

- Dima Hasao commemorated the death of Desh Bhakta Tarun Ram Phukan with a district-level program, highlighting his contributions to Indian liberation, civic duty, and patriotism.
- CPIM members protested in Tezpur Court, advocating for eviction campaigns, investigations into suspected schemes, and condemning harassment of minority communities, promoting justice and democratic rights.
- UP native Shivam Pandey has arrested on fraud charges, allegedly misleading hotelier & deceptively offering shares through MIGLOX Petroleum Pvt. Ltd's IPO.

# NEWS BEARER

NEWS FROM NEAR & FAR

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## Sivasagar Committee emphasizes empowerment of children's care

**Sivasagar, July 30:** Under the direction of Additional District Commissioner Geetalee Dowarah, the Sivasagar District Child Welfare and Protection Committee convened its first quarterly meeting of the current year on Monday at the DC's office's Sukafa Conference Hall. Meeting emphasized the need to equip children in child care institutions with financial self-reliance skills, urging the Education Department and vocational and technical training institutes to organize targeted training programs and workshops, with special provisions for children with disabilities. ADC Geetalee Dowarah directed officials to expedite issuing Aadhaar cards



for children at 'Kaumudalaya', ensuring full cooperation for enrolment procedures. She also addressed social concerns like child marriage, sexual abuse, teenage pregnancies, and child labor, proposing awareness campaigns and monitoring attendance. Dowarah also instructed the health department to provide regular check-ups & vaccinations.

## Dima Hasao celebrates anniversary of Tarun Ram Phukan's death by observing Desh Bhakti Divas

**Haflong, July 28:** To mark anniversary of the death of renowned liberation warrior Desh Bhakta Tarun Ram Phukan, Dima Hasao observed Desh Bhakti Divas on July 28 along with the rest of Assam. The historic event was honored with a district-level programme conducted by the Dima Hasao District Administration, in partnership with the District Information & Public Relations Office, at the College Auditorium Hall in Haflong. Numerous public representatives & dignitaries attended the occasion. Along with Executive Members Donpauin Thaoson, Samuel Changsan & Niranjana Hojai, Mohet Hojai, Chairman of the NCHAC, MAC Dhriti Thaoson & Chairperson of the Haflong Town Municipal Board Ripa Hojai also attended



the event. Along with ADCs, senior officials, members of apex bodies, teachers & students from various institutions, the program was attended by Munindra Nath Ngatey, ACS, Deputy Commissioner of Dima Hasao; D. N. Loying, Additional Director of Information & Public Relations (Hills), & renowned literary award-ee Anupama Naiding. The presentation featured remembrances of Tarun Ram

Phukan's legacy, emphasizing his contributions to the Indian liberation cause as well as his values of public service & patriotism. The occasion also sought to inculcate in the younger generation a sense of civic duty and patriotism. Cultural performances and speeches that addressed Tarun Ram Phukan's lasting influence & significance in the democratic society of today marked the end of the event.

## CPIM protests evictions, scams & NRC delays in Tezpur with a sit-in

**Protest held in front of Chariali's Tezpur Court**

**Dispur, July 30:** On the initiative of the Sonitpur district committee and in response to a state-wide summons by the CPIM Assam state leadership, members of the CPIM staged a sit-in protest in front of the Tezpur Court Chariali on Tuesday. The demonstration brought attention to a number of urgent problems. The party called for an immediate end to all eviction campaigns that do not offer the displaced an alternative rehabilitation. A comprehensive inquiry into the several suspected schemes involving BJP lawmakers and



ministers, including well-publicized Geer-Gai scam also demanded. CPIM condemned the harassment of minority communities under the guise of foreigner detection & called for the govt to stop such ac-

tions and the early publication of the National Register of Citizens. Local party leaders and activists participated in the protest, highlighting importance of these issues for justice & democratic rights.

## Haflong's DAC hosts PC-PNDT Act awareness meeting to prevent female foeticide

**Haflong, July 31:** To address female foeticide and strengthen the application of the Pre-Conception and Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques (PC-PNDT) Act, 1994, the District Advisory Committee held an awareness meeting at the Office of the Additional Chief Medical & Health Officer (Family Welfare) in Haflong. Dr. Jesmin Begum, Joint Director of Health Services, Dima Hasao, chaired the meeting and reviewed the district's ultrasonography facilities. According to Additional Chief Medical & Health Officer Dr. Marina Changsan, the district presently has seven operational ultrasonography centers: one in Umrangso and six in Haflong. However, inhabitants are forced to look for treatments elsewhere because the current healthcare infrastructure cannot keep up with the rising demand, particularly in rural areas. The meeting emphasized that, in accordance with the PC-PNDT Act, any attempt at sex determination is illegal. In



order to reduce the threat of female foeticide and enhance the child-to-sex ratio, officials emphasized the significance of rigorous adherence. The committee underlined the continued necessity of awareness, enforcement, and community involvement even if Haflong maintained a healthy male-to-female ratio. Every participant vowed to enforce the law and promote a culture that values girls equally. Administrators, health officials, and other important players attended the conference.

## Foundation stone set for Kokrajhar's "Sakhi Niwas" working women's dormitory

**Dispur, July 30:** The "Sakhi Niwas," or Working Women Hostel, was inaugurated on Monday in Dimalgaon, Kokrajhar district, marking major stride in the empowerment of working women & the advancement of gender-friendly infrastructure. The in-charge of WCD, Gautam Das, EM, BTC, graced the function. "Sakhi Niwas" seeks to give working women from various industries safe and reasonably priced housing, creating a safe environment that promotes their general



wellbeing & career goals. MLA Lawrence Islary, WCD Director Gauri Shankar Sarma, WCD Secretary BTC Phami Brahma, and WCD Joint Director-cum-CHD BTC Samir Das were also present at the ceremony. Officials from the Women & Child Development department, such as CDPOs, supervisors, the Mission Shakti team & District Poshan Abhiyaan, Anganwadi Workers (AWWs), Anganwadi Helpers & local citizens, also attended the session.

## A man from UP arrested for fraud in Dima Hasao while posing as a company official

**Haflong, July 27:** Shivam Pandey, a native of Gorakhpur, Uttar Pradesh, has been taken into custody by Dima Hasao Police on suspicion of fraud. Pandey is accused of misleading several people in Haflong, including a local hotelier, by posing as a representative of MIGLOX Petroleum Pvt. Ltd. After Pandey failed to pay his hotel costs and received ₹25,000 by deceptively offering shares through the company's Initial Public Offering (IPO), the hotelier filed a complaint. According to Faruque Ahmed, Additional Superintendent of Police (Crime), Pandey deceived



a number of people by pretending to be an IPO investor and running a CSR program. However, MIGLOX has not made any such offering, proving that the act is false. Sections 318(4), 338, and 336(3) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) are cited

in Case No. 46/2025, which has been filed at the Haflong Police Station. Due to a medical condition, Pandey is now receiving treatment at Haflong Civil Hospital. The situation is still being investigated, and more information should be available soon.

# The chief minister of Odisha surveys flood-affected districts from the air

**Cuttak, July 30:** Odisha CM Mohan Charan Majhi declared that no one had died in disaster & extended free cooking facilities for flood victims in 3 districts. CM surveyed inundated villages in the districts of Balasore, Bhadrak, Jajpur & Keonjhar from the air with the help of Revenue & DM Minister Suresh Pujari, Higher Education Minister Suryabanshi Suraj & Special Relief Commissioner Deoranjana Kumar Singh. "The flood situation is completely under control, & directions have been given to start post-flood activities. Around 30k people of 81 villages under eight blocks of three districts - Balasore, Bhadrak and Jajpur - have been hit by the



floods," the CM said. CM of India, Pranab Mukherjee has extended free kitchen facility for 7 more days, providing 2 meals day for 10k people in flood-affected areas. The facility has opened in 16 districts, with 10 in Bhadrak & 3 in Jajpur. The water

levels in the Subarnarekha & Jalaka rivers now below the danger mark. 30 flood-affected teams deployed in Balasore, 15 in Bhadrak & 15 in Jajpur, with officials stating that the flood impact in Keonjhar district is significantly lower.

# JD Vance called PM Modi the night before the ceasefire

**New Delhi, July 30:** Prime Minister Narendra Modi denied that any other country asked India to stop Operation Sindoor, India's counterstrike to the 26-year-old terror attack in Pahalgam, Jammu and Kashmir. Modi responded to allegations that Trump helped broker peace between the two archrivals, which Trump has repeated 29 times since the ceasefire agreement. PM Modi told the Lok Sabha that on May 9 night, a day before the ceasefire, "US Vice President tried to reach out to me 3-4 times, but I was busy with meetings with the armed forces." "When I returned the call, the US Vice President warned me of a big attack from Pakistan. I told him that if Pakistan attacks India, our attack would be much bigger as



we will respond to bullets with cannons. This was my answer," said PM Modi. The Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha, Rahul Gandhi, had earlier urged the Prime Minister to refute Donald Trump's assertions of an India-Pakistan ceasefire. No nation in the world has requested that India halt its military campaign against Pakistan, the prime minister noted.

# India & the United States will collaborate on increasingly ambitious space projects

USA & India upgrading together



**New Delhi, July 31:** According to sources here on Wednesday, India and the United States are expected to collaborate closely on future ambitious space programs like long-duration human spaceflight missions, spaceflight safety, and planetary protection after the successful launch of NISAR. The two nations are expected to closely examine a number of future space partnerships following the jointly created NISAR earth observation satellite and AX-4 mission that sent Indian astronomer Group Captain Shubhanshu Shukla to the International Space Station. "Long duration human spaceflight missions, spaceflight safety and sharing of expertise and professional exchanges in emerging areas, including planetary protection could be some of the areas for collaboration," sources said. Through industry engagements in both established and developing fields, including connectivity, advanced spaceflight, satellite and space launch systems, space sustainability, launch systems, space tourism, and advanced space manufacturing, the two countries are also dedicated to advancing commercial space collaboration. "While the NISAR mission was primarily led by national agencies, it paves the way for the Indian

private space sector to actively contribute to such cutting-edge collaborations in near future," said Lt Gen. AK Bhatt (Retd.), director general, Indian Space Association. Earlier this year, President Donald Trump and Prime Minister Narendra Modi urged greater cooperation in the space industry and referred to 2025 as the year of groundbreaking space cooperation between the two countries. The US-led Artemis Accord, which aims to improve the global regulation of civil exploration and use of outer space, saw India sign as its 27th signatory two years prior. The first collaborative Earth observation mission of the two space agencies merging their skills is the NISAR satellite will survey the Earth's surface in previously unheard-of detail. "The NISAR mission, being planned and built for over a decade by India and the USA, is a landmark in the collaboration between our nations. The instrument employs radar simultaneously at two frequencies to monitor the earth. Equally important is the way data is being openly shared with the scientific community and public- this sets new standards in space collaboration," said astrophysicist Somak Raychaudhury, Vice Chancellor, Ashoka University.

# Anthology of Gorakhnathi-based folktales co-written by Lalu Prasad Yadav

**Patna, July 30:** A new anthology by Lalu Prasad Yadav and Nalin Verma revives forgotten voices, ancient ballads, and mystical legends with four timeless folk tales. Rooted in the life and teachings of Yogi Gorakhnath, the 11th-century mystic, these stories were once sung by itinerant yogis of the Gorakhnath sect, accompanied by melancholic notes of the sarangi. "Over the years, these ballads became a source of sustenance for folklorists and folk theatre artists, who performed at wedding parties and religious events. I am very passionate about these stories. I got the folklorists to perform when I became the chief minister of Bihar in 1990. "I still invite them to perform when I find time. I shared these stories with Nalin Verma, who has carried out extensive research to present these stories here. I am greatly thankful to him for writing these stories, which have been a part of our culture and our heritage," writes Yadav, the national president of the Rashtriya Janata Dal



& former chief minister of Bihar, in the book's introduction. The book explores the use of ballads, originally preserved through oral tradition, in regional performance traditions, highlighting how marginalized communities used folklore as a tool for resistance, transformation, and spiritual inquiry.

# The US sanctioned 6 Indian companies for petroleum exploration

**Mumbai, July 31:** US State Department has imposed sanctions on over a dozen international firms, including six Indian companies, for trading in Iranian petrochemical products. The sanctions are part of a 2018 executive order signed by President Trump to block all property held by the sanctioned entities in the US. The move aims to cripple Iran's energy exports, which account for a significant portion of Tehran's foreign exchange earnings. The six Indian companies, Kanchan Polymers, Alchemical Solutions, Ramniklal, Jupiter Dye Chem, Global Industrial, and Persistent Petrochem Private Limited, incurred a combined \$221 million in business in 2024 and 2025. Along with a number of corporations situated in Turkey, Indonesia, and China, two of these businesses also conducted business with entities in the United Arab Emirates that have also been sanctioned.

# SC impose deadlines on speakers in disqualification

**New Delhi, July 31:** The SC warned that indefinite delays by high constitutional officials undermine the very goal of the Tenth Schedule was put in place to stop the evil of political defections, when it ruled on Thursday that constitutional courts can set a timeline for speakers to decide disqualification petitions. CJI Bhushan R. Gavai and Justice A.G. Masih made up the bench that decided that although courts cannot stop speakers from making decisions on these pe-

titions, they can give them instructions to do so in a timely manner, particularly if speakers do not take any action at all. Top court overturned a November 2024 ruling by Telangana high court division bench & directed the state speaker to rule within three months on the ongoing disqualification appeals against 3 BRS lawmakers Tellam Venkat Rao, Kadiyam Srihari & Danam Nagender joined the ruling Congress party last year.



## Following Paresh Rawal's recovery, Akshay Kumar affirms that Hera Pheri 3 is back on track

**Mumbai, July 26:** Following a public altercation between lead ac-



tors Paresh Rawal and Akshay Kumar, Hera Pheri 3 is back on track. Kumar affirmed that the production has resumed and that it is a genuine issue rather than a publicity gim-

mick. He added that an announcement announcing that everything has

been settled and they are once again together will be made shortly. For supporters, this is a good development. Fans were disappointed when Paresh Rawal left the third Hera

Pheri movie. The cast and producers were disappointed when Akshay Kumar filed a lawsuit over the film. In a recent visit on Himanshu Mehta's podcast, Rawal revealed that he would be returning to the movie. The partnership was always going to be, he said, but it needed to be adjusted. Rawal also played off the legal battle, saying they had an obligation to make the best movie. Everything is now resolved after he asked everyone to unite and work sincerely. It was not taken for granted that the audience loved the movie. The famous Baburao Ganpatrao Apte, Raju, and Shyam trio were first seen in Priyadarshan's 2000 film Hera Pheri. They returned in the 2006 follow-up Phir Hera Pheri.

### Revenue at Box Office for Mahavatar Narsimha

**New Delhi, July 29:** Mahavatar Narsimha, the mythical animated film directed by Ashwin Kumar, concluded its first weekend of release. The movie gained traction on Friday after a sluggish start. The number of shows in theaters has allegedly increased following an outstanding performance on Sunday. On day four, Mahavatar Narsimha made ₹3.31 crore, according to industry tracker Sacnilk. Even though its earnings have decreased, the data is real-time and comes from the website. The movie grossed ₹19.16 crore in total revenue. After night shows, the final numbers will be released. The original Telugu film was also made available in 2D and 3D in Kannada, Hindi, Tamil, and Malayalam. The overall Kannada audience occupancy rate for Mahavatar Narsimha was 46.79% in 2D and 61.91% in 3D. On June 28, the Telugu audience's overall occupancy rate for Mahavatar Narsimha was 38.30% in 2D and 52.71% in 3D. The 2D Tamil version of the movie had an occupancy rate of 12.51%. 43.17% of the Tamil 3D version was occupied. With roughly 27.12% occupancy, the 3D format continued to be the audience's favorite choice for the Hindi-dubbed version. Hindi 2D's occupancy rate was 21.14%. With an opening business of roughly 1.75 crore net, Mahavatar Narsimha received a chilly reception. The movie's earnings increased by roughly 162.86% by Saturday, earning ₹4.6 crore net. Mahavatar Narsimha became the highest-grossing Indian animated film, earning over ₹15 crore net in its first weekend.

## Pastel-hued lehenga enchants Janhvi Kapoor from Jayanti Reddy

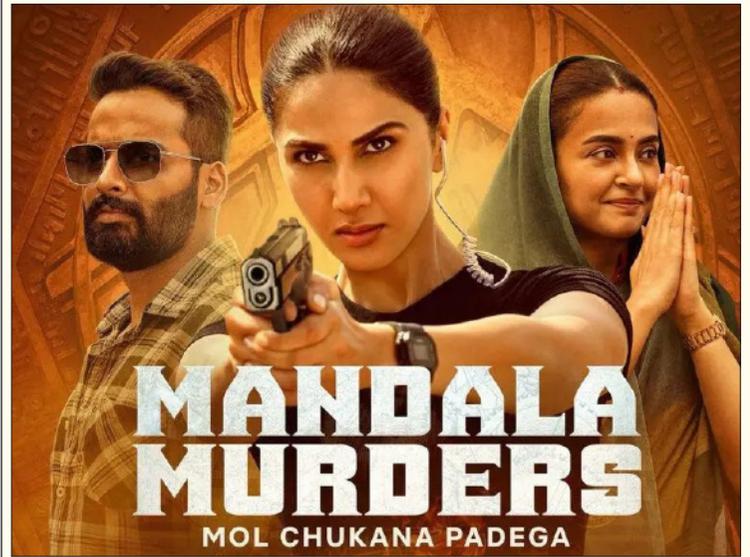
**Mumbai, July 29:** The 6th day of Hyundai India Couture Week 2025 is now taking place at the Taj Palace in New Delhi, Janhvi Kapoor just turned attention as she walked for the label Jayanti Reddy. The 28 year old looked great in gorgeous lehenga as she gracefully ended fashion show. "Loved walking for @jayantireddylabel" the caption accompanying some gorgeous photos from show that Dhadak actor posted on Instagram. In a delicate blush fish-cut lehenga that combined con-



temporary glitz with Indian culture, Janhvi Kapoor walked the catwalk. The ensemble included shirt with plunging sweetheart neckline and dazzling le-

henga in pastel hues. The pearl chain trimming on the cold-shoulder sleeves added a sense of refinement and a regal appearance.

## Mandala Murders: a string of ritualistic killings in the made-up town



**Pune, July 26:** Mandala Murders is film about detectives Rea Thomas & Vikram Singh investigating ritualistic murders in Charandasapur, a fictional town. The murders are linked to secret cult and a buried prophecy, creating a mix of mythology, mystery, and psychological mystery. The plot also includes a local politician, Ananya Bharadwaj, and Shriya Pilgaonkar as Rukmini, and other characters. Ugly is a film about a 10-year-old girl, Kali is kidnapped. The investigation uncovers the dark secrets of various characters, each with selfish motives, and explores how their actions affect the situation. Starring Ronit Roy, Rahul Bhat, and Tejasvini Kolhapure. Akhil Srivastava challenges law and order in Biechoo Ka Khel by killing renowned lawyer Anil Chaubey in order to exact revenge for the death of his father. He then embarks on a quest to discover the cause of his father's passing. There are many aspects of

mystery, intrigue, and revenge drama in the plot. Divyendu Sharma, Mukul Chaddha, Anshul Chauhan, Trishna Mukherjee, and others are among its stars. A Thursday is a film about a preschool teacher, Naina Jaiswal, who holds 16 students hostage. The film follows her confrontation with the police, demanding a meeting with the Prime Minister and threats to harm the children if not met. The movie explores Naina's motives and her actions, starring Yami Gautam and Atul Kulkarni. It is based on actual serial killings that occurred in Mumbai in the 1980s, when victims were stoned to death while they slept on the streets. The story revolves around Sanjay Shelar, a former police officer who surreptitiously looks into the killings. Inspector Kedar Phadke & police force clash over Freddy a story about Dr. Freddy Ginwala's obsession with Kainaaz Irani, fueled by past trauma and social discomfort.

## SRK's greatest romance in his lifetime is surpassed by the Ahaan Panday and Aneet Padda flick

**Mumbai, July 29:** Aneet Padda and Ahaan Panday have defeated the King of Romance with their first film, Saiyaara. The love drama surpassed the lifetime total of Chennai Express, the biggest romance film starring Shah Rukh Khan, according to Sacnilk.com. Saiyaara made over ₹30 crore at the box office on Sunday, making it another success. As a result, the film has now earned ₹247.25 crore at the Indian box office. Chennai Express, which was directed by Rohit Shetty, is Shah Rukh Khan's most popular romantic film. Its domestic earnings throughout its weeks-long run came to ₹227 crore. Of course, reaching this amount over 12 years ago is no small accomplishment, but Saiyaara is also probably going to record a much higher amount by the end of its run. Film trade specialist Taran Adarsh provided an update on Saiyaara's box office performance



on Twitter on Saturday. "SPLENDID SATURDAY: 'SAIYAARA' CONTINUES TO BE A POWERFUL POWER... #After surpassing ₹200

cr on its second Saturday [Day 9], Saiyaara is now aiming for the ₹300 cr milestone as it continues its successful run. The finest part is about to begin: A rare achievement in the modern era, #Saiyaara's \*second\* Saturday is HIGHER than its \*first\* Saturday. This blockbuster simply cannot be stopped! #Saiyaara Sat. 27 cr, Fri. 18.50 cr. The sum is ₹220.75 cr. The film, which was directed by Mohit Suri, chronicles the journey of a young couple—a singer and a lyricist—through love, heartache, loss, and success. The crowd has responded well to the musical love story, which stars debutant Ahaan Panday opposite Aneet Padda. Feeling overwhelmed by the love, Ahaan Panday thanked everyone for their support in a special post. He posted on Instagram, "One week of Saiyaara, thank you for the love," as the song's one-week release came to an end.

## Muthoot Microfin enters Assam, boosts financial inclusion in Northeast

Guwahati, July 31: Muthoot Microfin, India's second-largest NBFC-MFI, has announced its strategic entry into the Northeast with the launch of its first branch in Assam. The company inaugurated its debut branch in Mirza, Guwahati on July 29, marking



its presence in 21 states and union territories across India. The newly launched Guwahati branch is strategically positioned to serve both the city's urban population and surrounding rural communities. With this move, Muthoot Microfin aims to expand access to rural credit, strengthen the local financial ecosystem, and promote inclusive growth in the region. Assam, with its vibrant micro-enterprise culture and strong base of women-led businesses, presents a promising market for microfinance. Commenting on this development Sadaf Sayeed, CEO, Muthoot Microfin, said, "Assam represents more than a new

market, it reflects the entrepreneurial resilience and untapped potential of India's Northeast. Our presence here is rooted in our commitment to bridging financial access gaps, and promoting responsible credit practices. As a company that serves millions across rural India, we understand the importance of tailoring our approach to regional needs, and we are committed to working closely with local communities to create lasting value."

In Guwahati, the expansion is expected to significantly enhance financial services for underserved segments, especially women entrepreneurs. Local stakeholders have welcomed the move as a step towards greater economic participation and self-reliance. Muthoot Microfin's entry into Assam will also include financial literacy initiatives and capacity-building efforts, furthering its mission of empowering women and fostering sustainable, grassroots entrepreneurship across rural India.

## Made-in-India Nissan Magnite secures GNCAP 5-star safety rating, sets new benchmark in passenger protection

Gurugram, July 31: The Made-in-India New Nissan Magnite has achieved a significant milestone by securing a 5-star overall passenger safety rating from the Global New Car Assessment Programme (GNCAP). The right-hand drive (RHD) version, manufactured at Nissan's Chennai facility, scored a perfect 5-star for Adult Occupant Protection (AOP) and 3-star for Child Occupant Protection (COP), making it one of the safest SUVs in India and South Africa. Built on the



enhanced CMF-A+ platform, the Magnite features over 40 standard safety

elements including six airbags, ABS with EBD, electronic stability control, traction control, and hydraulic brake assist. Its body structure incorporates 67% high tensile strength steel, further enhancing its crash resistance. Commenting on the achievement, Nissan Motor India Managing Director Saurobh Vatsa said, "This rating reflects our commitment to providing secure and technologically advanced vehicles, aligned with our 'One Car, One World' strategy."

## Vi launches 'Vi Finance' to simplify loans, FDs and credit cards via Vi app

Mumbai, July 31: Telecom giant Vi (Vodafone Idea) has launched Vi Finance, a new digital platform within the Vi App, offering seamless access to personal loans, fixed deposits, and credit cards. The service has been rolled out in collaboration with Aditya Birla Capital, Upswing Financial Technologies, and Credilio to address customers' evolving financial needs. The initiative marks Vi's foray into the digital finance ecosystem, transforming the Vi App into a one-stop solution for lifestyle and financial services.

With a fully digital, paperless process, users can secure personal loans from ₹50,000, book FDs with interest up to 8.4%, and apply for credit



cards from top banks—all with minimal documentation. Avneesh Khosla, CMO, Vi said, "At Vi, we are committed to bringing convenience to our customers' lives through digital solutions. By making financial solutions easy, quick, and accessible within the Vi App with Vi Finance, we are enabling customers to take control of their finances without the

usual complexities. Our partnerships with trusted financial institutions ensure that every customer can find the right product for their needs. We believe this digital-first, paperless approach will simplify how millions of Indians manage their finances." In Guwahati, where smartphone penetration is rapidly rising, Vi Finance is expected to gain strong traction among digitally savvy youth and small business owners.

With growing interest in hassle-free digital banking and investment tools, the new platform offers much-needed flexibility and speed for Assam's urban consumers. Vi Finance is now live on the Vi App, available on both Android and iOS platforms.

## Cognizant raises forecast for full year growth

Mumbai, July 31: Strong deal bookings throughout the quarter helped Nasdaq-listed information technology company Cognizant surpass Street forecasts for its Q2 revenue, which increased 8.1% year over year to \$5.25 billion. Revenue grew on-year for the fourth consecutive quarter. In constant currency, the New Jersey-based company's revenues increased by 7.2% was much better than its second-quarter target band of 5 to 6.5%. The quarter's net profit increased from \$566 million to \$645 million, a 14 percent year-over-year rise. The business reports its financials according to the calendar year.

## IndiaSkills 2025 registration opens, paves way for nation's top young talent

Guwahati, July 31: India's largest skill development platform, India invites young aspirants from across India to compete in 63 skill categories

can register online through the Skill India Digital Hub (SIDH) portal by September 30, 2025. Eligible Indian nationals aged 16–25 can apply for one skill only, with specific age relaxations for advanced technologies like Cyber Security and Mechatronics.

The competition will follow a rigorous two-track selection process—State-level contests by State Skill Development Missions (SSDMs) and skill-specific contests by Sector Skill Councils (SSCs). Top performers from these will move to regional rounds across five zones, followed by boot camps and the final national showdown. In Guwahati, Assam-based institutions and skilling hubs are expected to actively mobilize youth participation, especially in Northeast-specific trades.

This presents a unique opportunity for the region's skilled workforce to gain national and global recognition, fostering job-ready talent in key local industries.

## Oil stocks suffer the most, Sensex drops 500 points & the Nifty falls 0.6%

New Delhi, July 31: Hours after US President Donald Trump slapped a 25% duty on Indian goods and an unidentified penalty, Indian stock markets fell sharply on Thursday morning. Early trading saw the Sensex drop 500 points, ending the day at 80,975. The Nifty 50, however, dropped more than 150 points (-0.60%) to close at 24,704. Investors lost ₹5 lakh crore in just 15 minutes, and all sectors stayed in the red throughout early trading. The worst-hit oil stocks saw a 3.12% decline in IOCL and a 2.42 percent decline in BPCL.

The largest laggards among the Sensex stocks were Reliance Industries, Tata Motors, Mahindra & Mahindra, Bharti Airtel, Titan, and State Bank of India. Hours after US President Donald Trump declared a 25% duty on Indian goods, the most recent decline occurred. Information from the market shows that on Wednesday, FIIs sold off stocks valued at ₹850.04 crore. Experts predict that industries that are among the major exports to the US, such as textiles, medicines, and automobile components, will be affected.



IndiaSkills Competition (ISC) 2025, officially kicked off as the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) opened registrations today. The biennial event

sets the stage to represent the nation at WorldSkills 2026—the world's biggest vocational skills competition. Participants from all 36 states and union terri-

## Tata AIA tops India in MDRT rankings for 3rd year, rises to 4th globally

**Aizawl, July 31:** Tata AIA Life Insurance has once again secured the top spot in India for the highest number of Million Dollar Round Table (MDRT) members, achieving this milestone for the third consecutive year. The company has also climbed to the 4th position globally, up from 6th last year, with a record 2,871 MDRT-qualified advisors — an 11% increase from 2024. Notably, Tata AIA also ranked 7th worldwide for women MDRT members, with 1,343 female advisors — an 8.5% rise — reflecting the company's strong focus on gender inclusion and diversity in the financial advisory sector. The MDRT qualification is globally recognized as the gold standard in financial advisory services. Tata AIA's continued dominance showcases its commitment to offering expert financial guidance, underpinned by its



Premier Agency model and extensive digital training support. In Aizawl, this growth signals greater access to high-quality financial advice for local consumers. With financial literacy gaining ground in Mizoram, the presence of MDRT-standard advisors is expected to boost consumer confidence and long-term investment planning across the region. Amit Dave, Chief Distribution Officer at Tata AIA, said, "This recognition reflects our advisors' commitment and the trust consumers place in our services."

## Deepika Padukone leads Dyson's new campaign to champion smart, damage-free styling for all hair types

**Shillong, July 31:** Dyson India has launched its latest campaign, 'The Difference is Dyson', featuring Bollywood icon and Dyson Beauty brand ambassador Deepika Padukone. The campaign underscores Dyson's commitment to hair health by showcasing innovative styling solutions that cater to all hair types without heat damage. Speaking on the initiative, Ankit Jain, Managing Director of Dyson India, said, "The campaign embraces individuality and highlights Dyson's tech-first approach to styling without compromising hair health." The film, developed



in partnership with Hogarth,

follows Deepika's diverse styling journey—from sleek to curls—demonstrating the versatility and performance of Dyson's hair tools. Deepika Padukone emphasized, "Beauty lies in embracing individuality. Dyson's products deliver real results across hair types, preserving shine and care." Dyson's beauty portfolio includes the Dyson Airwrap i.d. multi-styler, Dyson Airstrait straightener, and the Dyson Supersonic Nural hair dryer—all designed to style effectively without heat damage. The campaign is now live across media platforms nationwide.

## The rupee hits its lowest level since mid March

**Mumbai, July 31:** Following US President Trump's suggestion that India would be subject to tariffs ranging from 20 to 25 percent as part of ongoing trade negotiations, the rupee fell to a four-month low at opening and continued to decline on July 30, falling to 87.44 per dollar, or 0.7 percent. The Rupee has been losing ground throughout the session since opening at 87.12 versus the US dollar. The last time the euro broke through the 87-mark at the open was on March 13, 2025, according to data from Bloomberg. Responding to a question on whether the United States would impose tariffs between 20-25 percent on India, Trump said, "Yeah, I think so. They (India) are my friend and he is my friend," adding that the trade deal had not been finalised. Trump's stated tariff rate is lower than what several Asian peers have agreed with the US, but it is greater than what has been offered to the UK, EU, and Japan.

## TVS unveils marvel-inspired NTORQ 125 'Super Soldier Edition' for GenZ riders

**Guwahati, July 31:** TVS Motor Company has launched the TVS NTORQ 125 Super Soldier Edition, which features a bold



edition features a bold camo theme designed to resonate with GenZ consumers. Building on the success of its collaboration with Marvel, TVS continues to reimagine fan-favourite superheroes through stylish and high-performance scooters. The refreshed Super Soldier Edition enhances the TVS NTORQ's dynamic appeal with striking graphics, blending superhero flair with sporty aesthetics. India's first Bluetooth-connected SMART scooter, the TVS NTORQ 125 is powered by SmartXonnect™ and has earned popularity for its performance and tech-savvy features. Priced at Rs. 98,117 (ex-showroom Delhi), the new edition is now available at TVS dealerships nationwide. In Guwahati, where demand for stylish, feature-rich two-wheelers is steadily growing among young professionals and college-goers, the new NTORQ variant is expected to make a strong impact. Local dealers anticipate high footfall, citing the city's affinity for uniquely designed scooters that balance performance with personality.

## Sony unveils 98-inch BRAVIA 5 in India, targets high-end home cinema market



**Guwahati, July 31:** Sony India has launched its biggest-ever television, the 249 cm (98-inch) BRAVIA 5 mini-LED, promising a premium "Cinema is Coming Home" experience. Priced at ₹6,49,990, the model (K-98XR55A) is available from July 23 onwards, with launch offers including a ₹25,000 cashback on select cards and a fixed EMI option of ₹19,995. The BRAVIA 5 features Sony's Advanced AI Processor XR and XR Backlight Master Drive, enhancing realism with brighter highlights, deeper blacks, and immersive textures. Dolby Vision and Atmos further enrich the viewing and sound experience, transforming homes into private theatres. With Studio Calibrated Mode, Netflix Adaptive Cali-

brated Mode, and a new Prime Video Calibrated Mode, the TV aligns with the creator's vision for both films and live sports. Sony Pictures Core also grants access to a rich catalog of 4K Blu-ray-quality content, including IMAX Enhanced titles. In Guwahati, the premium segment of the television market is witnessing increasing demand from affluent consumers and high-end hospitality sectors.

Retailers expect strong traction for the BRAVIA 5, with luxury-conscious buyers viewing it as an investment in a superior home entertainment upgrade.

The product is available across Sony Centers, www.ShopatSC.com, leading outlets, and major e-commerce platforms.

## Microsoft restores services to Nayara Energy in order to avoid legal action

**New Delhi, July 31:** After the oil and gas company, which is backed by Rosneft, took the software and data services giant to court, Microsoft announced on Wednesday that it has restored services to Nayara Energy. In a statement, the US-headquartered company said "Microsoft is committed to supporting all its customers in India and worldwide, and has restored services for Nayara Energy. We are engaged in ongoing discussions with the European Union towards service continuity for the organization." Nayara Energy filed lawsuits against Microsoft

on Monday after the oil and gas giant claims that the data services provider's "abrupt and unilateral suspension" of vital services is a "unilateral interpretation" of EU sanctions. Despite acquiring its own data, proprietary tools, and technologies under fully paid-up licenses, Nayara accused Microsoft of limiting its access to them. A 49.13 percent share in Nayara Energy is owned by Rosneft. It further stated that these actions are intended to avoid any possible interference with Nayara's capacity to fulfill its commitments to Indian stakeholders and customers.

## Tata AIA registers 50 MDRT-qualified Advisors in Assam, strengthens financial advisory reach

**Guwahati, July 31:** Tata AIA Life Insurance has reaffirmed its leadership in financial advisory excellence by registering 50 Million Dollar Round Table (MDRT)-qualified advisors in Assam, including 2 MDRTs, 6 Court of the Table (COT), and 1 Top of the Table (TOT) qualifiers. This regional achievement reflects the company's growing footprint in the Northeast, highlighting the strong demand for quality financial guidance. Nationally, Tata AIA re-

corded 2,871 MDRT qualifiers, achieving an 11% year-on-year growth and retaining its position as India's No. 1 life insurer in MDRT rankings for the third consecutive year. Globally, the company climbed to 4th place from 6th. With 1,343 women among its MDRT advisors, Tata AIA also ranked 7th worldwide in female membership, showcasing its commitment to diversity and inclusion. Guwahati has responded positively to this strengthened advisory

network. With consumers increasingly seeking trustworthy financial advice for long-term planning, Tata AIA's elite advisors are enabling residents to make informed decisions on life insurance, retirement, and investment strategies. "This milestone is a testament to our Premier Agency model and our advisors' dedication," said Amit Dave, Chief Distribution Officer, Tata AIA. "It reflects the trust consumers place in us for delivering world-class financial advice."

**SAP, IIMA ventures launch 'North East Growth Labs' to boost 75 social enterprises in Northeast**

**Guwahati, July 31:** SAP and IIMA Ventures have jointly launched the North East Growth Labs (NEGL), a major initiative aimed at supporting 75 social enterprises across India's eight Northeastern states. The program focuses on strengthening ventures in agri-tech, education, and healthcare with a blend of catalytic funding, mentorship, and market access. The NEGL initiative, announced on July 30, leverages SAP's Social Procurement framework and IIMA Ventures' incubation model to foster inclusive development, climate resilience, and job creation in underserved regions. The effort is expected to support over 3,000 livelihoods and promote climate-positive growth. "The North East Growth Labs strengthens our commitment to sustainable and inclusive growth," said

Manish Prasad, President and MD, SAP Indian Subcontinent, highlighting their mission to blend technology with grassroots impact. Chintan Bakshi of IIMA Ventures called the initiative "a bold regional platform" to empower innovative entrepreneurs in the Northeast. The program began with a bootcamp in Guwahati, offering hands-on sessions in AI, B2B strategies, and sector-specific scaling. Local startups like Dream Hives, Chezfresco, and Pustikor Foods are part of the new cohort, showcasing Guwahati's emergence as a vital hub for social enterprise. The city's growing ecosystem is becoming a magnet for investors and innovation in the Northeast. NEGL builds upon the earlier Assam Agribusiness Growth Lab and significantly expands its scope.

**JICA and Assam government empower women in sports with leadership and coaching programme**

**Guwahati, July 31:** The Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), in collaboration with the Department of Sports & Youth Welfare, Government of Assam, concluded the "JICA-Assam Women's Leadership & Coaching Empowerment Programme" at the Arjuna Bhogeswar Baruah Sports Complex, Sarusajai, Guwahati, on Tuesday. The week-long workshop (July 23-30) trained around 60 women coaches, athletes, and aspiring leaders from across Assam. Focused on the



theme "Building a Kaizen Culture," the programme aimed to instil leadership, inclusive coaching practices, and continuous improvement (Kaizen) in sports education. The modules—"Seeds of Leadership" and "Seeds

of Change"—emphasised athlete-centered, value-driven coaching and leadership skills. In Guwahati's growing sports ecosystem, this initiative marks a strategic step in creating a pipeline of empowered women mentors

and coaches. It is expected to inspire deeper community engagement and attract more women to leadership roles, contributing to a balanced gender landscape in sports. Led by Dr. Masamitsu Ito from Japan's NSSU Coach Developer Academy, the sessions provided participants with hands-on mentorship and global best practices. JICA India Chief Representative TAKEUCHI Takuro praised the effort as a catalyst for sustainable cultural transformation and empowerment in Indian sports.

**Medanta Hospital flags surge in paediatric respiratory illnesses at Guwahati CME**

**Guwahati, July 31:** Medanta Hospital, in collaboration

of managing paediatric viral infections that have recently

surged nationwide. Dr Khilnani highlighted the ABCDE approach—Airway, Breathing, Circulation, Disability, and Exposure—as a foundational method in emergency care. He stressed that a mother's or caregiver's insight into the child's condition often holds vital diagnostic clues. Dr Uttam, leading a panel discussion on "Recent Surge of Viral and Atypical Pneumonia in India," underscored the impact of infections like mycoplasma pneumonia, RSV, and influenza among children under five. He attributed the seasonal spike in cases to monsoon-related respiratory stress, calling for stronger vaccination and nutritional support. In Guwahati, paediatric clinics and hospitals have reported increased footfall of young patients with respiratory symptoms. Healthcare providers are stocking up on child-friendly nebulizers, antibiotics, and antivirals, with a noticeable uptick in preventive care awareness among parents. Local experts Dr Devajit Sarma, Dr Nayanmoni Dekka, and Dr Diganta Barman also joined the discussion, echoing the need for regional preparedness.



with the Indian Academy of Pediatrics (IAP) Guwahati City Branch and IAP Intensive Care Chapter, Assam, organized a Continuing Medical Education (CME) program in Guwahati to raise awareness on paediatric critical care, with a strong focus on respiratory illnesses. The event was spearheaded by Dr Praveen Khilnani and Dr Rajiv Uttam from Medanta, Gurugram, who emphasized the urgency

of managing paediatric viral infections that have recently surged nationwide. Dr Khilnani highlighted the ABCDE approach—Airway, Breathing, Circulation, Disability, and Exposure—as a foundational method in emergency care. He stressed that a mother's or caregiver's insight into the child's condition often holds vital diagnostic clues. Dr Uttam, leading a panel discussion on "Recent Surge of Viral and Atypical Pneumonia in India," underscored the

**Shopsy turns 4, surpasses 450M downloads, deepens reach into tier 4+ cities**

**Bengaluru, July 31:** Shopsy by Flipkart marked its fourth anniversary with a major milestone—crossing 450 million downloads and expanding delivery to over 19,000 pin codes across India. The platform, built for value-conscious shoppers, added 11.5 million new users this year, many from Tier 4+ regions such as Bhagalpur, Medinipur, Dunda, and Rajnagar, underscoring its growing rural footprint. With over 16 million products across 1,300+ categories, Shopsy continues to strengthen its "Bharat-first" selection strategy by curating regional catalogs that reflect hyperlocal needs and trends. Demand surged in kidswear (up 150%) and large appliances (up 20%), while the



Grand Shopsy Mela and End of Season Sales turned into digital-first family shopping events. As it enters its fifth year, Shopsy aims to serve every serviceable pin code, further supporting 1.4 million sellers nationwide and enhancing its appeal as a lightweight, AI-driven, mobile-first platform tailored for India's deep heartlands.

**Rate & tax cuts support India's 6.5% growth**

**New Delhi, July 31:** A reduced interest rate regime, income tax cuts, & a probable rise in urban demand will all help India's economy develop by about 6.5% in 2025-2026. The central bank may lower the policy rate by an additional 25 to 50 basis points, partner & leader, economic consulting, and Manoranjan Pattanayak, partner, economics and public policy at PwC, since retail inflation is expected to stay below the RBI's target of 3.7% for FY26. "Urban demand has been positively impacted, and is being supported by income tax cuts," Banerjee said. "I believe that Q2FY26 numbers for corporates will be much better than Q1," he said.

**Park Avenue unveils 4X premium perfume spray, eyes stronger hold in deodorant market**

**Guwahati, July 31:** Park Avenue Fragrances, a prominent brand under Godrej Consumer Products Ltd (GCPL), has launched "Amazon Woods," a 4X Premium Perfume Spray, marking a bold expansion in India's ₹2,800 crore deodorant market. With a renewed focus on high-performance yet affordable grooming products, the brand is targeting style-conscious men seeking long-lasting fragrances at deodorant price points. Priced at ₹225, Amazon Woods offers four times the perfume concentration per spray, combining citrus top notes with spicy and woody undertones. This launch redefines category expectations with its enhanced olfactory depth and premium packaging, supported by a new TVC featuring actor Ishaan Khatter. In Guwahati, a fast-evolving FMCG market, local retailers view Amazon Woods as a potential bestseller. The city has seen a steady rise in demand for premium grooming products that are both affordable and high-performing. With its 4X perfume concentration and attractive pricing, Amazon Woods is well-positioned to cater to this demand. Retailers in areas like Ganeshguri and Beltola expect the product to perform well among customers who seek sophisticated fragrances without stretching their budgets. The brand's strong recall and revamped packaging are also likely to drive impulse purchases at point-of-sale. "Consumers in the fragrance category seek exceptional scents that



truly last. Inspired by this key insight, we're excited to introduce Amazon Woods – the newest addition to the Park Avenue range. It's a beloved fragrance known for its long-lasting

performance, all at a price that's remarkably affordable "said, Neeraj Senguttuvan, Head of Marketing – Personal Care, Godrej Consumer Products Limited (GCPL).

# This Japanese city is for people seeking love

The romance of air travel still exists. At least that's the impression when you land at Japan's auspiciously named Izumo Enmusubi Airport. Translating roughly to "the tying of bonds", or, more popularly, "matchmaking", the word enmusubi encompasses many of the relationships that are part of life, such as those with family, friends and work, but most often references romantic entanglements. This connotation is in the air as you step off the plane and walk past a statue known as the "great matchmaking power" & a rack of ema inscribed with travellers' romantic wishes. It may seem like travellers here have love on the mind, and that's because if you pray for love in Izumo, there's a good chance you'll be heard. Lying along the Sea of Japan in Shimane, the second-least populated of Japan's prefectures and, in 2023, the least-visited, Izumo is far off the Shinkansen bullet train track, making it one of the few cities in Japan that is easier to fly into. The city is home to Izumo Taisha, thought to be the country's oldest shrine and dedicated to Okuninushi is worshipped as the creator of Japan and the god of enmusubi in Japan's indigenous Shinto religion. "He is the god who governs things that cannot be seen by humans", such as fate, explained local guide Minori Maeda, "You could say he is the god of matchmaking. He brings people together; he has tremendous power." That's why Izumo Taisha has become popularly known as one of Japan's "power spots", a term that emerged in the 1990s to describe places, usually surrounded by nature, that are said to possess special powers to generate good luck, better health or, in this case, love. More than seven million people visited the shrine in 2023, according to Izumo City, including around 350 couples



who got married there. Certainly not everyone who visits Izumo does so in pursuit of love, but the number of matchmaking-related activities here suggest a fair number do. With this in mind, tourism boards have compiled sightseeing itineraries focused on romantic spots in Izumo and the wider San'in region, from Yaegaki Shrine where a pond forecasts the outcome of relationships, to a pleasure boat whose bronze "matchmaking bell" summons the gods and even a train station painted pink and adorned with hearts. Less widely promoted is Izumo's Umi Shrine, which people visit to pray for enriki, the severing of ties, the other side of the enmusubi coin. Set on an often tempestuous sea and a place of sunsets so stunning that they are certified by Japan Heritage as an important cultural property, Izumo is romantic by nature. But nowhere exerts such a mighty pull as Izumo Taisha. Singles visit to ask Okuninushi to find them a partner, while couples ask him to bless their relationship. Many write their wishes on an ema in the faith that they will reach Okuninushi directly. Some, perhaps seeking a larger audience, time their trip to the 10th month of Japan's old lunar calendar, because that's when Japan's eight million kami travel from all around the country to gather in the

city. Throughout Japan, this month is



known as Kan-na-dzuki, but in Izumo it's called Kami-ari-dzuki. The reason for this seaside gathering is that the gods have a job to do: they are there to decide the fate of humans' relationships in the coming year. The seven-day gathering of the gods is a spectacle in its own right. It begins on the beach at Inasa-no-Hama with a ceremony welcoming the kami to Izumo. Just after sunset, bonfires are lit and shrine priests escort the kami to Izumo Taisha, shielding them from the gathered public's view with white sheets. The kami also enjoy feasts and lots of sake offered up by local brewers. A handful of those eight million kami enjoy the local sake a little too

enthusiastically and hang around well beyond their official departure date. "There's a goddess who is known for her persuasiveness," Maeda said. "She eventually has to perform a ceremony telling them that they have to go home." I visited Izumo a few days after the kamis' departure in late November last year. I hadn't arrived looking for love, rather to sip sake in the place said to be its spiritual birthplace and explore the rugged coastline's cliffs and caves. But, still, I felt compelled to visit Izumo Taisha. Approaching the altar under a huge shimenawa, I dropped 5 yen

Japanese, go en is a homophone with go-en, the respectful way to refer to "en". Then I clapped four times, twice for myself and twice for my partner, the custom distinct from other Shinto shrines where worshippers clap just twice. After silently making my own wish, I browsed the amulets on sale. Maeda said the red-and-white amulet is particularly well known, "for bringing people together in love". Then I peeked at some of the handwritten wishes inscribed on the ema hanging along the shrine's pathways. "It's said that writing your wishes on an ema will ensure that reach the gods directly," said Maeda. Some of those written wishes asked to simply find love, others were more specific, requesting to "get married within three years". The eagerness of visitors' desire to get married felt like a counterpoint to Japan's much-publicised plummeting marriage rates. In the same month that I visited Izumo, the Tokyo gov't, in an effort to nudge residents towards marriage and stem the city's falling birthrate, launched a matchmaking app, aptly named Tokyo Enmusubi. But I'd just read of travel trends suggesting that people tired of looking for love online. "Whether they believe or not is beside the point," said

coin into the offering box – five yen



is thought to be good luck because in Tokyo-based author Hiroko Yoda.

# Mesmarising Nepal's beauty and culture will astound you

Trek to Annapurna Base Camp, traveled to the Mustang district, followed by Pokhara and Kathmandu. The country is synonymous with Mount Everest or Sagarmatha in Nepalese, meaning "The Head in The Sky." From volunteering at a Tea Farm, College to exploring Kathmandu Valley, Pokhara, and Mustang District to doing Annapurna Base Camp Trek, there you can get many unforgettable experiences. Following the conclusion of voluntary work at the college in Nepal's far west. Took a 19-hour bus ride to get to Pokhara. Between the Annapurna Base Camp journey and the Everest Base Camp expedition, choose to



complete the Annapurna Base Camp trek. In less time, complete the ABC trip. Visited various regions of Nepal over a month-long trip. This post describes volunteer experiences in Nepal at two very different places of employment and geographical locations: a tea picker at a tea plantation in the hilly area and a guest lecturer at

a college in the lowland area. It was an excellent educational opportunity. Following four-month adventure to Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, Ladakh, and Kashmir last year, returned to the Indian Himalayas after spending few months exploring and helping in Tamil Nadu. Traveled across Uttarakhand's Kumaon Region. 2 administrative divisions of Uttarakhand are Garhwal and Kumaon. Visited Uttarakhand's Garhwal region last year. got back on the road at the start of February with the intention of concentrating on volunteer travel and learning new skills. In South India, luck would be on your side.



# Enjoy the warmth with Asian Noodle Soups during the Monsoon

Noodles to soups during monsoon can make them more enjoyable & palatable. Enjoy warm bowl of noodle soup listening to rain and enjoying the soothing atmosphere. Popular Asian noodle soup delicacies to try include variety of options.

**Vietnamese Pho:** Traditional Vietnamese dish flavorful yet not heavy. The star anise, cloves, onion, herbs & other healthful ingredients are cooked in this aromatic soup. Thin pieces of chicken melt in your lips while the rice noodles in pho smooth & slick. There are several varieties of pho & it's worthwhile to try them all.



**Japanese Ramen:** Ramen is comfort food in a bowl it's rich, slurpable & bursting with umami. Shoyu,

tute vegetarian protein for the meat in thukpa. Because the hand-pulled noodles absorb all of the flavor, this meal is just delicious. It has the ideal kick to combat the damp cold thanks to dash of chilli paste.

**Malaysian Laksa:** There are various variations of this Malaysian noodle soup. A well-liked one has a tangle



of rice noodles, creamy coconut milk, and spicy curry paste. It is a protein-rich treat that is frequently topped with beans, eggs, and tofu or chicken.

Choose laksa if you're looking for a tasty and reasonably healthy noodle soup.

**Thai Khao Soi:** Despite some resemblance, this one is not to be confused with Burmese Khao Suey. Thailand's northern hills are the origin of Khao Soi. This curry noodle soup, which is hot and contains coconut, is perfectly creamy.

The dish gains a nice texture from the egg noodles. It's ideal for rainy weather because the heat warms you from the inside out.

blues are making you feel lethargic. **Tibetan Thukpa:** This rustic Himalayan noodle soup has chunky vegetables, chicken meat & clear broth. You have the option to substi-

# Hariyali popular Teej among hindus served with a thali

Hariyali Teej is a significant Hindu festival celebrated by married women in North India, marking the divine union of Lord

Shiva & Goddess Parvati. The festival is observed across states and is set to be celebrated in 2025. Hariyali Teej, celebrated on the Shukla Paksha Tritiya in Shravan, commemorates the union of Lord Shiva and Goddess Parvati, while Hartalika Teej, observed a month later on Bhadrapada Shukla Tritiya, commemorates Goddess Parvati's penance, with unmarried girls fasting for ideal husbands & married women praying for their husbands' longevity. Hariyali Teej is celebrated with fervor and vibrancy, much like majority of Indian holidays. Predominant theme green; women apply elaborate mehndi designs to their hands wear green clothing & adorn their wrists with green bangles. Traditional singing & dancing take place on decorated swings. Celebratory assortment of presents, bangles & candies known as "Sindh-



Shiva & Goddess Parvati. The festival is observed across states and is set to be celebrated in 2025. Hariyali Teej, celebrated on the Shukla Paksha Tritiya in Shravan, commemorates the union of Lord Shiva and Goddess Parvati, while Hartalika Teej, observed a month later on Bhadrapada Shukla Tritiya, commemorates Goddess Parvati's penance, with unmarried girls fasting for ideal husbands & married women praying for their husbands' longevity. Hariyali Teej is celebrated with fervor and vibrancy, much like majority of Indian holidays. Predominant theme green; women apply elaborate mehndi designs to their hands wear green clothing & adorn their wrists with green bangles. Traditional singing & dancing take place on decorated swings. Celebratory assortment of presents, bangles & candies known as "Sindh-



# Dessert recipes to make siblings happy on Raksha Bandhan

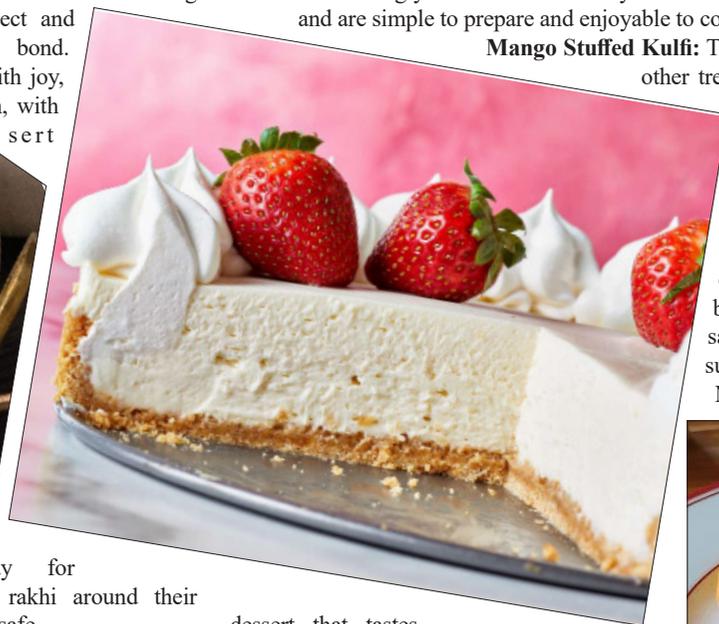
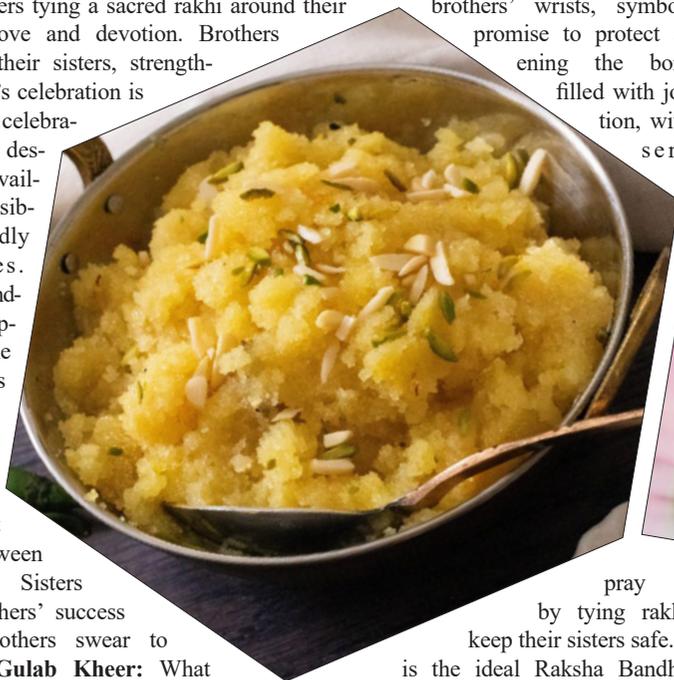
Raksha Bandhan is a festival celebrating the unbreakable bond between siblings, with sisters tying a sacred rakhi around their brothers' wrists, symbolizing love and devotion. Brothers promise to protect and care for their sisters, strengthening the bond. This year's celebration is filled with joy, love, and celebration, with exciting dessert recipes available for sibling-friendly activities. Raksha Bandhan represents the strong ties of love, compassion, and protection that exist between siblings. Sisters pray for their brothers' success by tying rakhi around their wrists brothers swear to keep their sisters safe.

conut ladoos! Grated coconut and a touch of cardamom combine to create these little sweets, which are ideal for sating your sweet tooth. They're a wonderful way to commemorate Raksha Bandhan and are simple to prepare and enjoyable to consume.

**Mango Stuffed Kulfi:** This three-ingredient mango-stuffed kulfi is another treat you may prepare for your sibling. Mango sweetness and the excitement of a surprise filling combine to create this creamy, cool treat. It is ideal for joyful gatherings and hot summer days.

**Sooji Besan Halwa:** Warm up your Raksha Bandhan festivities with sooji besan halwa's comforting sweetness! Made with sooji and besan, this traditional Indian dish is ideal for sating your sweet taste. A traditional treat that is sure to make your sibling happy.

**No-Bake Cheesecake:** Are you looking for a



**Malai Gulab Kheer:** What is the ideal Raksha Bandhan celebration? Naturally, with a rich and creamy Malai gulab ki kheer! The richness of gulab and the tenderness of malai are combined to create this traditional delicacy. This traditional Indian dessert is sure to please.

**Fudgy Chocolate Brownies:** For chocolate aficionados, these fudgy chocolate brownies are perfect treat. They are rich, decadent & completely irresistible and your sibling is sure to love them.

**Andhra-Style Coconut Ladoo:** Prepare to be enchanted by the deliciousness of Andhra-style co-

dessert that tastes as good as it looks? This overnight no-bake cheesecake is the answer! It's the ideal way to finish a meal because of its crispy foundation and creamy filling. These desserts will give your Raksha Bandhan celebrations a delectable touch, regardless of whether you're a foodie or just seeking some ideas.

## WWE rematch between John Cena & Cody Rhodes at WrestleMania

**Mumbai:** WWE's Creative Head, Triple H, has been criticized for not bringing The Rock back to the ring, despite his numer-

ous wins. Fans believe he could fix this mistake by bringing The Rock back to the ring. This issue began during the Cody Rhodes vs John Cena saga at WrestleMania, where The Rock's absence was evident.

Instead, Travis Scott entered the main event of the Grandest Stage of Them All. This highlights the need for WWE to address this issue in the future. The Rock's appearance in the Cody Rhodes vs. John Cena WrestleMania re-



match for the Undisputed WWE Championship in a Street Fight at SummerSlam on Friday, July 25, would be much anticipated by the public.

It might make for an intriguing turn of events if The Rock betrays John Cena and causes him to lose the match. There is currently no unambiguous sign or hint that The

Rock will be going back into the ring. The Rock is not expected to rejoin the organization anytime soon according to a recent update from BodySlam.net. He can do so whenever he wants to because he a member of the TKO Board of Directors.

## LeBron James accused of using steroids; the details of his back ailment dispute

**New delhi:** One athlete who will live on in legend as long as his name is associated with his sport is LeBron James. The Future Hall of Fame hero has, however, experienced several setbacks. The most notable of them was in 2014-15, when there were rumors that the player had missed two weeks of action because of steroid use rather than a publicly reported back ailment. When former Hawks guard Jeff Teague recently brought up the charges in a podcast appearance, they created quite a stir, even though they were never fully confirmed to be true. James missed two weeks of games during the 2014-15 season with the Cleveland Cavaliers due to a disc issue. He missed 13 games, a career-high record.



ESPN's Brian Windhorst claimed James wasn't being himself due to his back, leading to speculation that he had been using steroids. Teague recently claimed James had been using steroids. James made a steady run to the Finals that year. Teague

confirmed that he was on steroids and had to sit out for three weeks due to back pain. Mayo Clinic website states that HGH can boost muscle mass and lower body fat in healthy older adults, but it's unclear if it also provides other benefits.

## Another incredible tale of teenage chess written by Divya Deshmukh for India

**New Delhi:** A teenage Indian IM entered the 2025 FIDE Wom-

Batumi, Georgia, a GM title that was expedited, and a lot of happy



en's World Cup as the 15th seed and had no GM norm in a galaxy of GMs & female chess legends. That Nagpur teenager left with the title of World Cup champion in

tears. It makes sense that Divya Deshmukh told FIDE, breathlessly, "I need time to process it," just after securing her victory & embracing her equally ecstatic

mother. 19-year-old Divya, the first Indian woman to become GM, beat Koneru Humpy in a tie-break final. She became the youngest Indian and youngest to win a Women's World Cup championship, earning \$50,000 and a spot in the 2026 Women's Candidates. Divya bypassed the usual GM norms and 2500 rating route. India's 88th Grandmaster and fourth woman, Divya, expressed her emotional reaction to receiving the title, stating it was a fateful decision. Indian chess has seen impressive achievements, including D Gukesh becoming world champion at 18, winning Olympiad titles, Humpy reclaiming her rapid crown at 37, and Divya's unlikely success.

## Australia completes clean sweep of T20 series & ends undefeated

**Agency:** Australia secured a series sweep in St Kitts after a three-wicket victory over the West Indies in the fifth T20. Australia won the toss and elected to bowl first, restricting the West Indies to 170. The white-ball sweep follows Australia winning all three Tests on the tour, despite a scare as West Indies found their way through the deep middle-order. Aaron Hardie guided Australia to 173-7 with 18 balls remaining. Green continued his form with a strong performance, attempting to hit spinner Akeal Hosein but being caught by Matthew Forde. Hardie and Ben Dwarshuis took control, with Sean Abbott contributing to the rout. David returned to the side, hammering a record-breaking 102 not out in the third match of the series, blasted four sixes, and found Shimron Hetmyer off Alzarri Joseph's bowling. Owen took over David's mantle in his debut se-



ries, delivering a controlled 37, taking few risks before reaching for a wide delivery from Hosein and edging to Joseph at short third man. Australia's only real blot was a golden duck for Glenn Maxwell, who opened for the fourth time in the series but edged Jason Holder (2-36).

## What Alexander Zverev attempting to "convince" revealed Nadal, Toni

**Mumbai:** Alexander Zverev acknowledges that he is trying to "convince" the renowned coach to collaborate with him more, but he is really happy with the assistance that Toni Nadal provided. The German admitted that he was in a horrible emotional state after suffering a recent Grand Slam heartbreak and losing in the first round of Wimbledon, which had a detrimental effect on his game. The world No. 3 also hinted that he might choose to halt his tennis career in his open admission about his mental health. Zverev took some time to consider his options before contacting Rafael Nadal's uncle. Uncle Toni also welcomed the 28-year-old to the Nadal academy in Mallorca and consented to spend some time with him. The 64-year-old coach's personal obligations prevent the Spaniard from being the world No. 3's full-time traveling coach, so not everything is perfect for the German. "I went, I saw him, and the ten days were incredible." I had a great time and am grateful to him and Rafa for making me feel welcome. It was rather pleasant. The time spent in Mallorca was incredible.



He's a very busy man, but I'm trying to persuade him to spend more weeks with me. We'll see how it goes. I'm not sure how much of him

you'll see this year since he has a lot of dates already committed to," the three-time Grand Slam runner-up said. Zverev, meanwhile, is

playing this week for the first time since his early Wimbledon withdrawal. The German is the top seed in the Toronto Masters because Jannik Sinner and Carlos Alcaraz are not competing. He is scheduled to face Adam Walton following a first-round ban. Although the Canadian Open's expansion is the first notable feature, the event's final date of Thursday, August 7, is one of the most intriguing aspects of this year's Toronto tournament. Inquiries concerning the format change were directed at Tiafoe, who is participating in the Canadian Masters for the seventh time this year. Although he is thrilled to be in Toronto, he acknowledged that some of the tournament's modifications have taken him by surprise. "It is what it is. It's a little shorter than Madrid and Rome, which I like. It's strange that the final falls on a Thursday. That is trash. However, I believe it will be fantastic. It's going to be a great time. Toronto is a city that I adore. That's where my girlfriend is from. The American tennis player said, "I'll be set up because I have a lot of friends in the league from there. Have fun."

## Clubs interested in signing the 18 year old Barcelona gem include Mallorca

**Mumbai:** Hansi Flick's decision to not use Hector Fort during FC Barcelona's first preseason friendly against Vissel Kobe 1 of the main talking topics that came out of the match. Along with 2 backup goalkeepers & 2 reserve team players the 18-year-old right-back was 1 of the very few players did not have an opportunity to play in Japan. Given that young player didn't play much under Flick last season either rumors of potential departure are already intensifying. Mallorca among teams interested in acquiring Hector Fort from Barcelona this summer. 18-year-old right-back being intensively sought after by the Catalans hope to sign him permanently or



on loan. Mallorca is among the teams that have expressed interest & unless Flick's plans abruptly change seems his departure might quicken in the days ahead. Pablo Torre from Barcelona this summer, Mallorca demonstrating a keen interest in Jan Virgili

another talented player. They are rumored to be planning a move for Fort as well. Fort would gain from a move away so that he may play frequently and further his development, as Jules Kounde and Eric Garcia are obviously superior to him in the hierarchy.

## Ter Stegen discusses his affinity with Barcelona in public

**New Delhi:** Marc-Andre ter Stegen, the captain & goalie for FC Barcelona, is taking plane to Bordeaux this afternoon. On Tuesday, he will have surgery at the Sports Clinic Bordeaux Merignac. The German international is undergoing surgery to treat lower back issues that have prevented him from practicing since the beginning of preseason and from joining the rest of the team on their trip to Asia. SPORT approached the Barcelona goalie as he arrived at El Prat Airport and inquired about his connection to the team. The German international and the Blau-



grana are said to be at odds because of recent events surrounding his injury and his refusal to leave the team. Barcelona are considering stripping Ter Stegen of the club captaincy before the new season. However, Stegen denies any issues with the club and maintains a good relationship. He will undergo surgery to address his back issue tomorrow, and the club is expected to release a statement on his recovery timeline. The medical staff and experts suggest a longer downtime of four to five months Barcelona can use to register a new signing.

## Luka Doncic returns to USA ahead of an extremely hectic month

**Mumbai:** Even though it's the offseason, Luka Doncic has packed month ahead of him until training camp begins this week. Luka announced on his Instagram on Sunday that he has returned to the United States in preparation for a Jordan Brand promotional tour for his signature shoe. That trip will continue until August, unless he might decide to sign a contract extension with the Lakers. His own national team head coach recently seemed to affirm that he will do so, and all indications suggest that will be the case once he becomes



eligible on August 2. But for Luka, that's only the beginning. He will next fly overseas and continue his preparation with the Slovenian national team for EuroBasket. The squad will play practice games a 11 month long, even if the official games don't begin until late August. And there will be many of them. The group play games are the only ones included in that schedule. Slovenia may continue to play until the final on September 14th, depending on how far along they are in the elimination stages.

## After tearing his ACL last season, Cameron Brink return to action for Sparks against Aces

**Agency:** Cameron Brink, a forward with the Los Angeles Sparks, is expected to make his court comeback after more than a year off. Brink stated her intention to participate in Tuesday's game against the Las Vegas Aces to John W. Davis of the Long Beach Press-Telegram. Her first game since tearing her ACL during the 2024 season will be this one. Prior to suffering a knee injury on June 18 during a game against the Connecticut Sun, Brink, who was selected as the second overall pick in the 2024 WNBA draft, had a great debut season. She averaged 7.5 points, 5.3 rebounds, 1.7 assists, 1.1 steals, and 2.3 blocks in 15 games before losing. Brink was selected for the Team USA 3-on-3 squad, but her injury also prevented her from competing in the 2024 Summer Olympics in Paris. In her absence, Germany defeated Spain to win the gold medal, while Team USA took home the



bronze. The 23-year-old stated that she has been anticipating her court appearance for a while. "It means the world," Davis was informed by Brink. "This experience has humbled and excited me greatly. I'm just ecstatic because it's not an easy thing to return

from." Brink, who is regarded as one of the league's best frontcourt defenders, stated that she intends to be productive on the other end of the court even though she is aware that it would take some time for her offense to get back on track.

## Oscar Piastri leads F1 championship after winning Belgian Grand Prix

**Agency:** Belgium's SPA FRANCO CHAMPS At the Belgian Grand Prix, Oscar Piastri's decisive early pass was sufficient to secure a crucial victory over teammate and title contender Lando Norris. Even though Norris had a tire advantage in the final stages, Piastri put on a perfect race and won by a comfortable 3.41 seconds. In addition to denying Norris, who had started from pole position, a third consecutive victory, the victory, the sixth of his season and the eighth of his career, increased Piastri's lead in the race to 16 points. "Let's go!" After the race, Piastri said on his radio. "Well done. Excellently done. Piastri thought back on his solid starting position in the front row after the race. "I knew Lap 1 would be my best chance of winning the race," he stated. "I left Turn 1 with a solid departure, lifting as little as I could from Eau Rouge. "We did a great job managing the remainder of the



race. In the end, I found it difficult. For the final five or six laps, the mediums might not have

been the best. For the most part, we had it under control. "I was pretty disappointed with myself

yesterday but turns out starting P2 was not as bad as I thought." "Oscar just did a good job [at the start]," Norris remarked. I have nothing more to say. Through Eau Rouge, I made a little more of a commitment, got the run, and had the slipstream. "There is nothing to be upset about. In the beginning, he performed well, and that was that. After then, there was nothing else I could do. Oscar deserves it today, but I would really like to be at the top. Although he was well behind the strong McLaren duo, Charles Leclerc won a podium for Ferrari ahead of the defending champion Max Verstappen, which lifted spirits. "Max was behind the whole race within two seconds, so it's never easy," remarked Leclerc. "Fortunately, everything dried up rather fast, and after that, the pace was decent. However, Max trailed the entire race, so I'm glad we were able to hold onto third place.