



J&K Police echo LG's directive

Jammu: Jammu and Kashmir Director General of Police (DGP) Nalin Prabhat on Tuesday reaffirmed the police force's commitment to justice, stating that its operations are guided by Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha's principle: "Do not touch the innocent and do not spare the guilty."

Addressing a public function in Jammu, Prabhat emphasized that this mantra defines the ethos of the J&K Police and underpins its approach to counter-terrorism and law enforcement. He noted that the newly enacted criminal laws are being gradually implemented and are built around a victim-centric framework aimed at swift justice and accountability.

Prabhat highlighted the police's outreach efforts, stating that the force strives to support those who are oppressed or in distress. "We stand with those who have no support and do our utmost to resolve their problems," he said.

PM Modi lauds Shah's 'remarkable' speech in Lok Sabha

In his Lok Sabha speech, Amit Shah Ji detailed Operations Sindoor and Mahadev impressively

New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday praised Union Home Minister Amit Shah's address in the Lok Sabha, calling it "remarkable" for its detailed account of two major counter-terror operations—Operation Mahadev and Operation Sindoor.

Shah's speech outlined the coordinated efforts of the Indian Army, CRPF, and Jammu and Kashmir Police that led to the elimination of three terrorists involved in



the April 22 Pahalgam massacre. The slain militants—Suleiman Shah, Afghan, and Jibran—were identified as



Lashkar-e-Taiba operatives responsible for the killing of 26 tourists in Baisaran Valley. Shah confirmed their Paki-

stani origin, citing recovered voter ID cards, weapons, and even chocolates manufactured in Pakistan.

The Home Minister also responded sharply to former Home Minister P. Chidambaram's earlier remarks suggesting the attackers might be "homegrown," accusing him of giving a "clean chit" to both the terrorists and Pakistan. Operation Mahadev, launched on July 28 following intelligence inputs from the Intelligence Bureau, in-

involved precision strikes in the Dachigam area. Shah credited the success to real-time signal tracking and human intelligence, which enabled the forces to locate and neutralize the terrorists without civilian casualties. In parallel, Operation Sindoor targeted the handlers and logistical network behind the Pahalgam attack. Shah revealed that two locals who had sheltered the terrorists were detained and later helped identify the bodies.

Rajya Sabha adjourned for day over SIR issue

New Delhi: The Rajya Sabha was adjourned for the day on Monday following intense disruptions and heated exchanges between treasury and opposition benches over the contentious Special Investigation Report (SIR) related to ongoing national security concerns. The session, presided over by Chairman Jagdeep Dhankhar, witnessed repeated adjournments from

the morning as opposition members, led by the Congress and supported by several other parties, raised slogans demanding immediate discussion on the SIR. The report allegedly contains details of lapses in the recent handling of a high-profile security breach, which the opposition claims has far-reaching implications for transparency and accountability.

Bengal CM calls for smooth, dignified update of voter rolls statewide

Kolkata: West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee has directed government officials and election authorities to ensure that no citizen faces harassment or intimidation during the ongoing revision of electoral rolls in the state. The Chief Minister's remarks come amid widespread concerns and reports of alleged irregularities in the voter registration process across several districts. Chairing



a high-level administrative review meeting on Monday, Banerjee emphasized the

importance of maintaining transparency and fairness throughout the process.

Three suspected Pahalgam terrorists killed in high-stakes encounter near Srinagar

Foreign Lashkar-e-Taiba terrorists likely killed in encounter

Srinagar: In a major counter-terrorism breakthrough, security forces neutralised three suspected foreign terrorists in an intense gunfight during Operation Mahadev, launched in the Lidwas forest area near Dachigam National Park on the outskirts of Srinagar.

The joint operation, involving the Indian Army, Jammu and Kashmir Police, and CRPF, was initiated early Monday morning following specific intelligence inputs about terrorist movement in the Mulnar region of Harwan. The encounter began around 11 a.m. and continued for several hours, with drones deployed for aerial surveillance and reinforcements rushed to the



site. Initial reports suggest the slain militants were foreign nationals affiliated with Lashkar-e-Taiba, and are believed to be linked to the April 22 Pahalgam massacre, which claimed 26 lives, including 25 tourists and a local resident in Baisaran Valley. Among those killed was Suleman, identified as the mastermind behind the Pahalgam

attack, along with two other operatives, Abu Hamza and Yasir. The Resistance Front (TRF), a Lashkar-e-Taiba offshoot, had earlier claimed responsibility for the Pahalgam attack. Intelligence sources revealed that suspicious communications intercepted two days prior, corroborated by local nomads, led to the launch of Op-

eration Mahadev. The encounter coincided with the opening of a high-profile parliamentary debate on Operation Sindoor, India's military response to the Pahalgam attack. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh is leading the discussion in the Lok Sabha, supported by External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar and senior BJP leaders. The opposition, led by Congress MP Gaurav Gogoi, is also actively participating in the debate. Security forces have cordoned off the area and are conducting combing operations to rule out the presence of additional militants. The identification process is ongoing, and a formal statement is expected once the operation concludes.

Rahul Gandhi, UDF demand nuns' swift release

New Delhi: In a strong political appeal, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi and members of the United Democratic Front (UDF) have called for the immediate release of nuns arrested in Chhattisgarh. The incident, which has sparked widespread concern across religious and political circles, involves the detention of several nuns under circumstances that opposition leaders have described as "unjust" and "politically motivated." Gandhi, along with UDF parliamentarians, raised the issue in an official communication to the central government, demanding urgent intervention and a transparent inquiry. "The unlawful detention of nuns is a direct affront to constitutional values and religious freedom," a UDF MP stated,

urging authorities to act swiftly. The arrests have drawn criticism from rights groups and minority community leaders, who warn that such actions undermine India's secular fabric. Gandhi emphasized the need to uphold democratic principles and safeguard the rights of vulnerable groups. Chhattisgarh officials have yet to release an official statement detailing the grounds for the arrests. As the matter garners national attention, calls for justice and accountability continue to mount. As of now, Chhattisgarh authorities have yet to provide a detailed statement. The central government has also remained tight-lipped, prompting growing pressure from opposition benches for a swift and transparent response.



CM backs East Garo Hills road upgrade

Meghalaya Chief Minister Conrad K Sangma on Monday assured that the proposal to upgrade the approach road from Chisobibra Junction to Nengkhra via Williamnagar Town in East Garo Hills will be considered for implementation. The assurance came following a meeting with a delegation of National People's Party (NPP) members from East Garo Hills, led by state minister Marcuise N Marak. Delegation proposed road as vital link connecting Williamnagar to NH-127B and NH-217.

Assam nears CAMPA goal, plants extensively

Guwahati: Assam has successfully achieved 93.8% of its compensatory afforestation target under the Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA) between 2019-20 and 2023-24, according to a report released by the Supreme Court-mandated Central Empowered Committee (CEC). The state planted 1,149.64 hectares against a target of 1,191.82 hectares, placing it among the better-performing states in the country. Nationally, India achieved 85% of its overall compensatory afforestation goal, raising 1,78,261 hectares during the same period. Despite As-

sam's strong performance, the CEC report flagged concerns over fund utilisation and plantation survival monitoring. Of the ₹38,516 crore approved for CAMPA activities nationwide, only 67.5% was spent. Assam's specific utilisation figures were not detailed, but states like Manipur and Andhra Pradesh reported 100% usage, while Delhi lagged at just 26.9%. Top-performing states included Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka, Arunachal Pradesh, and Uttar Pradesh, all of which achieved over 96% of their targets. In contrast, Meghalaya, Manipur, Kerala, West Bengal, and Tamil Nadu reported poor coverage.

Congress slams eviction in Assam, alleges communal agenda ahead of 2026 polls

Eviction Drives Spark Outrage and Legal Battles

Guwahati: The Indian National Congress has strongly condemned the recent mass eviction drives conducted by the Bharatiya Janata Party-led government in Assam, alleging that the actions are part of a calculated communal strategy aimed at influencing voter demographics ahead of the 2026 Assembly elections. The controversy intensified following a large-scale eviction operation in Goalpara district on July 12, which displaced over 1,080 families across 140 hectares. The situation escalated on July 17 when clashes broke out between evicted



residents and security forces, resulting in the death of 19-year-old Shawkar Ali and injuries to several others, including police and forest personnel. Congress leaders Rahul Gandhi and Mallikarjun Kharge visit-

ed the affected families and attended Ali's funeral, prompting Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma to accuse the party of "instigating" violence. Sarma further stated that Congress speeches.

BSF kills 2 Bangladesh nationals at Tripura border, seizes Rs 15 L worth Viagra pills

BSF foils major smuggling bid, tension escalates at Tripura border

In a pre-dawn operation on Friday, Border Security Force (BSF) personnel shot dead two suspected Bangladeshi smugglers along the India-Bangladesh border in South Tripura's Amzadnagar area, following a violent confrontation during an attempted cross-border smuggling. According to BSF officials, a group of 10-15 individuals, including Bangladeshi and Indian nationals, attempted to infiltrate Indian territory using wooden planks to



bypass the border fencing. The group was allegedly transporting a consignment

of Viagra tablets valued at approximately ₹15 lakh. The situation escalated

when the smugglers reportedly attacked BSF personnel with stones amid heavy rainfall. In response, BSF troops opened fire in self-defence, resulting in three individuals being shot. One Bangladeshi national died on the spot, while two others were taken back to Bangladesh by their accomplices. One of them later succumbed to injuries at a health facility in Parshuram Upazila, Feni district. Tripura Police confirmed the arrest of two Indian nationals.

Tipra Motha clash injures nine BJP workers

Khowai: At least nine Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) workers sustained injuries following an alleged attack by Tipra Motha Party (TMP) supporters during a gathering to listen to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's monthly radio programme, Mann Ki Baat, in Taksapara village under Ashrambari Assembly Constituency. According to police officials, approximately 30 BJP members had assembled at a private residence for the broadcast when a large group of TMP activists reportedly stormed the

venue armed with sticks, sharp weapons, and locally made arms. The attackers allegedly vandalized vehicles—including motorcycles and cars—and assaulted attendees, leaving two BJP workers seriously injured. Local residents rushed the injured to Khowai District Hospital. A heavy contingent of security forces was deployed to the area to prevent further escalation.

BJP's Jayanta Debbarma claimed around 100 TMP youths attacked, damaging his car and assaulting the event host.

Assam Govt to draft state-specific heat action plan; focus on schools

Climate resilience plan prioritizes school safety

Guwahati: In response to intensifying summer temperatures and a growing frequency of heatwaves, the Government of Assam has announced the formulation of a comprehensive state-specific Heat Action Plan (HAP), with a particular focus on safeguarding schoolchildren and vulnerable communities. The initiative, spearheaded by the Revenue and Disaster Management Department, mandates 17 key departments—including Education, Power, Health, Environment, and Urban Affairs—to submit tailored



strategies by July 28. These departmental inputs will be consolidated into a unified HAP for Assam, aimed at mitigating the impact of extreme heat across sectors. A core component of the plan targets schools, especially those lacking adequate cooling infrastructure. District Disaster Management

Authorities (DDMAs) have been instructed to identify institutions with electricity shortages and insufficient cooling appliances. The Power Department, in coordination with the Department of School Education, will assess these facilities and explore the installation of solar panels as alternative energy sources. A core component of the plan targets schools, especially those lacking adequate cooling infrastructure. District Disaster Management Authorities (DDMAs) have been instructed to identify institutions.

BJP Chief pledges Mizoram road boost if elected

Mizoram BJP president K. Beichhua on Friday vowed that the party would prioritise road infrastructure development if it is elected to power in the 2028 Assembly elections. He criticised the poor condition of National Highway 306/06 and highlighted the lack of responsibility taken for its maintenance.

Beichhua stressed that NH-306, also partly known as NH-6, is a vital corridor linking Mizoram to the rest of the country through Assam, making its improvement crucial for the state's connectivity and development. The three-time MLA said if the BJP had been elected to



power in the 2023 Assembly polls, the state would have seen better highways, roads, and overall development. "While no one takes responsibility to improve the condition of the dilapidated road, the BJP will take accountability if voted to power in the next Assembly elections," the former minister said. Calling upon the youths to join the party, he said vacant jobs in police and other departments will be filled up if the BJP comes to power in the state.

Itanagar cops bust auto theft racket

Itanagar: In one of the largest recoveries of stolen vehicles in the country, Itanagar Capital Police have successfully busted a sophisticated inter-state vehicle theft and smuggling racket. Acting on intelligence inputs, law enforcement officials traced and recovered 57 high-end vehicles, collectively valued at ₹30.5 crore, marking a record-setting operation. The crackdown commenced on July 2, targeting multiple locations across the Capital Region. Authorities recovered 57 premium vehicles including Audi, Fortuner, and Thar.



Salman Khan backs ISRL season 2, targeting youth appeal and broader market growth

Guwahati: Bollywood icon Salman Khan unveiled Season 2 of the Indian Supercross Racing League (ISRL) and announced plans to become an investor in the rapidly growing motorsports venture. With 155 international athlete registrations already in place, ISRL is targeting a multifold expansion of its 30 million-strong fanbase.

Khan also launched the ISRL Proving Grounds, a 7-acre motorsport development facility near Pune, aimed at training young riders and serving as a year-round testing hub for OEMs. ISRL will also roll out Fan Parks—interactive zones blending racing, entertainment, and brand activations for families.

"ISRL isn't just a

league—it's a lifestyle. I'm here not only as a face but as a believer," said Khan, highlighting the league's focus on safety, talent development, and cultural impact. Veer Patel, MD of ISRL, said Khan's investment adds "unmatched cultural capital" and accelerates ISRL's mission to become India's go-to motor-sport platform for brands

and youth. In Guwahati, where off-roading clubs and biking communities are thriving, ISRL's arrival is expected to fuel interest among auto dealers and youth-focused brands. Local retailers are optimistic about leveraging ISRL's momentum to drive sales and engagement across Assam's growing motorbike market.

Made-in-India Nissan Magnite wins hearts with 5-star GNCAP rating



Gurugram: The New Nissan Magnite has secured a 5-star overall passenger safety rating from the Global New Car Assessment Programme (GNCAP), reaffirming Nissan's focus on building safer, world-class vehicles. Manufactured at the company's Chennai plant, the right-hand drive (RHD) model earned 5 stars for Adult Occupant Protection (AOP) and 3 stars for Child Occupant Protection (COP), placing it among the safest compact SUVs sold in India and South Africa.

Launched in October 2024, the Magnite is built on the enhanced CMF-A+ platform and comes loaded with 40+ standard safety features including six airbags, ABS with EBD, ESC, TCS, and Brake Assist. With a strong body structure made of 67% high-tensile steel, it reflects Nissan's "One Car, One World" vision to deliver global safety standards to Indian roads.

TVS taps youth with Marvel-themed NTORQ 125 Super Soldier edition

Guwahati: TVS Motor Company has unveiled the new TVS NTORQ 125 Super Soldier Edition, drawing inspiration from Marvel's iconic Captain America. Part of the successful Marvel Super Squad series, this latest edition features a bold camouflage design, targeting GenZ riders with a passion for performance and pop culture.

Priced at ₹98,117 (ex-showroom Delhi), the Super Soldier Edition blends Marvel's heroic legacy with TVS's sporty engineering. As India's first



Bluetooth-connected scooter with SmartXonnect™ technology, the NTORQ 125 continues to appeal to tech-savvy consumers seeking both style and substance. The original Captain America Edition, introduced in 2020, was a nationwide hit among Marvel fans. This refreshed model elevates

the visual appeal with upgraded graphics and dynamic design elements.

In Guwahati, a rising hub for aspirational youth and scooter enthusiasts, the new NTORQ edition is expected to boost sales significantly. Local dealerships are optimistic, noting that Marvel-themed scooters have consistently attracted attention in the city's two-wheeler market. The fusion of design and connectivity makes the NTORQ a compelling choice for urban commuters and college students alike.

Ujjivan SFB Q1 net rises 24% QoQ to Rs 103 cr; secured loan share jumps to 46%

Guwahati: Ujjivan Small Finance Bank reported a net profit of ₹103 crore for Q1FY26, marking a 24% quarter-on-quarter rise, driven by strong secured loan growth and stable asset quality. The bank's gross loan book stood at ₹33,287 crore, up 11% year-on-year, with secured loans growing 63% YoY to ₹15,162 crore—constituting 46% of the total book. Total disbursements for the quarter reached ₹6,539 crore, up 24% YoY, while deposits grew to ₹38,619 crore, reflecting a 19% annual growth. CASA deposits rose 13% YoY to ₹9,381



crore. The bank's RoA and RoE improved to 0.8% and 6.7% respectively. Collection efficiency remained high at 99.3%, with GNPA at 2.5% and NNPA at 0.7%. The provision coverage ratio was reported at 73%. In Agartala, Ujjivan SFB's secured lending—especially in micro mortgages and vehicle loans—has gained traction, supported by strong demand in local MSME and retail sectors.

Customers transitioning from group to individual loans have increased, indicating a maturing borrower base. Retail deposits in the region have also contributed steadily to CASA growth, as customer confidence in digital and doorstep banking services improves. The bank maintains a strong capital adequacy ratio of 22.8% and expects to grow advances by 20% in FY26.

Tata AIA leads India, 50 Assam MDRT achievers

Guwahati: Tata AIA Life Insurance has solidified its leadership in India's life insurance sector by registering 2,871 Million Dollar Round Table (MDRT) advisors in 2025—an 11% increase from last year. The company retains its No. 1 position in India for the third consecutive year and has advanced to the 4th spot globally, up from 6th. Assam contributed significantly to this achievement with 50 MDRT-qualified advisors, including 2 MDRTs, 6 Court of the Table (COT), and 1 Top of the Table (TOT) qualifiers.

Tata AIA also demonstrated progress in gender diversity, securing the 7th global rank for female MDRT membership with a record 1,343 women advisors—a growth of 8.5%



year-on-year. Guwahati has witnessed a surge in consumer interest for trusted financial planning. With rising awareness of long-term financial security, Tata AIA's presence, backed by its MDRT-certified advisors, is helping residents make confident decisions on life insurance, investments, and retirement planning. Amit Dave, Chief Distribution Officer, said, "This global and national recognition highlights the success of our Premier Agency model and the unwavering trust of our consumers, who rely on Tata AIA for expert financial advice."

IndiaSkills 2025 opens, nation preps global talent drive

Guwahati: The Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) has launched the registration process for IndiaSkills Competition (ISC) 2025—India's flagship skill excellence platform aimed at discovering and nurturing world-class talent. With 63 skill categories open for participation, the competition will draw candidates from all 36 states and union territories. Registrations are open on the Skill India Digital Hub (SIDH) portal until September 30, 2025.

Open to Indian nationals aged 16 to 25, ISC 2025 is a gateway to represent India at the WorldSkills Competition 2026, the world's largest vocational skills event. Participants will compete through two tracks—state-level contests conducted by State Skill Development Missions



(SSDMs), and skill-specific assessments led by Sector Skill Councils (SSCs). Both lead to regional rounds, national boot camps, and the final national competition.

Guwahati is poised to witness heightened activity, with training institutions and skill hubs preparing to mobilize youth participation. The Northeast region, known for its emerging talent in hospitality, IT, and design, sees this as a major opportunity to bridge skill gaps and boost employment prospects.

India sends medical aid after Dhaka crash; Guwahati on alert

Guwahati: India has deployed a team of burn-specialist doctors and nurses to Bangladesh following a deadly plane crash in Dhaka that left at least 27 dead and over 170 injured. The Ministry of External

Affairs (MEA) confirmed that the team, equipped with essential medical supplies, will provide critical care and assess the possibility of transferring severely injured patients to India for advanced treatment.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi expressed grief over the incident, noting on social media platform X: "Deeply shocked and saddened at the loss of lives, many of them young students... India stands in solidarity

with Bangladesh and is ready to extend all possible support and assistance." The MEA added that further medical teams may be dispatched depending on the initial assessment of victims' conditions.

From a regional healthcare perspective, Guwahati—a growing medical hub in Northeast India—is preparing its top private and government hospitals, including GMCH and Ayursundra, to receive potential re-

ferrals from Bangladesh. Industry insiders note that such international collaborations enhance Guwahati's position in the cross-border medical service market, boosting both healthcare credibility and economic activity.



Bank of Baroda celebrates 118 years with tech-driven sustainable banking

Guwahati: Bank of Baroda commemorated its 118th Foundation Day by unveiling a host of tech-led and sustainability-focused initiatives under the theme 'Trust Empowered by Innovation'. The celebration, held in Mumbai, featured Shri M. Nagaraju, Secretary, Department of Financial Services, as the Chief Guest.

Reaffirming its commitment to customer-centric banking, the bank introduced several initiatives including the bob World Business app tailored for MSMEs, merchants, and



corporates; a pioneering Virtual Front Office powered by AI and 3D holographic technology; bob Pay International with global UPI capabilities; bob inSIGHT Braille Debit Card for visually impaired customers; and targeted Green Financing schemes.

MD & CEO Shri Debatata Chand said, "We continue to earn the trust of our

stakeholders by innovating boldly and responsibly, making banking more accessible, inclusive, and future-ready." In Guwahati, a key regional market, the announcements were met with enthusiasm. Local MSMEs and digital entrepreneurs noted the potential of the bob World Business app to enhance operational efficiency. The green finance initiatives also sparked interest among emerging sustainable ventures, aligning with Assam's growing shift towards eco-conscious business practices.

Tata AIA tops India in MDRT rankings for third year, climbs to 4th globally

Aizawl: Tata AIA Life Insurance has reaffirmed its leadership in India's life insurance sector by topping the Million Dollar Round Table (MDRT) rankings for the third consecutive year. With 2,871 MDRT-qualified advisors in 2025—up 11% from last year—Tata AIA also surged to 4th place globally, from 6th in 2024. The company retained its 7th global position for women MDRT members, recording an 8.5% growth with 1,343 female qualifiers, highlighting its focus on diversity and inclusion. MDRT membership



is globally regarded as the benchmark of excellence in life insurance and financial advisory. Tata AIA's Premier Agency model, along with robust digital tools and training, has been key to nurturing talent and driving advisor success. The insurer also topped four out of five persistency cohorts in FY 2024-25, including the critical 13th-month persistency, under-

scoring strong consumer trust.

In Aizawl, the presence of MDRT-standard advisors opens up enhanced opportunities for personalized, professional financial planning. With rising awareness around insurance and investment in Mizoram, Tata AIA's leadership offers a trusted avenue for families and individuals seeking long-term financial security. "This achievement reflects our advisors' dedication and consumers' confidence," said Amit Dave, Chief Distribution Officer, Tata AIA.

Sony India enters super-sized TV market with 98-inch BRAVIA 5 for home cinema enthusiasts

Guwahati: Sony India has launched its largest-ever television, the 249 cm (98-inch) BRAVIA 5, marking a bold entry into the super large-screen segment. Engineered for an immersive "Cinema is Coming Home" experience, the BRAVIA 5 is powered by Sony's Advanced AI Processor XR and XR Backlight Master Drive, delivering enhanced realism with lifelike detail, brightness, and contrast. The mini-LED display is equipped with Dolby Vision and Dolby Atmos for stunning visuals and multidimensional surround sound.



Studio Calibrated Mode, including Prime Video and Netflix Adaptive Calibrated Modes, ensures visuals reflect the creator's intent, even for live sports. The

Sony Pictures Core feature provides access to a vast library of near 4K Blu-ray quality content, including IMAX Enhanced titles. The TV is priced at ₹6,49,990 with a special

₹25,000 cashback on select cards and a curated EMI of ₹19,995. It is available at Sony retail stores, ShopatSC.com, leading electronics outlets, and major e-commerce platforms. In Guwahati, premium consumer demand is steadily rising, with luxury homes and hospitality players expressing interest in high-end entertainment solutions. Local retailers anticipate strong uptake for the BRAVIA 5, driven by aspirational lifestyle trends and increasing digital content consumption.

Renault unveils upgraded Tribler, eyes tier-2 growth including Guwahati

Guwahati: Renault India has launched the All-New Renault Tribler, marking a major milestone under its rethinks brand transformation strategy. Priced between ₹6.29 lakh and ₹9.16 lakh (ex-showroom), the revamped Tribler comes with over 35 design and feature enhancements including a bold new grille, sculpted hood, LED projector headlamps, dual-tone dashboard with an 8-inch floating touchscreen, wireless connectivity, and cruise control.

Designed to appeal to Indian families, the Tribler retains its modular 5/6/7-seater layout with a best-in-class 625L boot space and over 100 seating combinations. Safety has been significantly up-

graded, offering six airbags, ESP, TPMS, ISOFIX, and segment-first front parking sensors as standard. The model is over 90% localized and debuts Renault's new brand logo.

In Guwahati, dealers expect strong traction due to the Tribler's value-driven positioning and versatility. With growing urbanization and demand for compact MPVs in Assam, the car's modular seating, CNG compatibility, and new safety tech are expected to resonate well with families and commercial users alike. Available in four variants—Authentic, Evolution, Techno, and Emotion—the Tribler also offers an AMT option and comes with a 3-year standard warranty, extendable up to 7 years under Renault Secure.

Dyson teams with Deepika Padukone to elevate premium hair styling

Shillong: Dyson has launched its new campaign 'The Difference is Dyson' featuring Bollywood star and Dyson Beauty brand ambassador Deepika Padukone, aiming to expand its footprint in the premium hair styling segment across India. The campaign highlights Dyson's innovative hair tools—engineered for all hair types—with a promise of high-performance styling without heat damage. The film, created in collaboration with Hogarth, showcases Deepika in a range of styles using Dyson's flagship products: the Dyson Airwrap i.d. multi-styler, the Airstrait straightener, and the Supersonic Nural hair dryer. Each product is designed to address re-



al-world hair needs while maintaining scalp and hair health, reflecting Dyson's technology-first and user-centric philosophy. Dyson India Managing Director Ankit Jain noted,

"This campaign reinforces our commitment to delivering versatile styling without compromising hair health, aligning with evolving consumer expectations." In Shillong, the campaign is expected to generate strong interest, especially among beauty-conscious urban consumers and upscale salons. As the market for premium personal care appliances grows in Meghalaya's capital, local retailers see Dyson's arrival as a push toward aspirational grooming solutions. Influencer endorsements and rising disposable income are further fueling demand. The campaign is currently live across digital, print, and retail platforms nationwide.

IndusInd Bank profit drops 68% in June quarter



Mumbai: IndusInd Bank on Monday posted a 68% year-on-year decline in its net profit for the quarter ended June at Rs 684 crore. The drop came mainly on the back of higher provisions and a fall in asset quality.

In the previous quarter, the private sector bank had reported a loss of Rs 2,236 crore, primarily due to discrepancies found in the bank's derivatives book. Bank's Q1 NII drops 14%, margin improves to 3.46%.

RBI issues draft circular for urban co-op banks

Mumbai: The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on Monday issued a draft master circular, proposing to replace the existing norms for urban cooperative banks (UCBs) with a harmonised eligibility criteria for certain business authorisations, permissions and approvals.

On a comprehensive review, the banking regulator decided to replace the financially sound and well managed (FSWM) norms for UCBs with harmonised eligibility criteria for all banks (ECBA), it said. The regulator laid down conditions such as maintaining the minimum capital adequacy ratio, net NPAs of not more than 3%, net profits during the preceding two financial years, and no default in the maintenance of reserve requirements, among others, to consider UCBs as fully compliant with ECBA. UCBs are categorised into four tiers based on their deposit size.



Captain Shubman Gill Silences Critics with Record-Breaking England Tour

India captain excels across roles, showcasing personal strength in leadership

Manchester: In a defining moment for Indian cricket, newly appointed Test captain Shubman Gill has delivered a series of commanding performances against England, dispelling doubts over his leadership and batting credentials in overseas conditions. At just 25, Gill's maiden captaincy assignment has showcased his maturity, resilience, and ability to thrive under pressure.

Gill entered the five-Test series with a modest overseas record and no centuries in SENA countries. That changed dramatically. 147 in the first Test at



His appointment before the five-match Test series drew skepticism, but Gill's captaincy proved grounded and adaptive—even as the team faced injuries to key pacers like Akash Deep and Nitish Kumar Reddy. Jasprit Bumrah's partial availability added further

pressure. Despite this, Gill maintained strategic control, guiding India through high-stress situations with discipline and poise.

His batting, meanwhile, spoke volumes. He entered the series without a century outside Asia and left it with three—an au-

thoritative 147 at Leeds, a masterful 269 at Birmingham, and a rescue act 103 under immense pressure at Old Trafford. Although stumbles at Lord's and in his first outing at Manchester raised fresh questions, Gill responded with steel and focus.

What distinguishes Gill's approach is his tactical evolution. He's not overtly aggressive like Kohli, nor detached like Dhoni; instead, he balances calculation and calm. His field placements, batting order tweaks, and measured responses under duress hint at a long-term leadership temperament.

Divya is the queen of Indian chess



Batumi: In a watershed moment for Indian chess, 19-year-old Divya Deshmukh clinched the FIDE Women's World Cup title, becoming the first Indian woman to lift the prestigious trophy and securing a direct Grandmaster title in the process. Ranked 15th heading into the tournament, Deshmukh delivered a stunning sequence of wins, toppling elite opponents including China's Tan Zhongyi, India's Harika Dronavalli, and 2nd seed Zhu Jiner. In the final, she faced Indian legend Koneru Humpy. After two tense classical games ended in draws, Divya held her nerve in rapid tie-breaks to seal victory. Her triumph not

only earns her a place in the 2026 Candidates Tournament but also elevates her to the rarefied circle of Indian women Grandmasters—joining Humpy, Harika, and Vaishali. She becomes India's 88th GM and is now the youngest Indian ever to achieve the title via a World Cup win.

Born in Nagpur, Deshmukh has steadily built her reputation through consistent international performances, including golds in junior championships and a commanding role in India's Olympiad teams. She combines fierce tactical play with deep psychological insight, backed by her academic studies in sports psychology and data analytics.

England edge Spain in shootout

Basel: England retained their European crown in dramatic fashion, defeating Spain 3-1 in a penalty shootout after a tense 1-1 draw in the final of the UEFA Women's Euro 2025 at St. Jakob-Park. Spain struck first in the 25th minute when Mariona Caldentey headed home a precise cross from Ona Batlle, capitalizing on England's defensive lapse. Dominating possession and tempo, Spain looked poised to repeat their 2023 World Cup final triumph over the Lionesses. England, however, showed resilience. Alessia Russo equalized in the 57th minute, nodding in a pinpoint delivery from substitute Chloe Kelly, who had replaced the injured Lauren James just before halftime. The match remained deadlocked through extra time, with both sides creating chances but failing to convert. In the shootout, England goalkeeper Hannah Hampton emerged as the hero, saving penalties from Caldentey and reigning Ballon d'Or winner Aitana Bonmati. Spain's Salma Paraluelo missed her attempt, while England's Alex Greenwood and Niamh Charles converted theirs. Chloe Kelly, reprising her 2022 heroics, stepped up to score the decisive penalty.

Australia sweep T20 series 5-0 against West Indies

Australia complete flawless West Indies tour

Bassterre: Australia concluded a dominant tour of the Caribbean with a clean sweep of the five-match T20I series against the West Indies, securing a three-wicket victory in the final encounter. The win marked the first-ever 5-0 T20I series triumph by an Australian men's team in the West Indies and capped off an unbeaten 8-0 record across formats, following a 3-0 Test series win.

Batting first, West Indies posted a competitive total of 170 runs in 19.4 overs, led by Shimron Hetmyer's 52 off 31 balls. Despite early setbacks, Hetmyer and Sherfane Rutherford (35 off 17) provided resistance. Australian pacer Ben Dwarshuis starred with the ball,



claiming 3 wickets, including both openers and Hetmyer, earning Player of the Match honors.

In response, Australia overcame a shaky start at 25/3, with key contributions from Mitchell Owen (37 off 17), Cameron Green (32), and Tim David (30 off 12). Aaron Hardie's unbeaten 28 guided the visitors to

173/7 with three overs to spare. Cameron Green was named Player of the Series, scoring 205 runs across five matches at an average of 68.33. - Australia's bowlers consistently restricted West Indies in the death overs, with Nathan Ellis, Sean Abbott, and Xavier Bartlett delivering standout performances.

Stephen Curry gets real about his 'surreal' friendship with the Obamas

New York: NBA and American politics haven't always been the most interconnected of worlds, but when they do meet, they have proven to deliver beautiful friendships in return. One such example would be the close bond Golden State Warriors' Stephen Curry shares with former President Barack Obama and his family. During a recent appearance on 360 With Speedy, Curry opened up on his bond with the Obama family while discussing the launch of Plezi: a flavored drink company run by him in collaboration with former First Lady Michelle Obama. When asked if he



shares a close relationship with them, Curry replied, "As you can imagine, there are uh there are levels to what it means to be a part of the Obama family. But they're accessible.

India vs England Frustrated hosts let out their petulant side

Manchester: The fourth Test between India and England at Old Trafford ended in a draw, but not without drama. England's conduct in the final hour of play drew widespread criticism, as frustration boiled over into petulance when India's Ravindra Jadeja and Washington Sundar declined an early handshake offer and continued batting to reach personal milestones.

With India trailing by 311 runs and facing a daunting task, Jadeja and Sundar mounted a resilient partnership that blunted England's attack for over 143 overs. As the match drifted toward a draw, England captain Ben Stokes approached Sundar with a handshake offer, hoping to conclude proceedings early. Sundar, batting on 80, deferred to Jadeja, who was on 89, and both insisted on continuing until they

reached their centuries. Stokes appeared visibly irritated, engaging in sarcastic exchanges with the Indian batters. He mocked Jadeja, asking if he wanted a century against part-timer Harry Brook. Zak Crawley and Ben Duckett joined in, making dismissive remarks. Brook was then brought on to bowl a series of innocuous deliveries, which Jadeja dispatched with ease to reach his fifth Test hundred. Sundar followed with his maiden century, after which India agreed to the draw. The episode sparked debate over sportsmanship and the spirit of cricket. England's actions were widely viewed as unbecoming, with commentators and former players divided on whether the frustration was justified. India coach Gautam Gambhir defended the decision to continue batting.

Anurag Basu Denies Script Rework Rumours for Kartik Aaryan–Sreeleela Romantic Film

Anurag Basu clarifies Kartik–Sreeleela film’s script

Mumbai: Director Anurag Basu has firmly dismissed speculation that he is reworking the script of his upcoming romantic musical starring Kartik Aaryan and Sreeleela, following comparisons with Mohit Suri’s blockbuster Saiyaara.

The yet-untitled film, widely believed to be the third installment in the Aashiqui franchise, has drawn attention due to thematic similarities with Saiyaara, which features a rockstar protagonist and a poignant love story. Basu clarified that while both films center around male leads who are musicians, the narratives diverge significantly. “In my film, the girl doesn’t have dementia or any other condition,” Basu said, referencing Saiyaara’s Alzheimer’s



subplot. “I was aware of that angle in Mohit’s film, so there’s no reason to repeat it in mine.” He emphasized that he and Mohit Suri share a close professional relationship and that the comparisons are

unfounded. Basu also addressed production delays, confirming that approximately 40% of the film has been shot. The next schedule is planned for August and September, contingent on Kartik Aaryan complet-

ing his current project Tu Meri Main Tera, Main Tera Tu Meri, which requires a different look. “Continuity is the only challenge,” Basu noted, adding that Aaryan will appear clean-shaven in the upcoming shoot. The film, initially slated for a Diwali 2025 release, has now been postponed to early 2026. Despite the delay, Basu assured fans that the project remains on track and distinct in its storytelling approach.

The Kartik–Sreeleela pairing marks their first collaboration, and anticipation remains high for the film’s music and emotional depth. Basu’s clarification aims to quell rumors and reaffirm the originality of his vision amid a crowded romantic genre landscape.

Saiyaara’s Rise to Unexpected Fame



The Saiyaara fever has caught the country. And it seems like it’s not stopping anytime soon. Several people weren’t even aware about the movie before its release, maybe some had just heard about it or seen a clip on social media, however, that film earned Rs 21.5 crore on opening day. Especially in today’s time when people are resisting going to theatres, this was a huge plus. And its first weekend saw another unexpected jump. On the second day, it earned Rs 26 crore, and on the third day Rs 35.75 crore. With fresh faces Ahaan Panday and Aneet Padda in the lead, no one would have expected that. And the success started from here because for most films, the real test begins on Monday. But this film blew everyone away as it earned Rs 24 crore on a Monday, more than its opening. That wasn’t some sort of

miracle. If you want to understand the magnitude, Anurag Basu’s Metro... In Dino, which released a week before Saiyaara, crossed the 50-crore mark only around its 20th day. That film had a stellar star cast with Aditya Roy Kapur, Sara Ali Khan, Ali Fazal, Fatima Sana Shaikh, Pan-kaj Tripathi and Anupam Kher. Even after having a gripping storyline, it’s doesn’t stand anywhere in front of Saiyaara. Below is the full day-wise collection of the film till date

Saiyaara has smashed major box office records with its massive opening and that too with just 8,000 shows across India. To put that in perspective, most films need around 18,000 shows to even touch a 20-crore opening. Yet, Saiyaara did it with less than half. And on top of that, major national chains reported sold out shows across key cities right from Day 1.

Soori’s Maaman Locks OTT Release Date



After a two-month theatrical run, the Tamil family drama Maaman is set to make its digital debut. The film, which stars Soori in a deeply affecting lead role, will premiere on ZEE5 on August 8, giving viewers a chance to revisit and discover its emotionally rich narrative from the comfort of their homes.

Directed by Vilangu fame Prasanth Pandiyaraj, Maaman explores the layered relationship between a maternal uncle and his nephew, set against the backdrop of familial bonds, unresolved tensions, and quiet resilience. At its heart, the film is a story about sacrifice, forgiveness, and the unseen threads that keep families tethered, often painfully so. Soori, continuing his post-Viduthalai evolution into more character-driven roles, anchors the film with a performance that is grounded.

Avatar: Fire and Ash Takes an Intense Turn As Jake and Neytiri Face Varang

James Cameron’s world of Avatar returns with its most awaited third chapter, Avatar: Fire and Ash. The newly released trailer of the film hints at a darker and more emotional journey. The audience is transported back to Pandora, which is about to witness a major war between its tribes. Na’vi leader Jake Sully (Sam Worthington), Na’vi warrior Neytiri (Zoe Saldana), and the Sully family remain at the heart of the story, but



peace seems to be short-lived for them. They face a new threat in the form of

Varang, the leader of the Ash People, a formidable Na’vi clan.

War 2 song debuts on Kiara’s birthday, highlighting bold female spy storyline

Kiara’s birthday boosts female spies

The makers released the highly anticipated trailer of War 2 and it appears bigger and better than War. The trailer is mostly focused on Hrithik Roshan, Kiara Advani and Jr NTR. Now YRF is aiming at releasing more assets before the movie’s release, especially the first song. For the same, they have chosen Kiara Advani’s birthday as her action-packed avatar is being widely discussed. In every asset released so far



from War 2, Kiara Advani has become the talk of the

town. Sizzling chemistry, bold bikini debut.

Rajat Kapoor's Khauf to Return With Season 2

Months after the release of Khauf, filmmaker Smita Singh has an update for the fans regarding the second season. The psychological horror show follows Madhu, a survivor of sexual abuse, who moves to Delhi and takes shelter in a women’s hostel. However, there is something eerie about the environment, and she soon starts feeling the presence of something supernatural. It has been written by Singh and directed by Pankaj Kumar. Now, during a recent media interaction, Singh shared that if everything falls in place, the psychological horror might return with a season two. During the latest edition of Vartalaap, held by the Screenwriters Association (SWA), Singh spoke about how she mounted the show. During the discussion, she was asked if the streaming platforms, post Khauf.

