure material, duly following the procedure as needed for effective tackling of heavy rains and flood situation in the district during the monsoon for the year 2025, according to a GO issued by Arvind Kumar, Special Chief Secretary (Disaster management) here.

Some states such as Kerala already have a system of releasing such advance funds towards undertaking preparatory procurement of materials required towards flood relief before the actual floods/ heavy rains occur, the GO said. The utilization of this amount should be utilized in accordance with SDRF norms for procuring materials and equipment as needed for getting prepared

to tackle heavy rains and flood like situations in an effective manner.

The services of Aapda Mitra Volunteers should be used effectively for utilizing the flood material effectively, in addition to the staff of District fire office, revenue and police department. The immediate requirement of such material which could be very effective in saving the lives and damages due to rains, may also be ascertained from the police department.

It is further clarified that this amount should nto be used for carrying out repairs to building and departmental funds from the respective departments should be used for such purposes. The material and equipment procured should be kept in the safe custody to concerned fire offices after the rains, the GO added. Intermittent drizzles having taken over from the heavy lashing of the last few days had the intensity of rainfall coming down.

Till Saturday noon, the highest rainfall of 15 mm in the city was recorded at Mailardevpally in Rajendranagar mandal.

Meanwhile, heavy inflows into Himayatsagar continued and by 10 am today, 1,100 cusecs of inflows came into the reservoir from upstream areas. The water level at this reservoir stood at 1,761 feet, just two feet from the FTL of 1,763 feet.

In Osmansagar, inflows of 150 cusecs were recorded at 10 am and as against a FTL of 1,790 feet, water stood at 1,782 feet.

In Hussain Sagar, the recorded minimum water level at 7 am was 513 meters against the present water level of 514 meters.



Operation Sindoor is our resolve, a clear message, response

On the Kargil Vijay Diwas anniversary, Army Chief General Upendra Dwivedi said that Operation Sindoor was not just a military action, but a reflection of India’s firm resolve, a clear message and a decisive response to Pakistan. He warned that any attempt to destabilize India would be met with a forceful response. Addressing the 26th Kargil Vijay Diwas celebrations at Drass, Ladakh, the Army Chief said that Operation Sindoor was a continuation of the tradition of Operation Vijay in 1999, which was fought in Kargil.

(See on page 2)

'Will Not allow any country take lead in Maldivian affairs'



Maldives President Mohamed Muizzu today asserted that it is not his Government’s policy to allow any foreign country take the lead in his affairs and said that every square inch of the Indian Ocean island nation’s territory will be safeguarded by Maldivians.

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Iranian exiled crown prince Reza Pahlavi says over 50,000 ...



At least 50,000 officials from within Iran’s government and military have registered with a secure opposition platform aimed at toppling the Islamic Republic, according to Reza Pahlavi, the exiled son of Iran’s last monarch.

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Joe Root’s masterclass put England in command



Joe Root led England’s charge with a majestic 150 as the hosts closed Day 3 at a dominant 544 for 7 in 135 overs, taking a commanding 186-run lead over India’s first-innings 358 in the ongoing Test at Old Trafford today. Resuming the day at 225 for 2, Root and Ollie Pope (71) steadily built England’s innings,

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TEMA India Ltd. Commissions India’s First Private Test Facility for Depleted Heavy Water Upgradation



Left to Right : Chetan Doshi, Director TEMA, K.T Shenoy, Director BARC, Rajesh V, Director Technical NPCIL, Haresh K Sippy , CMD TEMA, Narendra Rao, Director TEMA.



(By PIB, Mumbai/ Standard Post Bureau)

Mumbai, July 26 : In a significant advancement for India’s nuclear self-reliance, Director - Technical, NPCIL, Mr Rajesh V and Director, Chemical Engineering Group, BARC, Mr K. T. Shenoy inaugurated the country’s first-of-its-kind private test facility for the upgradation of depleted heavy water, commissioned by TEMA India Ltd. This state-of-the-art facility, designed and built by TEMA India’s nuclear vertical under technology transfer from BARC and a Purchase Order from NPCIL, marks a milestone achievement being realised for the first time in the private sector. The development is firmly aligned with the Prime Minister’s Atma-Nirbhar

Bharat initiative.Until now, critical testing infrastructure for heavy water distillation components existed solely within BARC. Speaking at the event, Mr Rajesh V and Shri K. T. Shenoy commended TEMA India’s technical acumen, commitment to quality, and its growing role as a trusted partner in India’s nuclear energy program. The dignitaries also flagged off the first validated consignment of eight Distillation Column sections, comprising activated phosphor bronze modules, critical components for Pressurized Heavy Water Reactors (PHWRs). These modules, having undergone rigorous in-house performance testing, are slated for deployment in key nuclear power projects: RAPP Unit 8, GHAVP Units 1–4, and

KAIGA Units 5 & 6. This initiative exemplifies the spirit of Atma-Nirbhar Bharat, which calls for greater self-reliance in high-tech, strategic sectors. By designing, manufacturing, and validating nuclear components entirely in-house, India reduces reliance on imported equipment and external test infrastructure. It also helps build domestic capability, confidence, and long-term resilience, empowering Indian firms to contribute meaningfully to national energy security goals. The event also included a traditional pooja, tree plantation, and a ceremonial dispatch of the first module shipment, symbolising the entry of India’s private sector into advanced nuclear component validation.

Timeless reminder of unwavering resolve of our forces: Rajnath Singh on Kargil Vijay Diwas

New Delhi, July 26 (UNI) : Defence Minister Rajnath Singh today said that supreme sacrifice of our soldiers during Kargil war is a timeless reminder of the unwavering resolve of our armed forces and our country will remain forever indebted to their service." On Kargil Vijay Diwas, I pay heartfelt tributes to our bravehearts who displayed extraordinary courage, grit and determination in defending our nation's honour in the toughest of terrains. Their supreme sacrifice during Kargil war is a timeless reminder of the unwavering resolve of our armed forces. India shall remain forever indebted to their service," Rajnath Singh said in a post on X. The Defence Minister also laid a wreath on the occasion of 26th Kargil Vijay Diwas at the National War Memorial in the national capital today. Chief of Defence Staff

General Anil Chauhan, Vice Chief of the Army Staff Lt. General NS Raja Subramani, Navy Chief Admiral Dinesh K Tripathi and Chief of the Air Staff Air Chief Marshal AP Singh accompanied the minster.Kargil Vijay Diwas, observed annually on July 26, marks the successful conclusion of Operation Vijay in which Indian armed forces recaptured key strategic positions in the Kargil sector of Jammu and Kashmir from Pakistani soldiers who had infiltrated disguised as militants. The war, which lasted over 60 days, ended in a decisive victory for India.People from across India come together to remember and honour the valiant soldiers. The solemn day commemorates the successful culmination of Operation Vijay. The conflict began in May 1999 when Pakistani soldiers crossed the Line of Control and occupied

Indian positions with the objective of severing National Highway 1A — the vital artery connecting Srinagar to Leh.In response, India launched a meticulously planned military campaign marked by fierce high-altitude battles fought in treacherous terrain and sub-zero conditions. Landmarks like Tololing, Tiger Hill, and Point 4875 became symbols of sacrifice, etched forever in the national memory. Heroes such as Captain Vikram Batra, Major Rajesh Adhikari, Captain Anuj Nayyar, Grenadier Yogendra Singh Yadav, and Rifleman Sanjay Kumar emerged as icons of Indian valour. The war ended on July 26, 1999, with India regaining control of all positions without crossing the Line of Control — demonstrating remarkable military restraint and earning international respect.

Accident on Mumbai- Pune Expressway leaves one dead, 17 injured

Alibaug, July 26 (UNI) : One person was killed and more than 17 others were injured after a container heading towards Mumbai in the Khandala Ghat area rammed into 15 to 16 vehicles.

The Preliminary information said that the container coming from Pune towards Mumbai, lost its brakes on the steep slope of Khandala Ghat. As a result, the driver lost control of the vehicle and it continued moving forward, crashing into multiple vehicles in front of it.

The container collided with one vehicle after another over a stretch of one and a half to two kilometers, severely damaging several small vehicles.

The local rescue teams and police reached the scene. They rescued the injured from the damaged vehicles and transported them to hospitals in Khopoli and Panvel.

One passenger has died in the accident, and several others have sustained serious injuries, police said. Police said that more than 17 people were injured and they have been admitted to the municipal hospital in Khopoli.

Operation Sindoor is our resolve, a clear message, response: Army Chief

Srinagar, July 26 (UNI) : On the Kargil Vijay Diwas anniversary, Army Chief General Upendra Dwivedi said that Operation Sindoor was not just a military action, but a reflection of India’s firm resolve, a clear message and a decisive response to Pakistan.

He warned that any attempt to destabilize India would be met with a forceful response.Addressing the 26th Kargil Vijay Diwas celebrations at Drass, Ladakh, the Army Chief said that Operation Sindoor was a continuation of the tradition of Operation Vijay in 1999, which was fought in Kargil.

“In 1999, India achieved an unparalleled victory under Operation Vijay, driving out Pakistani soldiers and infiltrators from high-altitude posts, and hoisting the tricolour over the snowy peaks. At that time, we made it clear that no one would be allowed to harm the unity and integrity of India,” the Army Chief said.

“Continuing this tradition, even during Operation Sindoor, the Indian Army, with the same courage and determination, targeted terrorist infrastructure in Pakistan and achieved a decisive victory by disrupting their offensive operations,” the Army Chief said.General

Dwivedi said that India gave peace a chance, but Pakistan responded with cowardice, referring to the terrorist attack in Pahalgam. He emphasized that India answered this act of terror with courage and decisive action.

“Operation Sindoor was our resolve, our message, and our answer to the cowardly terrorist attack in Pahalgam, which left a deep wound on the entire nation,” he said. “India did not just mourn; but decided to respond decisively.”

Detailing the events of the strike, the Army Chief said,“On the night of May 6 and 7, the Indian Army attacked nine high-value terror targets in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied territory, without harming any innocent civilians. This was not just a response—it was a clear message that those who support terrorism will not be spared.”

Highlighting the preparedness and coordination of India’s forces, he said that the Pakistan Army’s response was given a sound, precise, and decisive reply.

“Our Army and air defence stood like a wall—unbreachable by drone or missile. All this was accomplished through a whole-of-nation approach, where ground forces, air

forces, and various government, private departments, and NGOs stood together,” he said.

General Dwivedi reaffirmed that any force conspiring to harm India's sovereignty, integrity, and people will continue to receive a befitting response in the future too.

“This is the new normal of India,” he said.

Reaffirming India’s commitment to peace with strength, Army Chief said, “We are peaceful, but not weak. We are determined, vigilant, and always prepared.”

On strengthening the Army for the future, General Dwivedi said that today’s Indian Army is not only confronting ongoing challenges but is also evolving into a transformative, modern, and future-ready force.

He announced the formation of a new integrated combat formation named ‘Rudra’ All-Arms Brigade, which he said has been sanctioned just a day before.“

This brigade will bring together infantry, mechanized infantry, armoured units, artillery, special forces, and unmanned aerial systems into a single cohesive strike force—supported by integrated logistics and combat support units,” the Army Chief said.

CM, Bhajan Lal announces renovation of dilapidated school buildings in Rajasthan

Jaipur, Jul 26 (UNI) : Alerted by the tragic deaths of seven children in a ceiling collapse at a government school in Piplodi (Jhalawar), Rajasthan Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma remained in action mode, taking a series of decisions to reinforce dilapidated school buildings across the state.

Based on feedback regarding the condition of school buildings and the need for repair or renovation, the Chief Minister held a review meeting via video conferencing with all district collectors on Friday. Following the meeting, Sharma on Saturday announced an augmentation of funds for the repair and renovation of school infrastructure.

"The state government has decided to repair or renovate buildings as needed, on a priority basis,"

an official spokesperson said, adding that the Chief Minister had ordered an increase in the quantum of grants and liberalized the norms for sanctioning funds to schools for this purpose.

Sharma also announced an increase in the grant limit for repairs to buildings of government establishments, including schools and anganwadi centers, under the Daang, Magra, and Mewat Regional Development Schemes—from 15 per cent to 20 per cent.

In addition, all MLAs in the state will now be permitted to allocate funds from the MLALAD scheme for the repair of government institutions, schools, and anganwadis, irrespective of the scheme under which they were originally constructed. They may now earmark up to 20% of their annual allocation for such

repairs.Going beyond party lines, Chief Minister Sharma appealed to all MLAs in Rajasthan to prioritize the repair of school and anganwadi buildings in their recommendations.Meanwhile, a pall of gloom prevailed over Piplodi and the Manohar Thana block of Jhalawar as the cremation of the seven children who died in the school ceiling collapse was carried out by villagers with heavy hearts.

Former Chief Minister Vasundhara Raje, whose son Dushyant Singh represents the Jhalawar parliamentary constituency in the Lok Sabha, visited Piplodi and Manohar Thana yesterday evening to offer condolences to the families of the deceased children.

She also visited the accident site and hospitals to meet the injured children. The two-time former CM

and former MP from the Jhalawar constituency also met the bereaved families.

Grieved by the incident, Raje appealed to everyone—particularly Opposition parties—to refrain from politicizing the tragedy."This is a sad situation. No one should indulge in politics over the deaths of children. There will be many other opportunities for politics," she said.Opposition Congress state president Govind Singh Dotasra echoed similar sentiments.

This comes against the backdrop of criticism by some political activists who blamed government apathy and negligence by school staff for the mishap.

Many Congress leaders, including Dotasra and members of the PUCL (Rajasthan chapter), even demanded the resignation of Education Minister Madan Dilawar.

Security forces kill 3 JJMP operatives in Gumla forest

Ranchi, July 26 (UNI) : Three members of the banned Jharkhand Jan Mukti Parishad (JJMP) were killed in an exchange of fire with security forces in the forested area near Lava Dag under Ghaghra police station limits in Gumla district on Saturday morning.

According to the police, Superintendent of Police Haris Bin Zama had received intelligence on 25 July regarding the presence of JJMP cadres in the region. The group was reportedly moving through the hilly terrain, allegedly with the intention of executing an attack.

Following the input, a joint operation team comprising personnel from the Gumla district police and Jharkhand Jaguar was formed under the leadership of the Sub-Divisional Police Officer, Gumla. In the early hours of 26 July, the team came under fire during a search operation. The police returned fire in what they described as an act of self-defence.

Three JJMP operatives were killed in the encounter. One of the deceased has been identified as Dilip Lohra, who, according to police, held the rank of sub-zonal commander within the outfit. The identities of the other two are yet to be confirmed.

The security forces recovered one AK-47 rifle and two INSAS rifles from the site.

An SLR and a quantity of ammunition were also seized. A search operation is underway in the surrounding areas.

The police said the operation involved personnel from Ghaghra, Bishunpur and Gumla police stations along with Jharkhand Jaguar. The district police said further verification and follow-up action are in progress.

Labourer dies in a explosion in Lote MIDC Ratnagiri

Ratnagiri, Jul 26 (UNI) A labourer working in the Vinati Organic company in Lote MIDC of Ratnagiri, was killed today in an explosion which led to break out fire in company.

According to police, an explosion occurred at the Vinati Organic company this evening, which lead to a big fire. In this incident a labourer, who identified as Sameer Khedekar of Ghanekunt village near Lote, was killed on the spot.After receiving the information, Lote police and fire-brigade personnel rushed to the spot to contain the fire.Meanwhile, police are also investigating whether security protocols were followed by the company owners.

etched a golden chapter of valour in India’s history. Their legacy lives on, inspiring generations to serve with pride and honour."

Kargil Vijay Divas is observed every year on 26 July to mark the successful completion of Operation Vijay in which Indian armed forces recaptured key strategic positions in the Kargil sector of Jammu and Kashmir from Pakistani soldiers who had infiltrated disguised as militants. The war, which lasted over 60 days, ended in a decisive victory for India.

The conflict began in May 1999 when Pakistani soldiers crossed the Line of Control and occupied Indian positions with the objective of severing National Highway 1A—the vital artery connecting Srinagar to Leh. In response, India launched a meticulously planned military campaign marked by fierce high-altitude battles fought in treacherous terrain and sub-zero conditions.Landmarks like Tololing, Tiger Hill, and Point 4875 became symbols of sacrifice, etched forever in the national memory.

Kharge, Sonia Gandhi pay tribute to Kargil heroes, say their legacy will Inspire generations

New Delhi, July 26 (UNI) : Congress President Mallikarjun Kharge and former UPA Chairperson Sonia Gandhi paid solemn tributes to the brave soldiers who laid down their lives during the 1999 Kargil War, describing their sacrifice as a "golden chapter of valour in India's history" that will continue to inspire generations. Remembering the courage and sacrifice of the armed forces, leader of the Opposition in Rajya Sabha Malikarjun Kharge wrote on X, "On Kargil Vijay Diwas, we extend our heartfelt greetings to the brave soldiers of our Armed Forces, ex-servicemen, their families and all fellow Indians. We bow in reverence and salute the supreme sacrifice of our martyrs who valiantly defended our motherland in the Kargil War. Their unflinching courage and valour will forever inspire generations.

"Saluting the indomitable courage and supreme sacrifice of brave soldiers, Congress leader Sonia Gandhi said, "On this Kargil Vijay Divas we salute the indomitable courage and supreme sacrifice of our brave soldiers who

CM stresses money influence in politics should be curtailed

(Standard Post Bureau)

Hyderabad, July 26 : Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy today underscored the need to reduce the influence of money in the political system in the country.Revanth expressed serious concern over the increasing dominance of management politics in the place of the Ideological political system.

Participating in the S Jaipal Reddy Memorial Award function organized by ICAFI Law School in association with Capital Foundation Society here, the CM said that money is controlling the political system and the consequences posed a lurking danger to the society.

The unfortunate trend of 'Swiggy politics' is the order of the day in the country, the CM averred.

Stating that there is an urgent need to promote student politics in the universities to generate capable leaders for the country in the future, Revanth said that the role of party activists was also being neglected and it could be a big risk to sustain the ideological politics.

The Chief Minister



emphasized that the opposition parties should make constructive suggestions and his government is ready to invite them.

No opposition member was suspended from the Assembly ever since he became Chief Minister was part of his efforts to encourage opposition to come forward with good suggestions, he said..

Recalling the yeoman services rendered by Jaipal Reddy to the country, the CM said that the veteran

leader left an indelible mark in India politics as the best Parliamentarian.

The Chief Minister said Jaipal Reddy played a key role in getting the Telangana Bill passed in the Parliament without any debate.

Sonia Gandhi had also acknowledged Jaipal Reddy's role in the formation of Telangana and she also shared with him the same, the CM said that Telangana would not have been formed if Jaipal Reddy was not present in the

Parliament.

The CM remembered the national leader's initiative of introducing many reforms during his stint as Petroleum minister and brought the Prasar Bharati act. Jaipal Reddy began his political career as a student leader.

He was first elected as an MLA from Kalwakurthi constituency in 1969. Jaipal Reddy served as an MLA four times, Lok Sabha MP for five times,Rajya Sabha member (two times) and Union minister.Jaipal

Reddy used to think more about bringing changes in the administration.When he was an MLA. The veteran leader recognised the importance of power supply in Kalwakurthy and paved the way for its development and also made efforts to reduce the influence of money in politics, the CM said.

The Chief Minister highlighted Jaipal Reddy had also no personal enmity with anyone and never changed the parties for posts.

The national leader quit and joined Congress on ideological differences only, the CM said Jaipal Reddy was a towering personality in India politics.

The CM asserted that Telangana politics should be inspired by Former Prime Minister PV Narsimha Rao and Jaipal Reddy.

Earlier, the Chief Minister conferred S Jaipal Reddy Democracy Award to Mohan Guruswamy, prominent author, thought leader and policy advisor and said that Guruswamy has been an inspiration to many. The CM also gave away various awards for personalities who did remarkable service to the society.

Two arrested for duping people in Govt’s double bedroom housing scheme scam

Hyderabad, July 26 (UNI) : The Jeedimetla police today arrested two individuals who posed as political insiders and duped people in the state government’s double bedroom housing scheme scam.They registered a case a few days following a complaint made by Ms K. Malleshwari on Government Double Bedroom Housing Scheme Scam,said P.Naresh Reddy, ACP, Balanagar Division.

In her complaint, she said the scam, which has been ongoing for several months, has affected a number of citizens who were promised benefits under this scheme. People duped for the huge amount, the compla.

The accused G Sridhar, who cheated the victims by posing as a BRS party workers and pretending to be a close associate to Quthbullapur MLA, and Pradeep Prasad, who is working as JLO employee and prepared fake allotment letter of government double bedroom housing scheme with the help of photoshop software an given to the victims as original allotments -- were apprehended at Suchitra area, the ACP said.

Sized, some fake allotment Letters, Car, Lap tap, Computer, Web camera, Printer Scanner and two mobile phones have been seized from the accused, he said.The accused persons were being produced before the Court.Further investigation in the matter is underway, he added.

WCCA honours 21 extraordinary women

Hyderabad, July 26 (UNI) : The Women Coach & Counsellor Awards (WCCA) 2025 honoured women here this evening, celebrating women who have made a meaningful difference through coaching, counselling, and purpose-driven work.

The event honoured 21 extraordinary women who lead from the heart, uplift others, and break barriers in their communities and industries—often working silently, yet creating ripples of transformation.

The guests who graced the inaugural awards ceremony included Mr. Krishna Yedula, Vice President – Virtusa & Co-Chair, CSR & Sustainability, ASSOCHAM; Ms. Mamatha Madireddy, MD & Head, HSBC India Global Service Centres; Mr. Vinay Agarwal, Global Head – Business HR, Tech Mahindra; Mr. TRL Rao, Associate VP, Ramoji Film City; and Ms. Sameeksha Arora of WCCA.

Speaking on the occasion, Krishna Yedula remarked, “women coaches and counsellors are silent warriors—offering clarity, direction, and hope. Initiatives like Margadarshak and Sanghamitra by SCSC stand as testimony to the power of guidance.”

Mamata Madireddy said “In this volatile, fast-changing world, the ripple effect created by women coaches and counsellors is immeasurable. A true coach doesn’t tell you what to do; they help you discover it for yourself.”

Vinay Agarwal emphasised the importance of celebrating success and the pivotal role of coaches in enabling self-discovery.

TRL Rao highlighted the enduring power of women in society, while Sameeksha Arora observed that, “Women are natural coaches and counsellors—from the very moment of birth.”

The event also featured a powerful panel discussion, “Breaking Barriers, Building Futures: Women Leading the Change,” moderated by Padmapriya Chilakamarti, with panelists Vishala Reddy, Praveena Thota, Asra Haq, Archana Suresh, Anupama Dalmia, and Devashish Jena.

Geetika Batra, Founder of Goldfish Communications and the driving force behind WCCA, shared, “WCCA is more than an awards ceremony—it’s a movement. We celebrate real women, real work, and real impact. When women rise, everything rises.”

Some of the awardees included Swathi, Radio Jockey at Radio Mirchi; Devika Rami Karri, International Certified Addictions Professional; Haimanti Paul Sarker, Co-founder, Isha Foundation; Lalita Tims, Women’s Forum, SCSC, among others.

The awardees were chosen based on authentic references, recommendations, and verified impact—rather than popularity.

WCCA is dedicated to bringing these inspiring stories, often hidden from the spotlight, into the public eye.

The ceremony brought together industry leaders, wellness experts, therapists, educators, life coaches, mental health advocates, and changemakers, creating a vibrant and inspiring community of transformation.

Rajendranagar Municipality Dy. Commissioner held on graft charges

Hyderabad, July 26 (UNI) : Rajendranagar Municipality Deputy Commissioner in the city was caught by Telangana Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB), City Range-1 Unit when he accepted the bribe Rs 2 lakh from the complainant.The accused had demanded Rs 5 lakhs from the complainant for “not damaging the reputation and not to seize the hotel in respect of irregularities found in the kitchen during the inspection and for enabling the smooth running of the hotel business in future.”

The accused officer thereby performed his public duty improperly and dishonestly, the ACB said in a release today.

The bribe amount was recovered from accused officer K Ravi Kumar. He was arrested on Friday and sent to judicial remand.The case is under investigation.

Hyd pays rich tributes to Kargil heroes on 26th Kargil Vijay Diwas

Hyderabad, July 26 (UNI) On the occasion of Kargil Vijay Diwas 2025, Telangana & Andhra Sub Area (TASA) organised a solemn Wreath Laying Ceremony to pay homage to the brave soldiers who made the ultimate sacrifice in defence of our nation's sovereignty, here today.

The ceremony was graced by the presence of Telangana Governor Jishnu Dev Varma, who laid the wreath in the presence of tri-services representatives.

On the occasion, the governor said, "The bravery and sacrifice of our soldiers will always be remembered and honoured. We pay tribute to their memory and legacy."

Workshop on weapon systems used in Operation Sindoor held at DRDL

Hyderabad, July 26 (UNI) : One day workshop on Weapons Systems used in operation SINDOOR was held at the Defence Research and Development Laboratory (DRDL), here today.Indigenously developed weapon systems played a major significant and decisive role in the recent Indo-Pak conflict.

Indigenous hi-tech missile systems such as Akash Air-Defence, BRAHMOS, MRSAM, ULPGM developed from the missile complex at Hyderabad, played a stellar role in Operation Sindoor, which was the appropriate calibrated military response in May-2025 to the barbarous terrorist attack on innocent tourists in Pahalgam in April 2025.

The workshop commenced with inauguration of the exhibition displaying sub-systems of the various weapons used in Operation Sindoor and deliberated on

the performance of these indigenous systems, the ways and means to further enhance the capabilities of these systems so that they are unbeatable and superior in future also.

In his welcome address, DRDL Director and distinguished scientist Dr. G A Srinivasa Murthy outlined the overall objective of this workshop.

DRDL former Director Lt. Gen (Dr) V J Sundaram stressed the need for one hundred percent indigenisation in the interest of the nation and the foresight to concentrate on innovative new ideas in the advanced high-tech areas such as cyborgs.

Dr A Sivathanu Pillai, Founder MD & CEO of BrahMos Aerospace in his message appreciated the efforts of Indian Armed Forces and also all the stakeholders from DRDO and Indian industries.

Dr Prahlada, Former Project Director, Akash

Weapon System, recalled with nostalgia the initial days of DRDL from the IGMDP days of Dr. A P J Abdul Kalam till date. He stressed to continue DRDL’s culture and legacy and also integration of people as force multipliers.

Mr. Patrick D’Silva outlined the remarkable journey of Project MRSAM.Mr. U Raja Babu, DG (MSS) highlighted that missile complex is involved in the design & development of wide variety of missiles encompassing multiple platforms and strike targets at ranges from underwater to outer space and is capable of taking up any challenging missile project entrusted to it.

Dr. G Satheesh Reddy, Former Chairman of DRDO congratulated all DRDO, Armed forces, industry partners, production agencies and QA agencies for the achievement. He urged the scientific community together with

the users to come up with innovative designs involving cutting-edge technologies with surprise elements to achieve similar success in case of any future conflicts.

Dr Samir V Kamat, Chairman, DRDO, congratulated DRDO and urged the missile complex to tirelessly work towards quick induction of weapon systems that are undergoing user trials.

He emphasised that the missile complex should concentrate on the development of more agile, stealthier and faster missiles such as hypersonic missiles to counter the threat for advanced air defence systems.He also briefed about many other DRDO-developed systems which played an active role in Operation SINDOOR.

Visionaries and veterans involved in the development of these weapon systems were felicitated for their yeoman service on the occasion.

Legal Services Clinic under NALSA Veer parivar Sahayata Yojana inaugurated

Hyderabad, July 26 (UNI) : Supreme Court Judge and National Legal Services Authority (NLSA) Executive Chairman Justice Surya Kant, today virtually inaugurated ‘Legal Services Clinics’ established at Rajya/Zila Sainik Boards in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir and across all states and Union Territories including Telangana.

Telangana High Court Judge and TSLSA (Telangana State Legal Service Authority) Executive Chairman Mr Justice P Sam Koshy, inaugurated the “Legal Services Clinic” set up in the Sainik Welfare Office, Somajiguda in the city, in the presence of Telangana Special Chief Secretary (Home) S.Ravi Gupta, S Sashidhar Reddy and Col.

P.Ramesh Kumar and other.

The clinic was set up under the able guidance of Telangana High court Chief Justice Mr Justice Aparesh Kumar Singh, the Patron-in-Chief of Telangana State Legal Services Authority (TSLSA) and active support given by High Court Judge Mr Justice P Sam Koshy, the Executive Chairman of TSLSA, Hyderabad.NLSA, New Delhi has taken up the establishment of “ Legal Services Clinic” under the NALSA Veer Parivar Sahayata Yojana, 2025 across the country with all the State Sainik Welfare Boards and District Sainik Welfare Boards.The aim and objective of the ‘Legal Services Clinic’, is to provide ‘Free and Competent legal Services’ to the Defence Personnel, Ex-Servicemen and their family members.

Speaking on the

occasion, Ravi Gupta stated that "a major step has been taken for the welfare of Defence personnel, Ex-servicemen and their family members, the soldiers are serving the country at the borders with high tension and they will not be aware of their family welfare at all times whether it may be with regard to house property, neighborhood issue, service matters, criminal matters.This legal services clinic will definitely meet their needs and services will be immensely useful to meet the legal needs of about 40 to 50 thousands ex-servicemen and their family members, he added.

Addressing the gathering, Justice P Sam Koshy said that these Legal aid clinics will deliver the dedicated services to the

defence personnel and the para Military forces and ex-servicemen and their family members, who are settled in the nook and corner of the state of Telangana. This legal services clinic is established with an aim to extend all sorts of legal assistance they require.

The defence personnel are posted somewhere in the country and their family are residing somewhere in the country, to reduce this gap, this legal services clinic will serve to redress their grievance at the earliest, he said.This process of extending legal assistance through legal services clinics to the defence personnel and the para Military forces, ex-servicemen and their family members will be gradually extended in every district of the state, said Justice Sam Koshy.

NephroPlus filed DRHP with SEBI for Rs 353.4 cr IPO

Hyderabad, July 26 (UNI) : Nephrocare Health Services Limited, Asia’s largest dialysis services provider and fifth largest globally (in terms of number of treatments performed in Fiscal 2025) (as per a F&S report), has filed the draft red herring prospectus (DRHP) with capital markets regulator SEBI to raise Rs 353.4 crores through an initial public offering (IPO).

Hyderabad-based company proposes to utilise the Net Proceeds of the Fresh Issue towards capital expenditure to the tune of Rs. 129.1 crores for opening new dialysis clinics in India; Rs 136 crores for pre-payment or scheduled repayment of certain borrowings availed by the company; and the rest for general corporate purposes.

The company, in consultation with the BRLMs, may consider a Pre-IPO Placement aggregating up to Rs. 70.6 crore; prior to filing of the Red Herring Prospectus with the ROC. If the Pre-IPO Placement is undertaken, then the fresh issue will be reduced to the extent of such Pre-IPO placement.

According to the DRHP, the proposed IPO of the company is a combination of a fresh issue of equity shares aggregating up to Rs. 353.4 crores and an offer for sale

(OFS) of up to 1,27,92,056 equity shares (1.27 crore equity shares) by the selling shareholders.

NephroPlus, is the largest organised dialysis service network in India, having 447 clinics across 269 cities in 21 states and 4 Union Territories, and serving more than 33,000 patients globally on an annual basis, and having a revenue market share of over 50 per cent in India’s organised market (in terms of number of treatments).

It has also expanded its international footprint to include Philippines (34 clinics), Uzbekistan (4 clinics), Nepal (5 clinics) and has entered the Middle East market through Kingdom of Saudi Arabia recently.It offers both

haemodialysis, with capabilities such as home haemodialysis, hemodiafiltration, holiday dialysis, dialysis on call, and dialysis on wheels, ensuring patients have access to the most suitable and convenient treatment options.

As of March 31, 2025, NephroPlus had more than 5,000 dialysis machines and had performed over 3.30 million treatments.

Vikram Vuppala, BVP (Bessemer Venture Partners) Trust, Edoras Investment Holdings Pte. Ltd., Healthcare Parent Limited (HPL), Investcorp Private Equity Fund II (IPEF II) and Investcorp Growth Opportunity Fund (IGOF) are the Promoters of the Company.

Indian nationals advised against travelling to Thailand-Cambodia border

New Delhi, July 26 (UNI) : India today advised its nationals in Cambodia to avoid travelling to the Thailand-Cambodia border areas in view of the armed clashes there.

An Advisory issued by the Indian Embassy in Phnom Penh said “in view of the ongoing clashes at the Thailand-Cambodia border, Indian nationals are advised to avoid travelling to the border areas.”Indian nationals were also advised to approach the Embassy in Phnom Penh in case of any emergency on phone number +855 9288 1676 or email cons.phnompenh@mea.gov.inArmed clashes between the two Southeast Asian neighbours continued for the third day today. At least 30 people have been killed and more than 130,000 displaced in the clashes.

STANDARD POST

PM Modi’s visit to Maldives, attending the 60th Independence Day celebrations signals reset in bilateral ties

Prime Minister Narendra Modi today attended the 60th Independence Day celebrations of the Maldives as Guest of Honour at the Republic Square. The event included a 21-gun salute, a military drill by the Maldives National Defence Force, parades by the National Cadet Corps, and cultural performances by school children.

PM Modi’s participation, the first by an Indian prime minister at the event, underscored the reset in the bilateral ties. The visit builds on Maldivian President Mohamed Muizzu’s October 2024 India trip, where the Joint Vision for a Comprehensive Economic and Maritime Security Partnership was adopted, indicating a willingness to prioritize cooperation.

PM Modi’s Maldives visit also marks the first by a foreign head of state since President Mohamed Muizzu took office in November 2023.

The two-day state visit of PM Modi is seen as a pivotal moment in resetting the India-Maldives relations strained by earlier tensions. The visit also coincides with the 60th anniversary of diplomatic ties, established in 1965 when India was among the first to recognize Maldives’ independence.

On Friday, on his arrival, PM Modi was received warmly at Velana International Airport by President Muizzu, Foreign Minister Abdulla Khaleel, Defence Minister Ghassan Maumoon, Finance Minister Mohamed Shafeeq, and Minister of Homeland Security Ali Ihusan.

The streets of Malé were adorned with Indian flags and banners along major roads and the Republic Square. The Indian diaspora also made a beeline to have a glimpse of Prime Minister Modi near the airport, waving the Indian Tricolour and chanting “Vande Mataram”. PM Modi posted on X, “A warm welcome in Maldives. Our strong ties will benefit both our peoples.”

The visit has helped address a diplomatic rift from January 2024, when three Maldivian deputy ministers made derogatory remarks about PM Modi’s Lakshadweep visit, triggering a “Boycott Maldives” campaign in India. Indian tourist arrivals dropped 33% in 2024, pushing India from the top tourist market to sixth. Meanwhile, the arrival of Chinese tourists almost tripled, riding on the cozy relation that Muizzu exhibited with the Chinese leadership.

Maldivian President Mohamed Muizzu visited India in October 2024, marking a thaw in the ties. His presidential campaign was based on the “India Out” slogan, demanding zero presence of Indian defence personnel on the island nation. India has since replaced the defence personnel manning the Dornier aircraft, gifted by India, with technical staff.

PM Modi’s presence in the Maldivian capital signals a reset, and renewed cooperation.

The Indian Prime Minister held a series of meetings with senior political leaders across party lines reflecting a close and non-bias intent for improving the relationship. On the first day, PM Modi met Vice-President Hussain Mohamed Latheef to discuss trade, infrastructure, and maritime security. He posted on X, “Met Vice President Uz. Hussain Mohamed Latheef. Our talks covered key aspects of India-Maldives friendship.”

At the President’s Office, he signed the visitors’ book and held a restricted bilateral meeting with President Muizzu. During the meeting, the two leaders reviewed the entire gamut of ties including defence, health, and capacity-building initiatives. This was followed by delegation-level talks which also included External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar, National Security Advisor Ajit Doval, and Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri.

The two sides signed four MoUs and three agreements, including a Rs 4,850 crore (\$565 million) Line of Credit for housing, water, and sanitation projects. PM Modi stated, “India and Maldives share a deep bond as geographical and historical neighbors. Our cooperation in development, defence, and maritime security will grow.”

The two leaders also issued a commemorative stamp marking 60 years of diplomatic ties. PM Modi and President Muizzu also inaugurated a new India-funded Ministry of Defence building in Malé. They virtually handed over 3,300 social housing units in Hulhumale, built under India’s Buyers’ Credit.

The two leaders were together for a tree plantation event, as part of PM Modi’s “Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam”, Plant for Mother initiative. In the same venue, the Prime Minister handed over two BHISHM Health Cubes that will be of great relevance in medical emergencies, especially in remote parts of the country.

PM Modi met former presidents and opposition leaders in Male, cutting across party lines, to discuss mutual interests and regional stability. He met former President Mohamed Nasheed, Speaker Abdul Raheem Abdulla, and leaders across political parties. These meetings helped address the lingering effects of the 2024 controversy and the “India Out” campaign, which Muizzu had initially supported.

Centre for Sight Welcomes Renowned Vitreoretinal Surgeon Dr. Sunil Kumar Singh and Launches Retina Surgical Services

(Standard Post Bureau)

Centre for Sight, India’s leading chain of super-specialty eye hospitals, proudly announces the launch of its advanced Retina Surgical Services in Siliguri—bringing globally benchmarked retina care to the heart of North Bengal. This significant milestone is further marked by the joining of one of the region’s most respected retina specialists, Dr. Sunil Kumar Singh, as Senior Vitreoretinal Consultant. Now joining this legacy of excellence is Dr. Sunil Kumar Singh, a distinguished retina surgeon with over 20 years of experience. An alumnus of AIIMS, New Delhi, Dr. Singh completed his MD in Ophthalmology and pursued a fellowship in Vitreoretinal Diseases from Sri Sankaradeva Nethralaya, Guwahati.

He is also a Fellow of the International Council of Ophthalmology (FICO, UK) and FAICO in Vitreoretinal Diseases. During the launch, Dr.

Sunil Kumar Singh said, “Retinal diseases are often silent and irreversible if not caught on time. With this facility, we aim to offer the people of Siliguri and North Bengal, access to timely, expert-led retina care using the best of modern technology. I’m proud to be a part of Centre for Sight and contribute to its legacy of transforming lives through vision care.”

The newly inaugurated retina unit at Centre for Sight Siliguri is equipped with world-class infrastructure and next-generation technologies such as VR-assisted retinal surgery, silicone oil removal (SOR), scleral fixated IOL implantation (SFIOI), along with advanced diagnostics like Optical Coherence Tomography (OCT), B-scan, and fundus imaging.

The centre is equipped to diagnose and treat a broad range of retinal disorders including retinal detachment, diabetic retinopathy, age-related macular degeneration (ARMD), and retinopathy



of prematurity (ROP). Founded in 1996 by Padma Shri Awardee Prof. Dr. Mahipal S. Sachdev, a pioneer in modern eye surgery and one of the most respected names in Indian ophthalmology, Centre for Sight has grown into the most trusted eye care network in the country.

With over 85 hospitals across 30+ cities, a team of 350+ expert doctors, and nearly three decades of excellence, Centre for Sight stands at the

forefront of vision care. Its reputation is built on clinical expertise, cutting-edge technology, and a deeply patient-centric approach. The group is widely recognized for its leadership in cataract, refractive surgery (including pioneering technologies like SILK and SMILE), cornea, glaucoma, retina, pediatric ophthalmology, oculoplasty, and oncology. Centre for Sight hospitals are NABH-accredited, empanelled

with all major TPAs and insurance providers, and associated with various government healthcare schemes—making quality care both accessible and affordable. Its mission remains rooted in the belief that “every eye deserves the best.”

Known for his precision and commitment to patient outcomes, Dr. Singh brings with him vast experience in managing complex retinal and uveal conditions, as well as neuro-ophthalmology.

He has successfully performed thousands of sutureless retinal surgeries, scleral fixated IOLs, laser procedures (ROP, PRP, Nd:YAG), intravitreal injections, and ocular trauma management. He is also proficient in diagnostic imaging including ocular and orbital ultrasonography. In addition to his clinical acumen, Dr. Singh has contributed extensively to academic research and education as an editorial board member of the

Indian Journal of Clinical and Experimental Ophthalmology, and has authored numerous national and international publications. His professional affiliations include AIOS, VRSI, DOS, ACOIN, IMA, and others.

Previously associated with leading eye institutions like Vasan Eye Care and North Bengal Eye Institute—where he served as Director—Dr. Singh now joins Centre for Sight to lead and elevate retina care in Siliguri and surrounding areas.

This development eliminates the need for patients to travel to metro cities for advanced retina treatment, offering them trusted care closer to home. With every new centre and service line, Centre for Sight continues its mission to transform the landscape of eye care in India—blending expertise, empathy, and innovation.

Because when it comes to your eyes—Don’t compromise on your vision. Trust the experts.

SEIL energy empowers Rural education with 1,000 bicycles for school children

Energy Minister Mr Gottipati Ravi Kumar Garu officially hands over Cycles to the Students



(Standard Post Bureau)

In a significant step towards promoting education and enabling better access to schools for rural students, SEIL Energy India Limited, one of the largest independent power producers (IPP) in India, has donated 1,000 bicycles to school-going children in Addanki, Bapatla District, Andhra Pradesh, under its Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiative. This initiative, aligned with SEIL Energy’s CSR key focus area on Education, aims to reduce school dropout rates, particularly among children from underprivileged backgrounds and girl students who often face mobility challenges in remote areas. The Energy Minister of Andhra

Pradesh, Mr Gottipati Ravi Kumar Garu formally handed over bicycles on Friday at Zilla Parishad High School (ZPHS), Makkenavaripalem. The Minister also handed over 452 Cycles to the students of ZPHS, Medarametla.

Speaking on the occasion, Minister Mr Gottipati Ravi Kumar Garu said: “We are immensely grateful to SEIL Energy for their generous contribution of 1,000 bicycles. This initiative is a critical enabler in the Government of Andhra Pradesh’s larger vision to distribute 10,000 bicycles to underprivileged children, ensuring that no child is denied access to education due to lack of transportation.” Mr. Janmejaya Mahapatra, CEO - SEIL Energy India

Limited, said, “At SEIL Energy, we believe that education is the most powerful tool for community transformation. Through this initiative, we are not just donating bicycles ---we are helping unlock the future potential of 1,000 children. We are proud to partner with the Government of Andhra Pradesh in advancing this noble and meaningful cause.”

All 1,000 beneficiaries are underprivileged school students from rural areas, and many of them are first-generation learners.

This project is part of SEIL Energy’s broader CSR commitment across four key pillars: Education, Health, Decarbonisation and Skill & Entrepreneurship Development.

'Will Not allow any country take lead in Maldivian affairs' : Maldives President

Male/New Delhi, July 26 (UNI) : Maldives President Mohamed Muizzu today asserted that it is not his Government’s policy to allow any foreign country take the lead in his affairs and said that every square inch of the Indian Ocean island nation’s territory will be safeguarded by Maldivians. He was addressing the Maldives National Defence Force (MNDF) and the Maldives Police Service (MPS) on his country’s 60th Independence Day. This is the first time in Maldives history that a Maldivian Head of State has addressed both forces at a joint ceremonial

gathering. Prime Minister Narendra Modi, on a two-day State visit to the Maldives, was the Guest of Honour at the celebrations.

Highlighting the priority accorded by his Government to police and defence forces, President Muizzu said this focus has, at times, prompted questions regarding the rationale behind such emphasis. Referring to the vast maritime domain of the Maldives, he said that despite the country’s relatively small population, it is Maldivians themselves who will bear the responsibility of defending and securing

the nation’s territory. He, however, acknowledged that the Maldives must rely on other nations for certain resources and technical expertise, and affirmed the Government’s commitment to cooperating with international partners in this regard. The President also paid tribute to the national heroes whose sacrifices secured the nation’s independence, emphasising that every Maldivian citizen should appreciate their legacy. He underscored the shared responsibility to preserve the nation’s independence and security for the benefit of future generations.

Discussion on Latest Advancements in Neurosciences conducted successfully



(Standard Post Bureau)

Artemis Hospital Gurugram in association with CRRST neuro services, and Neuro club Lucknow, recently spearheaded an interactive session in Lucknow focusing on the latest advancements in neurosurgeries in management of movement disorders. The seminar aimed to shed light on cutting-edge treatments for various types of neuro related disorders, making

them more accessible, reliable, and safer than ever before. The session was orated by Dr. Aditya Gupta, Chief Neurosurgery & CNS Radiosurgery & Co-Chief – Cyberknife centre, from Artemis Hospitals, who spoke on the topic Collaborative cases in neurosciences. Dr. Aditya Gupta, Chief Neurosurgery & CNS Radiosurgery & Co-Chief – Cyberknife centre, Artemis Hospitals emphasized the significance of cyberknife radiosurgery in

tackling complex neurosurgical cases, said “M6 Cyberknife Radiosurgery is precise, painless, and non-invasive radiation treatment. It is extremely efficient for the treatment of inoperable cancerous and non-cancerous tumors, requires no anesthesia & incision and has no reported risks or side effects. This therapy has a proven clinical success rate of over 95% of the brain tumor patients and works best for tumors up to 2.5-3 cm in size.

Cambodia calls for immediate-unconditional ceasefire with Thailand at UNSC meeting

Phnom Penh, July 26 (UNI) : Cambodia has called for an unconditional immediate ceasefire during a UN Security Council meeting on its dispute with Thailand, and the UNSC members urged both parties for restraint, Cambodian Permanent Representative to the UN Keo Chhea said."Cambodia asked for immediate ceasefire, unconditionally, and we also call for the peaceful solution of the disputes," Chhea told journalists. "Security Council called for both parties to restrain, maximum restraint and resort to diplomatic solution." Clashes between the two Southeast Asian nations have resulted in at least 32 fatalities, military and civilian, while forcing nearly 200,000 to flee—each government claims the other fired the first shots. While neither country has declared war, the conflict has severely eroded diplomatic ties, with both Bangkok and Phnom Penh refusing to commit to any sort of dialogue just yet.

Thailand, Cambodia agree to immediately meet for ceasefire talks : Donald Trump

Washington, July 26 (UNI) : US President Donald Trump said on Saturday that his telephone diplomacy led to Thailand and Cambodia agreeing to meet immediately to work out a ceasefire and ultimately a peace deal. "I just had a very good call with the Prime Minister of Cambodia, and informed him of my discussions with Thailand, and its Acting Prime Minister. Both Parties are looking for an immediate Ceasefire and Peace... They have agreed to immediately meet and quickly work out a Ceasefire and, ultimately, PEACE!" he wrote on Truth Social.

Trump said that the prime ministers were looking to get back to the "trading table" with the United States, which he said was "inappropriate to do until such time as the fighting STOPS." "When all is done, and Peace is at hand, I look forward to concluding our Trading Agreements with both!" Trump said.

Torrential rains kill 266 in Pakistan in past one month

Islamabad, July 26 (UNI) : Torrential monsoon rain-related incidents have killed 266 people and injured 633 others across Pakistan over the past 30 days, according to data released by the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) yesterday. According to the NDMA's latest situation report, no new fatalities were recorded in the past 24 hours, while five injuries were reported. The data covers the period from June 26 to July 25. Punjab reported the highest number of casualties, with 144 people killed and 493 injured. In the northwestern Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province, 63 people were reported dead and 79 others injured. Sindh recorded over 25 fatalities and 40 injuries. Meanwhile, 16 deaths and four injuries were reported from Balochistan. Gilgit-Baltistan and Islamabad reported eight fatalities, while two lost their lives in POK.

Children accounted for a significant proportion of the fatalities nationwide, with 126 reported dead and 209 injured, according to the breakdown provided by the NDMA. Authorities have warned of further rainfall in various regions and are coordinating with provincial governments to carry out relief operations and monitor vulnerable areas amid ongoing rainfall.

536 schools in Cambodian border areas closed due to clashes with Thailand

Phnom Penh, July 26 (UNI) : Cambodia said on Saturday that a total of 536 schools in border provinces have been shut down due to an ongoing border conflict between Cambodian and Thai soldiers. "The closure has affected 130,000 students and teachers," the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport said in a post on its official Facebook page.Armed clashes between Cambodian and Thai soldiers over disputed border areas broke out on Thursday.

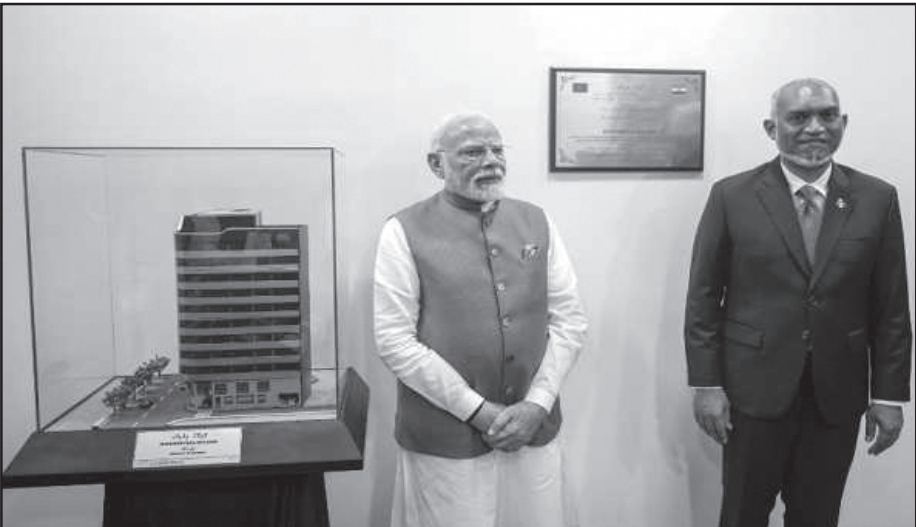
Japan’s ruling LDP collects enough signatures to discuss accountability of PM Shigeru Ishiba after recent electoral loss

Tokyo, July 26 (UNI) : Japan's ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) has collected enough signatures to call a general meeting that will hold Prime Minister Shigeru Ishiba accountable for the party's recent crushing election loss, local media reported. LDP rules stipulate that a general meeting be convened within seven days if more than one-third of its parliamentary members request it. The required number of signatures has been met, Jiji Press reported yesterday, citing an LDP member who leads the signature campaign. Hiroyoshi Sasagawa, a member of the former LDP faction led by former LDP Secretary-General Toshimitsu Motegi, said that he would decide when to submit the signatures after looking at Ishiba's response at a less formal meeting of party lawmakers on July 27 to discuss the outcome of Sunday's House of Councillors election.In a landmark political setback, Japan's ruling coalition has lost its majority in the 248-member upper chamber in Sunday's race. The defeat follows a similar outcome in the 2024 House of Representatives election, leaving the ruling bloc a minority in both chambers of the parliament, a historic first since the LDP's founding in 1955.

PM Modi, Maldivian President inaugurate MoD building in Male; India delivers two advanced portable hospital units

Male/New Delhi, July 25 (UNI) : Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Maldivian President Mohamed Muizzu today jointly inaugurated the state-of-the-art Ministry of Defence (MoD) building of Maldives in Male.

Overlooking the Indian Ocean, the eleven-storey building is a symbol of the strong and long-standing defence and security cooperation between the two countries, a statement said.The MoD building has been constructed with India's financial assistance and will contribute towards enhancing the capabilities of the defence and law enforcement authorities of Maldives.Following the inauguration of the Dhoshimeynaa Building, the two leaders viewed a model of the building, and learned about its functions and services.Construction



of the building began on 19 February, 2014. The facility will primarily house the Coast Guard division of the Defence Ministry.

India has also formally delivered two advanced portable hospital units to the Maldives, marking a significant enhancement of the island nation's emergency medical response capacity and

reaffirming New Delhi's commitment to regional health cooperation. Referred to as 'Arogya Maitri Health Cubes', the modular platforms are regarded as the world's first fully transportable hospitals. Each unit includes an intensive care unit (ICU), operation theatre, blood diagnostic equipment, X-ray machine,

and power generator, configured to provide critical care for up to 200 individuals over a 72-hour period.Engineered for maximum mobility, the systems can be deployed by helicopter to remote areas and achieve full operational readiness in just 12 minutes. Supplementary kits and medicines allow

customisation for varied scenarios, supporting a range of emergency situations.Enhancing this capability is the BHISHM app, a digital tool designed to facilitate configuration and monitor equipment inventories. The Maldives Emergency Medical Service, operating under the Ministry of Health, will oversee the integration of the new facilities into Maldives’ emergency response framework. India's assistance to the Maldivian health sector has long reflected a sustained and multifaceted approach. Support has extended to the training of medical personnel, development of urban and atoll-based health infrastructure, and provision of emergency resources, including the expedited supply of Covid-19 vaccines during the pandemic.

Iranian exiled crown prince Reza Pahlavi says over 50,000 govt officials have joined him to topple Islamic regime

Tehran, July 26 (UNI) : At least 50,000 officials from within Iran’s government and military have registered with a secure opposition platform aimed at toppling the Islamic Republic, according to Reza Pahlavi, the exiled son of Iran’s last monarch.

Pahlavi, the son of Iran’s last monarch overthrown in the 1979 revolution, has long positioned himself as a potential transitional figure in a post-theocratic regime in Iran launched the platform last month, offering defectors from all branches of service- from politics to law and military - a channel to connect and coordinate and formulate strategies for the ouster of the theocratic regime. Speaking to Politico, he said the figure — though still under verification — points to a growing movement from within Iran’s own power structures, who are now seeking regime change. “These are not just

numbers — they are signals,” Pahlavi said. “We are prioritising key figures in the military and intelligence community. Every week, more join. It’s a rigorous process, but the response has been tremendous.”“We estimate over 50,000 so far — and that number continues to grow each week,” he said. “It’s a complex process of verification, but the signals we’re receiving are clear. We’re prioritising engagement with key individuals in the military and security forces.” Pahlavi also confirmed that a separate site will soon be launched for ordinary citizens to register their support for the opposition campaign. The interview comes ahead of a major opposition summit in Munich today, where the exiled crown prince will convene more than 500 exiled dissidents, including activists, artists, intellectuals, and former athletes.He called the event as one of the most diverse

gatherings of Iranian opposition groups outside the country since the revolution. “This conference is about unity,” he said. “It shows the emergence of a broad, committed coalition working toward a democratic, secular Iran.” Participants in the event titled ‘Convention of National Cooperation’ have endorsed three core principles: preserving Iran’s territorial integrity, ensuring equal rights and freedoms for all citizens, and establishing a clear separation between religion and state.Despite his attempts at projecting himself as a transitional figure should the Islamic Republic collapse, Pahlavi has received a lot of criticism over the years, owing to his perceived failure to unite the fractured opposition during his decades abroad, while some also view his royal heritage as a liability in the establishment of a democratic Iran.

Chinese Academy of Sciences unveils new SciencOne AI model for advanced research

Beijing, July 26 (UNI) : The Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS) unveiled the SciencOne model today at the 2025 World Artificial Intelligence Conference, marking a significant advance in AI-driven research innovation. Designed to comprehend complex scientific data, including waveforms, spectra, and fields, ScienceOne integrates capabilities for literature extraction, knowledge reasoning, and tool orchestration, aiming to serve as an intelligent foundation for technological innovation across various fields. AI is transforming fundamental research methodologies and accelerating scientific discovery, providing unprecedented opportunities to address

humanity’s most pressing scientific challenges. Yet current approaches predominantly rely on fine-tuning general-purpose models with domain-specific data while developing isolated, single-field tools.This paradigm faces three critical constraints: fragmented scientific data systems, insufficient specialised reasoning capabilities, and closed research ecosystems.To overcome these challenges,twelve CAS institutes, including the Institute of Automation, the Computer Network Information Center, the National Science Library, the Academy of Mathematics and Systems Science, and the Institute of High Energy Physics, among others, jointly designed and developed ScienceOne.The model has

achieved a comprehensive understanding of complex scientific data modalities, including waveforms, spectra, and fields, while integrating core capabilities for literature extraction, knowledge reasoning, and orchestrating computational tools. Researchers can easily access the model capabilities at various stages of their scientific work, enabling seamless integration of AI into scientific research. Built upon China's open-source foundation models with deep scientific customisation, ScienceOne integrates a suite of proprietary models developed for common scientific data types, while incorporating domain-specialised tools such as AlphaFold and MatterGen.

It demonstrates systematic mastery of core principles, laws, and specialised knowledge across fundamental disciplines including mathematics, physics, chemistry, astronomy, earth science and biology.Evaluations have confirmed its state-of-the-art performance in mathematics, physics, chemistry, materials science and biology, with leading capabilities in scientific tool invocation and reasoning. ScienceOne further attained excellent results in Humanity's Last Exam (HLE).Based on ScienceOne, the research team also developed two scientific intelligent agents. One is designed to assist researchers in thoroughly reading articles, writing reviews, and evaluating research topics and technical pathways.

At least 8 killed, 13 wounded in "terror" attack in SE Iran

Tehran, July 26 (UNI) : At least eight people, namely five civilians and three assailants, were killed and 13 others were injured in a "terrorist" attack Saturday morning on the building of the justice department in Iran's southeastern city of Zahedan, the capital of Sistan and Baluchestan province, the semi-official Tasnim news agency reported.Responsibility for the attack has been claimed by Jaish al-Zulm, designated by Iran as a terrorist group, the report said.It added that upon entering the justice department's premises, the "terrorists" opened fire on the people there, stressing that the casualties could further increase.

Iran's Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) said in a statement published on its official news outlet Sepah News that its ground forces managed to kill three of the "terrorists."The IRGC added that some of those injured in the attack were in critical condition, giving the assurance that security forces had the situation under control.In remarks to Tasnim, Mohammad-Hassan Mohammadi, head of Zahedan University of Medical Sciences, said all the wounded were transferred to nearby hospitals.Provincial authorities have called on people to stay away from the justice department and the surrounding areas.

Jaish al-Zulm has been involved in many deadly attacks against Iranian security forces and civilians in recent years.

Russian official says Moscow ready to meet any NATO military encroachment on Kaliningrad with immediate response

Moscow, July 26 (UNI) :Any military encroachment on Russia’s Kaliningrad Region will be met with an immediate response using all available forces and means, as provided for by the military doctrine and the principles of Russia’s state policy on nuclear deterrence, Russian presidential aide Nikolai Patrushev told Sputnik. Earlier this month, Gen. Christopher T. Donahue, commanding general of US Army Europe and Africa, said that NATO had sufficient capabilities to neutralise Russia's Kaliningrad region in case of a conflict and had already developed a corresponding plan."We have long been aware of western plans concerning Kaliningrad. I can comment on them in the only possible way. The Kaliningrad region is an integral part of Russia and any military encroachment on it will be met with an immediate and crushing response using all the forces and means at our disposal, as provided for by the military doctrine and the principles of state policy in the area of nuclear deterrence.



Food&Kids

Recipe: Tandoori pomfret

Tandoori Pomfret is a delicious fish delight. Here the exotic flavors of spices all wrapped in the fish and then grill in the oven. Resulting really juicy and scrumptious grilled fish.



Ingredients:

8 Pomfret fish
1/4 tsp Turmeric powder
2 tbsp Red chilli powder
1 tsp Garam masala powder
1/2 tsp Carom seeds/ ajwain
1 tbsp Roasted gram flour/ Besan
1/2 cup Hung Curd
Salt to taste
4 tbsp Mustard oil
Juice of 1 lemon
2 tbsp Coriander paste
1 tsp Ginger-garlic paste

Directions:

1. Trim tails, fins and other unnecessary things. Then wash it thoroughly.
2. Make incisions on a clean fish. Keep it aside.
3. In a bowl, add all the ingredients mentioned in the ingredient list. Adjust the amount of besan and yogurt to get a nice thick paste.
4. Apply this marinade to the fish on both sides very well.
5. Keep it for at least 30 minutes in the fridge.
6. Preheat the oven to 180 Degree Celsius (356 Degree Fahrenheit).
7. Grease the pan or rack. Place the fish on grill rack and cook it for 15-20 minutes until golden brown.
8. Serve with Onion rings and lemon.

Recipe: Stuffed tomatoes

A low-cal vegan option that pleases the palate as well
Preparation time: 15mins
Cooking time: 15 mins
Serves: 4

Ingredients:

4 medium sized tomatoes
200g boiled potatoes
100g paneer (cottage cheese)
1 tbsp desi ghee (clarified butter)
1 tsp finely chopped green chilies
1 tsp finely chopped coriander leaves
½ tsp amchur powder (dry mango powder)
½ tsp black pepper powder
1 tsp sendha namak (rock salt)

Recipe Method:

Cut off the top of the tomatoes and scoop out the seeds and pulp to get a cavity. Set aside.

Grate the paneer and the boiled potatoes. Mix in all the other ingredients. Heat the ghee in a pan and add the mixture. Saute for 3-4 minutes stirring continuously. Cool the mixture and stuff in the tomatoes. Grill or bake in a preheated oven at 200 degree centigrade for 10mins. Alternatively you can shallow fry in 1 tbsp till the tomatoes are cooked but firm.



Cook broccoli the right way

Though broccoli has been bumbling with a not so good reputation still there are people out there who love eating broccoli. Just follow few simple steps and you can make this green a popular veggie of your diet.

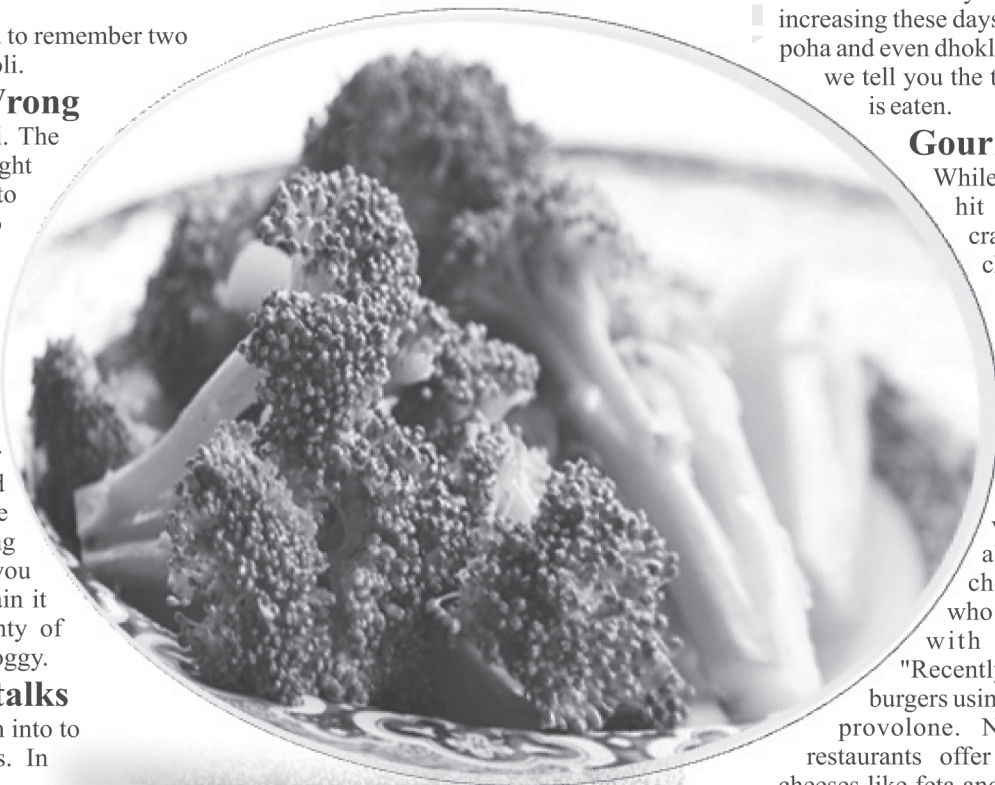
As a beginner you just need to remember two things while tackling broccoli.

Undercooking is Wrong

Do not undercook broccoli. The modern art of cooking might believe at al dente of food to the point of crunchy but do not do this to broccoli. A little softer the better it is. Broccoli has a marvelous texture because of its extravagant head of hair. While cooking beyond al dente, they soften and start to break up a little after which you are free to add any dressing. It sucks up the dressing giving it a juicy tang with sublime results. All you need to remember is to drain it well and allow it get plenty of steam so that it doesn't get soggy.

Don't Cut off the Stalks

Peel the stalks and cut them into to boil them with the florets. In case you have not tried this



before you will love the stalk's sweet meat.

Here are a few things to do with broccoli. Have you any tips with broccoli? We'd love to hear them in the comments under this piece.

1. Dress them with some fresh lemon juice, salt and olive oil. Make sure that it is cooked soft.
2. You can serve it with pasta. Boil the broccoli in salt water till it gets soft. Drain and let them steam for a few minutes. Fry some garlic in olive oil and add pine nuts and broccoli. Squeeze some lime juice,

A guide to cheese varieties and pairing

Other than being used as a topping, we tell you how cheese can be eaten the traditional way While the variety of cheesy snacks are increasing these days - from cheese-topped poha and even dhoklas with melted cheese, we tell you the traditional way cheese is eaten.

Gourmet all the way

While mozzarella became a hit when people went crazy about the stringy, chewy pizza topping, desserts like cheesecakes and tiramisu made us take notice of mascarpone and cream cheese. Delicious salads made of fruits, veggies and herbs, are also topped up with cheese. Mira Maniar, who loves to experiment with her dishes says, "Recently, I made gourmet burgers using smoked cheddar and provolone. Not just that, even restaurants offer pizzas topped with cheeses like feta and gouda, which until a few years ago, were completely unheard of."

Plating and pairing

One of the most important things that needs focus when it comes to cheese is how it should be plated and what it should be paired with. Chef Ravi Dua says, "I was surprised to find how well-aware people are when it comes to cheese and their pairings. There are a variety of TV shows that educate people these days on what cheese can be eaten with what and how you can plate it. We get a lot of requests to serve

season and serve with pasta with some parmesan sprinkled on it.

3. In half a cup of water at room temperature, sprinkle 1 tbsp of gelatin and let soak for 1/2 an hour. Pour 1 1/2 cups of boiling water over and mix well to dissolve. Leave to cool. When cool and beginning to set, mix in the broccoli, walnuts, salt, pepper and corn. Transfer into the mould and leave to chill and set in the refrigerator. When ready to serve, pass a knife around to loosen edges, place an inverted plate over the mould and turn upside down. Your Broccoli and Walnut Mould Salad is ready.

cheese platters with specific pairings at events and small parties. Not just that, markets are also well-stocked with foods that work as great cheese pairings, including artisan crackers and breads like nutty walnut loafs, sourdough breads, baguettes and even brioche that can be made on order."

Cheese pairings to avoid -

Citrus fruits: Acidic and watery fruits can kill the flavour of your cheese and the water from them can also ruin the plate. -Strongly flavoured bread and crackers: Heavy flavours like garlic and onion are a complete no-no on your platter as they can interfere with the

actual taste of your cheese. Some cheese already have underlying onion and garlic flavours, it is not advisable to go overboard with the tastes. -Spicy food: Again, a strong spicy taste

will kill the taste of cheese. Instead, the cheese will end up soothing your

tastebuds from the spice -

defeating the whole purpose of a platter. -Not all nuts go with cheese: While nuts and dried fruit go well with cheese, not all of them make great pairings. Cashews are avoidable. Good cheese pairings -Pecans, almonds, hazelnuts and walnuts go well with hard cheeses, while pistachios go with soft ones. -Grapes, figs and dates are all great to serve your cheeses with. -Olives and cheese are a great match. You can put onion relishes and greek yogurt dips on the side.

distinct "hotness" of his native cuisine.

"In Malay cuisine, fresh aromatic herbs and roots are used, some familiar, such as lemongrass, ginger, coconut, pandan leafs garlic, shallots, kaffir limes and fresh chillies. Both fresh and dried chillies are used to add hotness which will definitely satiate the Indian tastebuds," Lisarni said.

As a specialist in Malay cuisine, Lisarni has played an integral role in the production of the Malay kitchen at Shangri-La's - Eros Hotel in Kuala Lumpur - a popular business hub and tourist destination of Malaysia, where over 10 percent of the nearly 30 million population is ethnic Indian.

Lisarni's cooking style is based on traditional methods, showcasing simplicity, freshness and natural textures, and it is imbued with cultural influences.

He felt that in today's time, people are opting for organic and healthy way of living - and it is something that Malay cuisine can stand out for in the culinary world.

"Today, our lifestyle has evolved into a more organic and healthy way of living. Malay cuisine in particular is a perfect fit in the Indian market as it provides a touch of freshness to the various meats and vegetables, but keeping the flavours similar to those accustomed to the Indian palate," he said.

Lisarni, whose passion for cooking is visible in his meticulously prepared and



skilfully presented dishes, also pointed out that while "trends in the culinary industry are ever-changing, the flavours and textures are

everlasting".

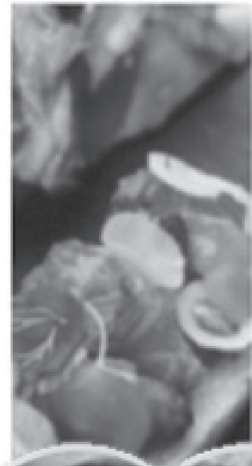
"The challenge we face is to present the same ingredients in different ways," he said.

'Malay cuisine perfect for Indian market'

The common usage of ingredients like coriander powder, turmeric, green chilli, red chilli powder and ginger between Indian and Malaysian cuisines makes it suit Indian tastes well, says Malaysian chef Muhammad Lisarni, who feels food from his country can be an instant success here.

"Malaysia's population is divided amongst three major ethnic groups -- Malays, Chinese and Indians. The taste of Malaysian food is subtle and unique as it is the fusion of Chinese vegetables blended with Indian spice, which makes our food rich and fresh.

"But since we use the same spices like coriander powder, turmeric, green chilli, red chilli powder, palm sugar (jaggery) and ginger, it suits the Indian palate to perfection and should be an instant success in the Indian market," Lisarni told IANS in an interview here. The Kuala Lumpur-based chef is on his debut visit to the country to



conduct an exclusive masterclass as part of a Malaysian food festival being held at the Shangri-La's - Eros Hotel here.

The festival, in association with Tourism Malaysia and the Malaysian High Commission, started on May 23 and will conclude on May 31.

He hopes to entice Indian food aficionados with the

Veda Krishnamurthy announces international retirement

Mumbai, July 25 (UNI): Veda Krishnamurthy has bid adieu to international cricket after representing India in 48 ODIs and 76 T20Is, scoring 829 runs and 875 runs respectively.

The former India international had last played a T20I match in the ICC Women's T20 World Cup Final in 2020 while she donned the ODI colours last in 2018. While announcing her retirement in a social media post, Krishnamurthy also added that she was ready to give back to the game."From a small-town girl with big dreams to wearing the India jersey with pride. Grateful for everything cricket gave me the lessons, the people, the memories. It's time to say goodbye to playing, but not to the game. Always for India. Always for the team," Krishnamurthy said in her post. In her retirement post she also wrote about how she felt proud to be a part of the team in 2017 - a remarkable year for women's cricket in India, when the team reached the ICC Women's World Cup final at Lord's."Nothing comes close to the feeling of wearing that jersey. The anthem, the adrenaline, the pride - it lives in your bones forever. 2017...what a year. To be a part of a World Cup that changed how people saw Women's Cricket in India I will always be proud of that."

Uganda coach Byekwaso optimistic ahead of African Nations Championship

Kampala, July 25 (UNI) : Uganda coach Morley Byekwaso has said his team is well-prepared ahead of the CAF African Nations Championship (CHAN).

Uganda, Kenya and Tanzania will co-host the tournament for players featuring in their respective domestic leagues from August 2 to 30.

Byekwaso said that the two recent friendlies against Tanzania and Senegal in the CECAFA pre-CHAN Tournament had given them a better assessment of the team's strengths and weaknesses.

Uganda lost 1-0 to Tanzania before defeating defending CHAN champions Senegal 2-1 in Karatu on Thursday.

"We have been training for some time now and the two internationals put us in a good situation. I am confident that the team is in good shape to perform well in the CHAN competition," Byekwaso said.

Uganda opens its Group C campaign in the CHAN competition against 2023 finalists Algeria at the Mandela National Stadium in Kampala. Byekwaso made it clear that playing in the same group alongside Algeria, South Africa, Guinea and Niger would represent a tricky task.

"We know what to expect but we must treat every match like a final because the first task is to ensure we make it out of the group and qualify for the knockout stage," Byekwaso explained.

The coach also called upon Ugandan fans to come in large numbers to cheer the team on."Support from the fans will mean a lot for the team," he said.

Barcelona squad departs late for Japan, South Korea

Madrid, July 25 (UNI) : Barcelona's squad has traveled to Asia for a three-match tour of Japan and South Korea with a 24-hour delay after resolving contract problems with the tour promoters.

A conflict over the contract for Barca's first game against Japanese side Vissel Kobe saw the squad postpone its planned departure on Thursday, and the trip looked to be in danger of being canceled.

Shillong Lajong thrash Malaysian Armed Forces 6-0



Shillong, July 26 (IANS) : Shillong Lajong FC kicked off their Durand Cup 2025 campaign in emphatic style, cruising to a 6-0 victory over Malaysia's Armed Forces Football Team in the opening Group E clash on Saturday. Led by braces from Everbrightson Sana and Phrangki Buam, the young Shillong side delivered a commanding performance, with substitutes Treimiki Lamurong and Deibormame Tongper also getting on the scoresheet.

Right from the start, Shillong took control of proceedings with quick passing and relentless pressing. Their dominance paid off in the 12th minute when Sana rose above the Malaysian defense to head home a pinpoint cross from Rudra Ved. The move

originated from a well-worked free-kick routine initiated by Sheen Stevenson, setting the tone for what would be a one-sided contest.

Malaysia had a rare chance to level the score in the first half through Mohamad Syamim Yusoff, who attempted a volley after a clearance from Shillong keeper Siwel Rymbai, but the effort flew just wide. That was as close as the visitors would get, as Shillong maintained their grip on the game.

The second half began with a flurry of goals. Phrangki Buam doubled the lead in the 47th minute, guiding in another precise free-kick delivery from Stevenson. Barely two minutes later, Buam struck again, this time calmly

slotting in a through ball after a slick attacking move to make it 3-0. Sana completed his brace in the 66th minute, turning sharply in the box before finishing clinically past the Malaysian goalkeeper. The fifth goal came courtesy of substitute Treimiki Lamurong, who curled in a stunning strike from the edge of the area in the 73rd minute. In the dying moments of the match, Shillong added a final flourish. Deibormame Tongper, another substitute, finished off a neat attacking play to round off the scoring at 6-0.

This comprehensive victory not only gives Shillong Lajong the perfect start to their Durand Cup campaign but also sends a strong message to the rest of the teams in Group E.

Meghalaya convenes NE inter-state coordination meeting in Shillong

Shillong, July 25 (UNI) : In a significant step toward hosting the 39th National Games in 2027, the Meghalaya government convened a preparatory meeting today in Shillong, bringing together Sports Ministers, senior bureaucrats, and representatives from respective States Olympic Associations from all the North Eastern States.

Meghalaya Sports & Youth Affairs Minister Shakliar Warjri, emphasised on the shared vision of making the Games a symbol of regional unity and national sporting excellence. He added, "I believe that we are fully equipped to host the National Games and we are seeking to foster participation from all the North Eastern states."

Arunachal Pradesh Sports & Youth Affairs Minister, Kento Jini thanked the Meghalaya government for making the other state governments in the region for making us a part of the discussion regarding preparation for hosting the 39th National Games in 2027.

"All the northeastern states should cooperate and support in hosting the Games. This is the right time to demonstrate that we are not lagging behind in anything - be it infrastructure, or sporting talent," Jini said.

Meghalaya Commissioner & Secretary, Sports & Youth Affairs, Dr. Vijay Kumar D presented an overview of the state's preparedness, including investments in sports

infrastructure, training centres, hostels, equipment and other athlete support systems.

A major agenda point of the meeting was the proposed distribution of specific sports disciplines across North Eastern States, fostering a shared sense of ownership and integrated development of sports. "The move aims to leverage existing capacities while building new ones, ensuring legacy infrastructure in multiple states even beyond the Games," a Sports official said. Representatives from every state appreciated Meghalaya's overall development and promotion of Sports and showed complete support to the state's roadmap for hosting the 39th National Games, 2027. Meghalaya's preparation for the National Games includes the development of sports infrastructure, healthcare facilities, accommodation and overall nurturing of sports talent.

Over Rs 1500 crore has been invested to develop sports infrastructure across all districts of the state.

With over 10,000 athletes expected to compete across more than thirty disciplines, the 39th National Games will be the largest sporting event ever hosted in Meghalaya.

In his concluding remarks, Warjri emphasised that with collective cooperation, "we can showcase a spirit of unity by successfully hosting this major event."

China sweeps team golds in artistic swimming at World Aquatics Championships

Singapore, July 25 (UNI) : China won the World Aquatics Championships team acrobatic title in artistic swimming today, concluding its campaign with gold medals in all three team events. Performing a routine titled "Soul of the Terracotta Army", the Chinese squad topped the preliminary round with 225.7993 points and carried that momentum into the final, where they scored 229.0186 points to secure the gold. The team finished ahead of Neutral Athletes B (NAB) and Spain. It marked China's fourth gold medal in artistic swimming, with the country sweeping all three team gold medals in this tournament.

"Although we won three gold medals in the team events, I don't think that means we're absolutely dominant," said China's head coach Zhang Xiaohuan. "We're still in the process of exploration. We're also learning from our competitors. There is, in fact, a lot of confusion and anxiety throughout this journey." "Deep down, I have greater expectations in the new Olympic cycle and with the new lineup. I believe this Championships still marked a significant breakthrough for us - the gold medal in the women's solo event was the first in our history, something we had never achieved before," Zhang added.

Earlier on Friday, Spain's Iris Tio Casas and Dennis Gonzalez Boneu scored 323.8563 to win the mixed duet free event gold medal, followed by neutral athletes Aleksandr Maltsev and Olesia Platonova, with only 0.4125 points behind.

Britain's Isabelle Thorpe and Ranjuo Tomblin took the bronze.

"It's the best world championships ever," Tio Casas said. "We are happy that we can finish the season with a happy ending. Probably a lot of people in Spain will see this and we can be an example for little kids." The 22-year-old Spaniard completed golden hat-trick in this tournament. The high diving preliminaries also concluded, with Rhiannan Iffland and Constantin Popovici topping the women's and men's fields respectively.

Shi, An reach badminton China Open semifinals

Changzhou (China), July 25 (UNI) : Home favorite Shi Yuqi and South Korea's world No. 1 An Se-young continued their strong form at badminton's China Open today, advancing to the men's and women's singles semifinals respectively.

Third seed Shi overcame compatriot Li Shifeng in a dramatic three-game battle, winning 15-21, 21-15, 21-11.

Shi revealed he had briefly considered withdrawing due to an injury sustained early in the decider.

"But I didn't want to let the spectators down, and the injury wasn't that serious, so I decided to keep playing," he added.

Li described Shi as "stronger, faster, and more skilful at the net than I am",

India fight back after early collapse, trail Eng by 137

Manchester, July 26 (UNI): Shubman Gill and KL Rahul led a determined Indian fightback with an unbroken 173-run partnership after England posted a formidable 669 on Day 4 of the fourth Test at Old Trafford.

At stumps, India had reached 174 for 2, still trailing by 137 runs, but with a renewed sense of control after a disastrous start to their second innings. Earlier in the day, England captain Ben Stokes stole the spotlight with a majestic 141, resuming from his overnight score and pushing England's total beyond India's reach. His innings, laced with 11 boundaries and three sixes, was a mix of elegance and aggression.

After reaching his 14th Test century, Stokes removed his helmet and pointed skyward in an emotional tribute to his late father. He found brief support from Brydon Carse, who struck a breezy 47 off 54 balls. The pair added crucial lower-order runs before Ravindra Jadeja cleaned up the tail, while Jasprit Bumrah struck with a low delivery to dismiss Liam Dawson.

India's reply began in shambles. Both openers, Yashasvi Jaiswal and debutant Sai Sudharsan, were dismissed for ducks

within the first three overs. With the score at 1 for 2, England sensed a rapid collapse, but what followed was a display of grit and composure from KL Rahul and Shubman Gill. The duo saw through a hostile period before lunch and then slowly wrested momentum away from England.

Gill was the first to counterattack, playing with flair and confidence. He lofted a superb drive over mid-off against Jofra Archer and pierced the gaps with ease on either side of the wicket. His innings was not without fortune, on 25, he edged Brydon Carse to backward point, only to be dropped by Liam Dawson.

Making the most of the reprieve, Gill reached his eighth Test fifty in the 29th over with a flick for three off Joe Root, bringing up the landmark in just 77 balls.

England unsuccessfully reviewed twice for LBWs against Gill, with both reviews going against them.

Rahul, at the other end, played the role of anchor with measured strokeplay. He brought up his half-century in 141 balls, guiding a delivery from Dawson past slip in the 42nd over. He was particularly effective off the back foot, cutting and punching the ball between point and third man with precision. He also

pulled Archer in front of square and threaded boundaries through gaps against Chris Woakes with finesse. Rahul grew in confidence as the innings progressed, finishing the day unbeaten on 87.

The third-wicket stand steadily gained substance, reaching 100 in 230 balls and later touching 150 in 327 deliveries.

At tea, India had progressed to 86 for 2, and they continued to defy England's attack with a mixture of caution and counterpunching flair. Both batsmen exploited the gaps and capitalised on any lapse in line or length from the bowlers.

Rahul opened the face and guided Woakes between slip and gully for four, then cut him through point in the same over. Gill glanced Dawson fine past short fine leg for another boundary and punished an overpitched ball from Archer through covers.

Late in the day, Rahul dispatched a full toss from Root through mid-off for a boundary, a fitting end to a day of quiet Indian dominance after a nightmarish start. India had scored 150 in 54.4 overs with 9 extras, and the partnership between Gill and Rahul had not only steadied the innings but had also kept the contest alive heading into Day 5.

Joe Root's masterclass put England in command

Manchester, July 25 (UNI) : Joe Root led England's charge with a majestic 150 as the hosts closed Day 3 at a dominant 544 for 7 in 135 overs, taking a commanding 186-run lead over India's first-innings 358 in the ongoing Test at Old Trafford today.

Resuming the day at 225 for 2, Root and Ollie Pope (71) steadily built England's innings, frustrating the Indian bowlers with measured resistance. The duo's 113-run partnership set the tone, as Root calmly moved to his 38th Test century with a gentle glance to the fine leg boundary off debutant Anshul Kamboj. It was a knock that combined patience and panache, highlighted by reverse sweeps, late cuts, and elegant drives. Root brought up his 150 in 248 deliveries (14x4), drawing a loud cheer from the spectators. But his splendid innings ended at 150 when Ravindra Jadeja produced a sharply turning delivery that beat the bat and saw him stumped by substitute keeper Dhruv Jurel.

Captain Ben Stokes was equally impactful. After his five-wicket haul earlier in the match, he brought up his 36th Test 50, showcasing his all-round dominance. Stokes muscled boundaries through pulls

and reverse sweeps and took charge against both pace and spin. He eventually retired hurt on 66 at 491/4 but returned later in the day and remained unbeaten on 77 by stumps. Jamie Smith's brief cameo of 9 ended when Jasprit Bumrah finally found reward for his effort, getting Smith caught behind off a delivery that straightened and induced an edge. Jurel, again impressive behind the stumps, took a sharp low catch diving forward.

Liam Dawson added late momentum with aggressive stroke play, including a pair of well-timed boundaries, one via a pull off Bumrah and another thumped straight down the ground off Washington Sundar. However, wickets began to fall as India finally saw some return for their toil. Chris Woakes became Siraj's first scalp of the innings when a low ball sneaked under the bat to hit the stumps, a just reward for the pacer who had bowled without luck all day.

Earlier, India had lost a review against Root in the morning and missed a runout opportunity, which proved costly as Root built his imposing innings. England's innings was peppered with quality strokes and decisive running between the wickets.

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Mega Block over Mumbai Division of Central Railway on Sunday



(Standard Post Bureau)
Mumbai, July 26 : Central Railway, Mumbai Division will operate Mega Block on its suburban sections carrying out various engineering and maintenance works on 27.7.2025 as under:
UP and DOWN slow Lines between Thane and Kalyan stations from 11.00 hrs to 16.00 hrs

DOWN Slow/Semi fast services leaving Mulund from 10.43 hrs to 15.53 hrs will be diverted on DOWN FAST line between Mulund and Kalyan stations halting at Thane, Kalva, Mumbra, Diva & Dombivali stations and will arrive destination 10 minutes behind schedule.

UP Slow/Semi fast services leaving Kalyan from 10.36 hrs to 15.51 hrs will be diverted on UP FAST line between Kalyan and Mulund stations,

halting at Dombivali, Diva, Mumbra, Kalva & Thane stations and will be further re-diverted on UP SLOW line at Mulund station and will arrive destination 10 minutes behind schedule.

Thane Locals will run on proper DOWN slow line. All UP and DOWN slow services departing/arriving CSMT Mumbai between 11.00 hrs to 17.00 hrs will arrive/depart 10 minutes behind schedule.

Panvel- Vashi UP and DOWN Harbour lines from 11.05 hrs to 16.05 hrs (Excluding Port line) & At Panvel from 11.05 hrs to 17.05 hrs for MRVC block

UP Harbour line services for CSMT Mumbai leaving Panvel from 10.33 hrs to 17.07 hrs and DOWN Harbour line services to Panvel/Belapur leaving CSMT Mumbai from 09.45

hrs to 15.44 hrs will remain cancelled.

UP Trans-Harbour line services towards Thane leaving Panvel from 11.02 hrs to 16.26 hrs and DOWN Transharbour line services towards Panvel leaving Thane from 10.01 hrs to 16.24 hrs will remain cancelled.

Special local trains will run on CSMT – Vashi section during the block period. “Trans-harbour line services will be available between Thane-Vashi/ Nerul stations during the block period.

Port line services will be available during the block period.

These maintenance mega blocks are essential for infrastructure upkeep and safety. Passengers are requested to bear with the Railway Administration for the inconvenience caused.

Railways to operate special trains to cater to the needs of passengers during Ganesh Utsav-2025

(Standard Post Bureau)

Mumbai, July 26 : Indian Railways have decided to operate Special trains to cater to the needs of passengers during Ganesh Utsav-2025. The halts of Ganpati Special trains serving over Konkan Railway have been planned at Kolad, Indapur, Mangaon, Goregaon Road, Veer, Sape Warmne, Karanjadi, Vinhere, Diwankhavati, Kalambani Budruk, Khed, Anjani, Chiplun, Kamathe, Sawarda, Aravali Road, Sangameshwar Road, Ratnagiri, Adavali, Vilavade, Rajapur Road, Vaibhavwadi Road, Nandgaon Road,

Kankavali, Sindhudurg, Kudal, Zarap, Sawantwadi Road, Madure, Thivim, Karmali, Madgaon Jn, Karwar, Gokama Road, Kumta, Murdeshwar, Mookambika Road, Kundapura, Udupi, Mulki and Surathkal.

Railways operates special trains to supplement the availability of accommodation in regular train services and to cater to the extra rush of passengers during peak seasons, festivals, special events etc., subject to traffic justification, operational feasibility, availability of resources, etc. The loads of existing services are also

augmented this way.

This apart, tatkal ticket booking system has been modified for bringing about ease of access and transparency and to curb the potential malpractices by unscrupulous elements. With effect from 01-07-2025, authorized ticketing agents of Railways are not allowed to book opening day Tatkal tickets during the first thirty minutes for air-conditioned (AC) as well as non-AC Classes, that is, they shall not be allowed to book opening day Tatkal tickets from 10:00 hours to 10:30 hours for AC Classes and from 11:00 hours to 11:30 hours for non-AC Classes. Railway Protection Force

(RPF) has also taken certain steps to curb black marketing of Tatkal reservations. Firstly, regular drives are conducted by RPF against persons/ agencies found involved in unauthorized carrying on of business of procuring and supplying of railway tickets. The offenders are booked under section 143 of the Railways Act. Cases having wider ramifications and involving ingredients of other offences are dealt in coordination with other law enforcement agencies like Police & CBI. RPF conducts regular checks in mass contact areas such as Passenger Reservation System (PRS) centers,

Booking Offices, Platforms, Trains etc. to prevent unauthorized ticketing activities including the use of scripting software. Such checks are also intensified during peak period like festivals, holidays etc.

General public are also educated through Public Address System and media, not to buy tickets from unscrupulous elements and consequences of buying tickets from these sources.

This was stated by the Union Minister of Railways, Information & Broadcasting and Electronics & Information Technology Mr Ashwini Vaishnaw in reply to an unstarred question in the Rajya Sabha today.

Blood Donation Camp Organized at Railway Central Hospital : SWR

(Standard Post Bureau)

Mumbai, July 26 : On the occasion of Kargil Vijay Diwas and Hospital Day Celebration, a blood donation camp was organized today at the South Western Railway Central Hospital in collaboration with SDJCM Rashtrrothana Blood Bank, Hubballi.

Shri Mukul Saran Mathur General Manager, donated blood and addressed the gathering. He stated that blood donation is a vital service, as there is a significant need for blood during emergencies and accidents. He emphasized that donating blood helps save lives, and every drop of blood acts as a lifesaving elixir (Sanjeevini) for those in need.

The camp witnessed active participation from railway employees as well as members of the public, who came forward to donate blood. “Participating in the event were Mr K.S. Jain Additional General Manager, Mr T.V. Bhushan and Mr Prem Chand Harijan Additional



Divisional Railway Managers of Hubballi Division, Dr. Ramakrishna Mane Chief Medical Superintendent, Dr. Suresh Babu Additional Medical Superintendent, and Dr.

Malathi along with several senior officers, medical staff, and hospital employees, all of whom actively contributed to the success of the camp.

As part of the event

Rangoli, craft, and painting exhibitions were also organized, at the end of the event certificates of appreciation were distributed to the blood donors.

NHRC seeks report on labourer’s death in Ajmer sewer pit collapse

New Delhi, July 26 (UNI) : The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has taken suo motu cognizance of media reports regarding the death of a 50-year-old labourer who was buried alive while digging a sewer pit in the premises of a power house in Ajmer district of Rajasthan, on July 14. The NHRC has

issued notices to the Chief Secretary of Rajasthan and the Commissioner of Police, Ajmer, seeking a detailed report within two weeks, the Commission said in a statement today.

The Commission has observed that the contents, if true, raise a serious violation of human rights of the victim, the statement

said. The media report, published on July 15 had said that the victim was about 18 feet down when the soil suddenly caved in, completely burying him under it. Other labourers managed to escape. The police, along with Civil Defence personnel, reached the spot and took the victim out after an effort of about six to seven hours.

Kharge forms screening panel for Bihar assembly polls

New Delhi, July 26 (UNI) : Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge today constituted a screening committee for the upcoming Bihar Assembly elections.

Senior Congress leader Ajay Maken has been appointed chairman of the screening committee while Praniti Shinde, Imran Pratapgarhi and Kunal Choudhary have been made members of the panel.

According to a statement released by party general secretary KC Venugopal these appointments are with immediate effect.

Moreover, Kharge also appointed seven Ex-Officio members.

They are AICC in-charge, Bihar Krishna Allavaru, PCC president Rajesh Kumar, Shakeel Ahmed Khan, Madan Mohan Jha, Devendra Yadav, Shah Nawaz Alam and Sushil Kumar Pasi.

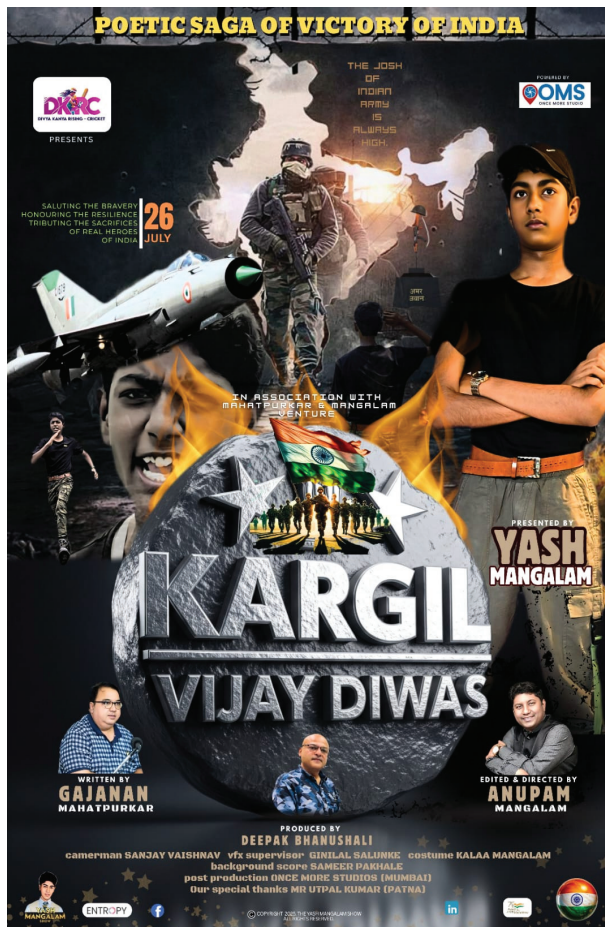
Poetic tribute to Kargil martyrs in new short film of "The Yash Mangalam Show

(Standard Post Bureau)

Mumbai, July 26 : After the continuous success of various poetic videos released recently on the popular internet medium YouTube, the short film "Kargil Vijay Diwas - A Poetic Saga was launched as the latest episode of the popular "The Yash Mangalam Show" on the occasion of Kargil Vijay Diwas on 26th July, 2025 in the country's financial capital Mumbai. In this short film, a poetic tribute has been paid to the brave martyrs who brought victory to India by displaying their amazing bravery in the Kargil war.

In a unique creative initiative, this amazing short film "Kargil Vijay Diwas - A Poetic Saga newly created by "Once More Studio, Mumbai" under the banner of "A Mahatpurkar & Mangalam Venture" has been uploaded on YouTube, the most powerful social media platform in the world, under an elegant channel "The Yash Mangalam Show-2025" which is very popular and

Launched in Mumbai on "Kargil Vijay Diwas"



widely appreciated for its unique content and unique style of presentation. Earlier, this

popular show has received a very good response on YouTube with its impressive

episodes like "Dharahar: A Poetic Saga", "Shilpkar", "Yoga Retreat" and "Sehat Ke Rakhwale". The show is hosted by the energetic Yash Mangalam, who at the age of just 15 is gaining a good position in the world of show-biz due to his powerful style of presentation. This special short film has been written impressively by Mumbai's well-known lyricist, stage anchor and media & public relations consultant Gajanan Mahatpurkar, in which the indomitable courage of India's brave sons and

various aspects of the historic Kargil war have been beautifully woven. It is worth mentioning that 7 poetic videos written by Gajanan Mahatpurkar have already created a stir on YouTube. In this sequence, now through the latest video "Kargil Vijay Diwas - A Poetic Saga, the powerful writing of Gajanan Mahatpurkar and the skilful direction of the famous film director and editor Anupam Mangalam is becoming popular on YouTube. The producer of this short film is the well-known

Bollywood line producer Deepak Bhanushali, who has played his role very well in popular films like Ek Tha Tiger, Jai Ho, Kick and Rangrezz. To encourage the young generation of India, he has produced this short film for YouTube for the first time under social media. This short film has been presented by a sports organization named "Divya Kanya Rising Cricket" i.e. DKRC, whose mission has been to promote the young talents of India, especially the skilled players of women

cricket at the national level. This powerful, impressive and sensitive short film has been brought to the screen through precise editing and skilful direction by Anupam Mangalam, a trusted director of the advertising and film industry of Mumbai, who has rich experience of making more than 300 ads in last 25 years. The soulful music of this newly created short film has been given by Sameer Pakhale. Videography has been ensured by Sanjay Vaishnav, VFX

coordination by Ginilal Salunke and costume designing by Kalaa Mangalam. Post production has been done by "Once More Studio, Mumbai". It is worth mentioning that Kargil Vijay Diwas is celebrated every year on 26th July. This special short film released on this important occasion is getting a very good response on social media and its exceptional quality is being appreciated on a large scale. The opening lines of this short film are written like this:-

"bhaarat ke veer sapooton ne, adamy saahas dikhalaaya tha, jaanbaazon ke buland hausalon se dushman tharraaya tha, jo ghaat lagaaye baithe the, bapheelee chotiyon par, bhaarat maan ke beton ne un dushmanon ko dahalaaya tha, hindustaan kee jeet huee, naapaak buraiyon par, taigar hil ke shikhar par phir se tiranga laharaya tha..! sadiyon tak yaad rahengee, un shaheedon kee kurbaaniyaan..! yaad rahengee sabako haradam, kaaragil kee kahaaniyaan..! vande maataram, vande maataram ..!"