



THE MILEAGE

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Sudipto, Debjani acquitted in Saradha

Kolkata: In a significant development in the Saradha ponzi scam case, a Kolkata court on Tuesday acquitted Sudipto Sen, the chairman of the Saradha Group, and Debjani Mukherjee, a key director, in three of the multiple cases pending against them. The verdict was delivered by the 11th Judicial Magistrate at Bichar Bhavan, following trials in which around 15 witnesses were presented by the prosecution.

Sen and Mukherjee had been charged under Sections 406 (criminal breach of trust) and 420 (cheating) of the Indian Penal Code. However, the court found that the prosecution failed to establish conclusive evidence of fraud or breach of trust in these three cases. Lawyers representing the accused argued that key witnesses did not substantiate the allegations, and testimonies from several listed witnesses were not recorded. Despite the acquittal, both Sen and Mukherjee remain in judicial custody.

Tejashwi claims Rahul Gandhi as next Prime Minister

Yadav said Bihar's voter roll revision undermines people's fundamental right to vote

New Delhi: RJD leader Tejashwi Yadav made a bold political statement during a rally in Nawada, Bihar, as part of the Congress-led "Voter Adhikar Yatra." Addressing a large crowd, Yadav declared that the youth of Bihar are determined to remove the "old and rickety" NDA government and elect Congress leader Rahul Gandhi as the next Prime Minister of India in the upcoming Lok Sabha elections. Yadav criticized the



Nitish Kumar-led state government, comparing it to a "khatara" (rickety) vehicle

that has failed to deliver on key issues like education, employment, healthcare,

and irrigation. He emphasized the need for young leadership and a fresh vision for Bihar, asserting that the time has come for the younger generation to take charge. The rally was part of a 16-day campaign aimed at raising awareness about alleged voter disenfranchisement in Bihar. The opposition, including the INDIA bloc, accused the Election Commission and the ruling BJP of manipulating the electoral rolls

through the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) process. Yadav called the SIR a "dacoity of votes" and a conspiracy to snatch away people's democratic rights. The BJP responded sharply to Yadav's remarks. Party MP Deepak Prakash dismissed the claim as "Mungeri Lal's daydreams," asserting that there is no vacancy for the Prime Minister's post and that Congress should not expect to return to power anytime soon.

SC shields cartoonist over caricature

New Delhi: The Supreme Court of India has extended interim protection from arrest to Indore-based cartoonist Hemant Malviya, who was booked over a controversial caricature depicting Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS). The caricature, originally posted on social media during the COVID-19 pandemic, was alleged to be offensive and derogatory, sparking legal action under various sections of the Bharatiya Nyaya San-

hita and the Information Technology Act. A bench comprising Justices Arvind Kumar and NV Anjaria heard Malviya's plea for anticipatory bail after the Madhya Pradesh High Court had earlier rejected it, stating that the cartoonist had misused the freedom of speech and failed to exercise discretion. The High Court had also noted that the caricature included remarks involving Lord Shiva, which were deemed inappropriate and inflammatory.

PM Modi appeals for unanimous election of Radhakrishnan as Vice-President

New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday felicitated C P Radhakrishnan, Maharashtra Governor and the Vice-Presidential election candidate of the ruling National Democratic Alliance at a meeting of the coalition's Parliamentary Party held in the Parliament House complex here. Floor leaders of all NDA alliance partners, along with BJP MPs and those from other NDA constituents, attended the meeting held ahead of the September 9 election for the country's second-highest constitutional office. PM Modi introduced Rad-



hakrishnan, highlighting his life dedicated to social service, and appealed to leaders and members of all parties to rise above partisan lines to unanimously elect the 15th Vice-President of

the country. Also present at the meeting were senior ministers of the ruling coalition, including Defence Minister Rajnath Singh who is reaching out to all parties to build consensus.

Rahul warns CEC, ECs of action; nation demands affidavit post-election win

Gandhi compares EC's SIR scheme to Modi's special package rollout

Gaya: In a sharp escalation of his criticism against the Election Commission of India (ECI), Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Monday issued a stern warning to Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar and Election Commissioners Sukhbir Singh Sandhu and Vivek Joshi, stating that they would face strict action if the I.N.D.I.A. bloc comes to power. The remarks were made during the second day of the 'Voter Adhikar Yatra' in Bihar, where Gandhi was joined by RJD leader Tejashwi Yadav and other Mahagathbandhan allies. Gandhi



accused the ECI of facilitating a "new form of vote theft" through a scheme he referred to as SIR—Special Intensive Revision—allegedly introduced in Bihar. Drawing parallels with Prime Minister Narendra

Modi's "special package" announcements, Gandhi claimed the poll body's initiative was designed to manipulate electoral rolls and undermine democratic integrity. "The Constitution is the voice of Bharat Mata.

When votes are stolen, it is not just electoral fraud—it is an attack on the soul of India," Gandhi declared, holding up a copy of the Constitution amid rain-soaked crowds in Gaya. He emphasized that the entire nation would demand affidavits from the election commissioners to account for their actions once the I.N.D.I.A. bloc assumes power. The Congress leader's comments came in response to a seven-day ultimatum issued by the CEC, demanding that Gandhi submit a signed affidavit to substantiate his allegations of vote theft.

China to resolve India's fertiliser, mineral concerns

New Delhi: In a significant diplomatic development, China has agreed to address India's longstanding concerns over the restricted supply of fertilisers, rare earth minerals, and tunnel boring machines. The assurance was conveyed by Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi during his two-day visit to India, following high-level discussions with External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar. The move marks a strategic shift in bilateral trade relations, particularly in the wake of recent supply disruptions that impacted key sectors in India, including agriculture, infrastructure, and high-tech manufacturing. China's decision to lift ex-

port curbs comes after India raised the issue during Jaishankar's visit to Beijing last month and reiterated it during Monday's meeting in New Delhi. According to official sources, Wang Yi confirmed that China has already begun implementing changes to facilitate the export of Di-Ammonium Phosphate (DAP), rare earth magnets, and tunnel boring equipment. These materials are critical to India's agricultural output, electric vehicle production, and infrastructure development. Rare earth minerals, in particular, are essential for advanced technologies such as battery storage, drones, and renewable energy systems.



Tripura BJP leader expelled over videos



Agartala: The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) has expelled Manna Dey, mandal president of Khayerpur Assembly constituency in West Tripura, following the circulation of personal video and audio clips involving party leaders on social media platforms.

In an official letter issued by BJP state general secretary Amit Rakshit, the party cited Dey's actions as "unacceptable" and "against party discipline," noting that they had "tarnished the party's image."

Two Meghalaya girls selected for India's SAFF U-17 squad

Meghalaya girls in India's SAFF U-17 squad

Itanagar: Two young footballers from Meghalaya, Bonifilia Shullai and Alisha Lyngdoh, have been selected for the 23-member Indian squad for the South Asian Football Federation (SAFF) U-17 Women's Championship, scheduled to be held in Bhutan.



on social media, expressing pride in the state's representation in the national team for the prestigious championship. - Local football associations, including the East Jaintia Hills District Football Association also celebrated.

Sivasagar encroachment prompts eviction drive

Sivasagar: Centuries-old water bodies in Sivasagar are under severe threat from rampant encroachments, prompting widespread public outrage and renewed calls for administrative action.

including professionals and government employees, raising concerns of systemic collusion. Excavated during the reign of Ahom royalty, this historic water channel is now choked with garbage and encroachments.

Manipur Governor Bhalla gets Nagaland charge

New Delhi: Manipur Governor Ajay Kumar Bhalla has been assigned additional charge as the Governor of Nagaland following the demise of Governor La Ganesan, according to a communique issued by the Rashtrapati Bhavan.

functions of the Governor of Nagaland, in addition to his own duties," the official note stated. The appointment comes in the wake of the death of La Ganesan, who was serving as the Governor of Nagaland since February 2023.

Manipur BJP MLA slams Congress over President's Rule stance contradiction

Imphal: BJP MLA L Susindro Meitei has sharply criticized the Congress party for what he described as a contradictory position regarding the imposition of President's Rule in Manipur.



The party's current call for fresh elections and restoration of governance contradicts its earlier stance. - Five Congress MLAs were singled out as "problematic," allegedly contributing

to the collapse of the previous government. Meitei referenced a remark by the Congress president likening the fall of the BJP-led government to being hit by a "Brahmastra missile."

CM Sarma hails NDA VP nominee CP Radhakrishnan as a veteran statesman

Election set for September 9; NDA seeks consensus support

Guwahati: Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma has extended his warm congratulations to Maharashtra Governor Chandrapuram Ponnusamy Radhakrishnan, who has been nominated as the National Democratic Alliance's (NDA) candidate for the upcoming Vice Presidential election.



in numerous roles. Both as Governor and as Parliamentarian, serving the people was his foremost priority," Sarma posted on social media. The nomination

was announced by BJP President J.P. Nadda following a high-level meeting chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The NDA is reportedly seeking a con-

sensus candidate and has initiated outreach to opposition parties to ensure an uncontested election. Radhakrishnan, a two-time Lok Sabha MP from Coimbatore and former Tamil Nadu BJP president, has held gubernatorial roles in Maharashtra, Jharkhand, Telangana, and Puducherry.

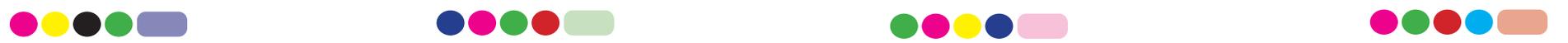
Over 1,100+ exotic wildlife seized in Mizoram since 2020

Aizawl: Mizoram has emerged as a critical hotspot in India's fight against wildlife trafficking, with over 1,100 exotic animals seized since June 2020, according to the state's Environment, Forests and Climate Change (EF&CC) Department.

animals are often transported in cramped, unsanitary conditions, leading to severe health complications and fatalities. Once confiscated, courts typically order the animals to be sent to the Aizawl Zoological Garden in Lungverh.

The smuggled animals—primarily lizards, along with birds, snakes, crocodiles, and alligators—were reportedly trafficked from South Asian countries via Myanmar. The seizures were carried out through coordinated efforts involving the Assam Rifles, Border Security Force, Directorate of Revenue Intelligence, Customs, state police, and local civil society volunteers. Officials say the

"The animals are often found in poor health, having been deprived of food and care during transport," said a zoo official. "This results in fatalities even before proper treatment can be administered." Beyond exotic seizures, the zoo also rehabilitates native wildlife.



Sony India expands audio portfolio with ULT POWER SOUND series, targets festive demand

Guwahati: Sony India has unveiled its second-generation ULT POWER SOUND lineup, featuring ULT TOWER 9, ULT TOWER 9AC, ULT FIELD 5, ULT FIELD 3, and the ULTMIC1 wireless microphone. All models come with the signature ULT button for enhanced bass, offering immersive sound through select-

able modes and advanced features like 360° Party Sound, Party Connect, and Sound Field Optimization. Sony India Managing Director Sunil Nayyar said the launch reflects a commitment to innovation, adding that brand ambassador Karan Aujla's youth appeal complements the series' energetic positioning. Aujla praised the line-

up for delivering "deep, soul-stirring bass" and "crystal-clear sound." In Guwahati's premium electronics segment, retailers predict strong traction for portable models ULT FIELD 5 and ULT FIELD 3, appealing to the city's growing trend of outdoor gatherings and music-driven social events. The flagship ULT TOWER 9, with

25-hour battery life, is expected to attract high-end buyers hosting large parties, especially ahead of the festive season. Available at Sony retail stores, major electronics outlets, and e-commerce portals, prices start at ₹14,990. As a launch offer, buyers of the ULT TOWER 9 and 9AC will receive a Sony Wireless MIC worth ₹19,990.

Nissan rolls out 10-year warranty for new Magnite



Gurugram: Nissan Motor India has unveiled a segment-first 10-Year Extended Warranty Plan for the New Nissan Magnite, recently awarded a Global NCAP 5-star rating for adult occupant safety. Available only for vehicles with a 3-year standard warranty, the plan offers coverage for up to 10 years or 2 lakh kilometres at just 22 paise/km or INR 12/day. Customers can choose from flexible packages — including 3+7, 3+4, 3+3, 3+2, and 3+1 years — with comprehen-

sive protection for seven years and engine-transmission coverage for the 8th, 9th and 10th years. The plan can be financed through Nissan Finance and ensures cashless repairs at authorised service centres nationwide, with unlimited claims. Saurabh Vatsa, MD, Nissan Motor India, said the initiative reflects the company's commitment to delivering "worry-free ownership for a decade" backed by Japanese engineering, robust reliability and premium craftsmanship.

Bank of India plans listings

Bank of India (BOI) is considering listing its mutual fund and life insurance arms as the first potential market listing, similar to other public sector banks like State Bank of India and Canara Bank, which have already explored or initiated IPO plans for their subsidiaries.

Indian Oil-Air India pact

Indian Oil has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Air India to supply Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF). The order comes after Indian Oil received the necessary certification for SAF production at its Panipat Refinery, becoming the first Indian petroleum company to receive such certifications from the International Civil Aviation Organisation.

Hindustan Zinc targets uranium



Hindustan Zinc, a Vedanta Group company, said that it will expand into uranium mining if the government decides to open up uranium mining for private players. Arun Misra, the Chief Executive Officer of Hindustan Zinc, told Reuters that if new uranium blocks are put out for private companies, Hindustan Zinc will be the first to bid.

Vi Movies & TV boosts OTT viewership via Independence Day stream, curated specials

Mumbai: Vi Movies & TV, the content aggregator platform from Vi, is witnessing a surge in viewer engagement ahead of India's 79th Independence Day, combining live events with curated patriotic content from top OTT platforms. The platform enables Vi users to stream the Flag Hoisting ceremony and Prime Minister Narendra Modi's address live from the Red Fort, New



Delhi, free of subscription, while also offering a special watchlist featuring films and series such as Uri: The Surgical Strike, Mukhbir – The Story of a Spy, Sam Bahadur, Avrohd: The Siege Within, and Neerja. With subscription

plans starting at Rs. 154, Vi Movies & TV provides access to 17 leading OTT platforms, including Jio Hotstar, SonyLIV, ZEE5, and Shemaroo, creating a single-point solution for premium content and reducing the need for multiple subscriptions. Analysts note that such bundled offerings are driving growth in digital content adoption and customer stickiness across key markets.

Tata AIA unveils Shubh Shakti for women's financial, health security

Guwahati: Tata AIA Life Insurance has launched "Shubh Shakti," a women-focused term insurance plan designed to provide holistic protection for working women across India. The plan offers women-specific benefits such as premium holidays during pregnancy, lower annual premiums, special health support including PCOD care, IVF counselling, vaccination assistance, and access to specialist consultations. It also ensures child education protection and waiver of premium on husband's or accidental death, providing financial security for the entire family. Swati Jain, Women Advisor at Tata AIA, said, "With Shubh Shakti, we're empowering women to secure their family's future, invest in health, and lead a worry-free life. Strong wom-



en deserve protection as strong as they are." The launch comes amid rising female workforce participation, which grew to 41.7% in FY24 from 23.3% in FY18. Despite these gains, 89% of married women still rely on their husbands for financial planning, highlighting the urgent need for women-focused solutions. In Guwahati, financial advisors report growing interest among women professionals for tailored insurance plans. Local customers are increasingly seeking products that combine health, wellness, and financial security. Shubh Shakti is expected to attract women who want comprehensive coverage at affordable premiums, reflecting a shift toward greater financial independence in the city's urban workforce.

Adani Group denies link to Mahabal Cement; Assam land allotment claims "baseless"

New Delhi: The Adani Group has clarified that it has no connection with Mahabal Cement following circulating reports claiming that the Assam government allotted 3,000 bighas in DimaHasao district for a cement plant linked to the conglomerate. In a statement from Ahmedabad, the group described the reports, social media posts, and court hearing clips as "baseless, false and misleading." The spokesperson emphasized, "Linking the Adani name

to Mahabal Cement is mischievous," and urged media, digital platforms, and the public to verify facts before sharing such claims. The announcement is expected to remove uncertainty in the industrial and investment landscape of Assam, particularly regarding large-scale infrastructure and cement projects. Market watchers say unverified reports can trigger speculation and affect investor sentiment, highlighting the need for accurate information.

Axis Max Life Survey reveals East India insurance ownership at 79%, with Kolkata leading the region at a striking 85%

Guwahati: East India is showing strong commitment to life insurance, with ownership at 79% and a Protection Quotient (PQ) of 42, according to the seventh edition of Axis Max Life's India Protection Quotient (IPQ 7.0) survey, conducted with KANTAR. The Knowledge Index in the region rose to 42%, driven by

growing awareness of ULIPs and savings plans. Kolkata, the region's financial hub, recorded 85% life insurance ownership and a PQ of 47, reflecting increasing familiarity with advanced protection and investment-linked products. The survey highlights that 41% of respondents invest with family-led intent, focus-

ing on children's education, old-age security, and medical protection. The Security Index at 46 signals an opportunity to convert awareness into long-term confidence. Term insurance adoption remains low at 25%, suggesting room for growth through better access, education, and simplified products. In

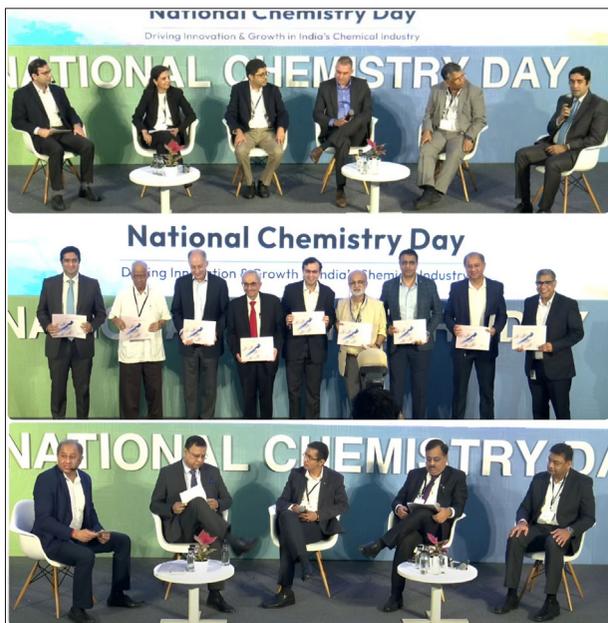
Guwahati, urban families are increasingly prioritising financial protection. Local agencies report rising demand for savings-linked plans and goal-based insurance, particularly among parents seeking education and healthcare security for children. Growing digital exposure is helping consumers explore products

like ULIPs and term plans, indicating significant growth potential in the Assam market. Prashant Tripathy, CEO of Axis Max Life, said, "East India exemplifies early financial inclusion, and our focus is to transform awareness into confidence through education and personalised solutions."



Godrej Chemistry Summit drives innovation, global goals, industry vision, future strategy

Guwahati: Godrej Industries Group (GIG) has set a strong agenda for the future of India's chemical sector with the second edition of its National Chemistry Day Summit, held on Tuesday. Organized by Godrej Industries (Chemicals) and Astec LifeSciences, the event brought together business leaders, academicians, and researchers to deliberate on advancing India's role in the global chemical value chain. The summit, themed "Driving Innovation and Growth in India's Chemical Industry", highlighted research and development, digitalisation, and nurturing future-ready talent as key growth drivers. Burjis Godrej, Executive Director of Godrej Agrovet and Managing Director of Astec LifeSciences, alongside Nadir Godrej, Chairperson of GIG, stressed the impor-



tance of chemistry in creating a sustainable future. Vishal Sharma, Executive Director & CEO of Godrej Industries (Chemicals), emphasized resilience, academia-industry collaboration, and the shift from backend production to in-

novation leadership. The launch of the CTIER Innovation Report, offering insights into India's R&D leadership, added weight to the discussions. sectors like tea, textiles, and agro-based industries is steadily rising.

VIT Chancellor highlights education as key to India's 2047 growth, inspires future leaders

Vellore: Dr. G. Viswanathan, Chancellor of Vellore Institute of Technology (VIT), urged a renewed focus on education as a cornerstone for India's transformation into a developed nation by 2047 during the university's 40th Convocation Ceremony on Saturday. Supreme Court Justice R. Mahadevan, the chief guest, conferred degrees to 8,310 undergraduates, 2,802 post-graduates, and 451 doctoral graduates, while 68 students received gold medals for excellence and 203 were recognized for top rankings. Tamil Nadu Police Academy Director DGP Sandeep Rai Rathore received a Ph.D. in Disaster Management. The ceremony also included the inauguration of student hostels named after Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam and Jagadish Chandra Bose, reflecting VIT's commitment to pro-



viding holistic development for students. Times of India CEO Sivakumar Sundaram attended as guest of honor. Dr. Viswanathan highlighted India's low education spending—currently 3% of GDP versus the recommended 6%—and stressed the need for expanded infrastructure to achieve a 50% Gross Enrollment Ratio. He urged students to tackle corruption and black money, positioning education as both a personal and national growth driver. The

emphasis on higher education and skill development is expected to strengthen local human capital, boost demand for professional training, edtech services, and student accommodation, and attract private investments, enhancing the city's business ecosystem. Justice Mahadevan lauded VIT's use of technology and ethical education, encouraging students to combine knowledge with integrity to contribute meaningfully to India's progress.

Rasna reintroduces Jumpin, eyes INR 1000 cr RTD market with pan-India expansion

Guwahati: Rasna Pvt. Ltd., India's leading instant beverage manufacturer, has launched the all-new Jumpin, a 100% Indian-made ready-to-drink (RTD) fruit juice, timed with the country's 79th Independence Day. The launch aligns with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's "Be Indian, Buy Indian" campaign, reflecting Rasna's commitment to Swadeshi products and the domestic

RTD segment, targeting an estimated INR 1000 crore market share. Rasna celebrated the occasion by distributing Jumpin beverages to Border Security Force (BSF) personnel and their families, honoring their service to the nation. Group Chairman Piruz Khambatta highlighted that Jumpin is entirely developed in India—from research and development to ingredient sourcing, manufacturing,

and packaging—supporting local farmers, MSMEs, and domestic supply chains. The new Jumpin range offers Mango, Orange, Litchi, and Mixed Fruit flavors, fortified with 10 essential vitamins and just 7 grams of added sugar. Available in PET bottles (250 ml to 1.2 L) and Tetra Packs (125 ml, 200 ml, 1 L), prices range from Rs 10 to Rs 85. Notably, the brand offers a 125 ml orange drink in Rs 10

Tetra Pack, a unique market proposition. In Guwahati, retailers report strong consumer demand for Jumpin, particularly among health-conscious families and young professionals. Early sales indicate the brand is well-positioned to capture market share, with convenience, affordability, and nutritional value driving uptake in local supermarkets and neighborhood stores.

Amrita trauma win ignites Northeast healthcare debate

Faridabad: The successful recovery of 33-year-old Guwahati resident Pinku Mani Talukdar at Amrita Hospital, Faridabad, after 18 complex reconstructive surgeries, has sparked fresh discussions in Northeast market circles on the economic and logistical aspects of advanced healthcare access. Pinku's ordeal began on January 20 when a speeding truck hit the scooter she was riding pillion on, dragging her several metres. Severe tissue loss, multiple fractures, and early sepsis put her life

at risk. After initial treatment in Guwahati, she was airlifted to Delhi but faced repeated hospital refusals due to case complexity. Amrita Hospital admitted her without delay, initiating emergency surgery led by Senior Consultant Dr. Shikha Gupta, ultimately saving her leg and life. Now fully mobile, Pinku's case has become a reference point for how prompt, well-coordinated medical intervention can influence both health outcomes and market-linked livelihoods in the Northeast.

Ayurveda-driven demand for superfoods rises as monsoon acne solutions gain popularity

Guwahati: With monsoon humidity causing a spike in skin concerns, the Ayurvedic superfoods market is witnessing growing consumer interest. Seasonal changes, according to experts, aggravate Vata and Pitta doshas, leading to inflammation and acne. Leading Ayurveda practitioner, Dr. Madhumitha Krishnan, suggests including that balance Vata and Pitta Dosha with

inherent properties of being sweet in nature, slightly oily foods in your monsoon diet to soothe your body and manage skin issues. She recommends five Ayurveda superfoods, from nutritious almonds to tridosha balancing amla, to keep pimples at bay and have clear skin.

Almonds

Almonds perfectly fit the bill as an addition to the monsoon diet as they are

primarily sweet in taste. They are known to balance the Vata and Pitta Dosha. They are slightly oily perfect to nourish the skin from within. As such, they are perfect for preserving balance throughout the rainy season. According to published Ayurveda, Siddha and Unani texts, almonds are good for skin health and can enhance skin glow. Soaking them overnight

aids in better digestion and provides deep skin nourishment.

In Guwahati, traders report increased sales of California almonds, organic turmeric, fresh amla, and neem-based supplements, driven by wellness trends and social media influence. Retailers note that consumers are opting for premium, organic variants despite higher prices.

Bengaluru leads Flipkart Minutes night orders

Bengaluru: Flipkart Minutes, the quick-commerce arm of Flipkart, has revealed fascinating consumer insights in its first annual report, "Minutes That Move India." Among the stand-out findings: Bengaluru has topped the list for the most late-night orders on the platform, showcasing the city's strong appetite for instant delivery, especially for tech gadgets and essentials. The report highlights

that Bengaluru not only led in late-night purchases but also recorded Flipkart Minutes' fastest-ever delivery—just 3 minutes and 21 seconds—in the city's HSR Layout. Young consumers in Bengaluru, Pune, and Patna emerged as the most active instant shoppers, with peak order times between 7 AM and 8 AM. Across India, onions were the most-ordered item, with over a million orders placed this year.



From diet to data; tech-driven solutions reshape diabetes management in India

Guwahati: Diabetes management in India is entering a new era as technology merges with personalised nutrition to give people real-time control over their blood sugar. Continuous Glucose Monitoring (CGM) devices, unlike traditional finger pricks or periodic HbA1c tests, offer minute-by-minute readings directly on smartphones, alerting users when glu-

cose levels go beyond target. Dr Samiran Das, DM Endo, Nemcare Super Speciality Hospital, Guwahati, explained that rapidly digestible carbs can cause sudden glucose spikes, but "CGMs and food-tracking apps allow people to monitor food impact instantly and share data with doctors—especially vital when visits are difficult." Abbott's Dr Vivek Iyer added that

tech and mindful nutrition together simplify meal planning, recipe tweaks, and snacking decisions. In Guwahati's retail landscape, pharmacies are reporting growing sales of CGM devices, while supermarkets are expanding their range of low-GI foods, sugar substitutes, and protein-rich snacks. Health-conscious consumers are increasingly opt-

ing for diabetic-friendly options, reflecting a shift in purchasing trends and creating opportunities for health tech and food brands. Experts advise close carb monitoring, smarter sugar swaps, mindful snacking, and informed dining choices. With data-driven insights, India's diabetes market is poised for stronger consumer engagement and innovation-led growth.

LIC launches special campaign to revive lapsed policies



Mumbai: Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) has launched a nationwide "Special Revival Campaign" to help policyholders reinstate their lapsed individual insurance policies. The campaign runs from August 18 to October 17, 2025, and applies to all eligible non-linked insurance plans. Policies can be revived within five years from the date of the first unpaid premium, provided they are still within the premium-paying term and have not completed the policy term. However, LIC clarified that no concessions will be offered on medical or health requirements, which must be fulfilled as per standard revival procedures.

The campaign is aimed at supporting policyholders who may have missed payments due to financial or personal challenges. LIC emphasized that keeping

policies in force is essential to ensure full insurance benefits and long-term financial protection for families.

Policyholders can initiate the revival process by contacting their LIC agent, visiting a branch, or reaching out to customer service. All required documents and medical reports must be submitted by the policyholder, and any associated costs will be borne by the life assured.

LIC encourages customers to take advantage of this limited-time opportunity to restore their coverage and secure their financial future. This campaign is a strategic move to re-engage policyholders and reinforce LIC's role as a long-term financial safety net. LIC encourages policyholders to take advantage of this limited-time opportunity by contacting their LIC agent.

Rupee strengthens to 86.99



Mumbai: Indian rupee appreciated by 40 paise to close at 86.99 against the US dollar on Tuesday, August 19, 2025. This marks its strongest level in a month, driven by positive domestic market sentiment and optimism surrounding proposed changes to the Goods and Services Tax (GST) structure. At the interbank foreign exchange market, the rupee opened at 87.24, touched an intraday low of 87.31 and a high of 86.92, before settling at 86.99. This gain follows a 20 paise appreciation on Monday, when the rupee closed at 87.39. Optimism over GST restructuring, as announced by Prime Minister Narendra Modi during his Independence Day speech. Easing concerns over additional US tariffs following a diplomatic meeting between US President Donald Trump and Russian President Vladimir Putin. Falling crude oil prices, with Brent crude trading 1.04% lower at USD 65.91 per barrel. Weakness in the US dollar index, which slipped by 0.13% to 98.04. The proposed GST reform aims to simplify the current four-slab system (0%, 5%, 12%, 18%, and 28%) into a two-slab structure of 5% and 18%, with a special 40% bracket for select demerit goods. This move is expected to boost investor confidence.

MakeMyTrip launches AI-powered hotel mapping to boost wildlife tourism

New Delhi: MakeMyTrip has introduced a new AI-powered hotel mapping feature designed to enhance wildlife tourism across India. This innovative tool helps travelers easily find and book accommodations near national parks by linking over 2,000 hotels and homestays to specific entry gates and safari zones across more than 100 parks. The feature allows users to search by park or gate and instantly view nearby lodging options. It also includes a "Tips" section that provides essential information such as park timings, peak seasons, entry rules, transport details, and links to official tourism websites. Accord-



ing to MakeMyTrip, interest in wildlife destinations has doubled over the past two years. The company hopes this technology will make it easier for people to explore India's natural heritage and support sustainable tourism. Ankit Khanna, Chief Product Officer at MakeMyTrip, said the goal is to simplify travel planning and encourage

more visitors to experience the country's rich biodiversity. The feature allows users to search by park or gate and instantly view nearby lodging options. It also includes a "Tips" section that provides essential information such as park timings, peak seasons, entry rules, transport details, and links to official tourism websites.

SEBI reconsiders intraday limits for equity derivatives: Report

Mumbai: The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) is actively reconsidering intraday position limits for equity derivatives, particularly index options and futures, in response to growing concerns over market manipulation and retail investor losses. A key panel within SEBI—the Secondary Market Advisory Committee (SMAC)—met on Tuesday to discuss stricter intraday limits aimed at curbing excessive exposure by large traders and proprietary firms. This move follows SEBI's recent action against U.S.-based high-frequency trading firm Jane Street, which was



temporarily banned for allegedly manipulative strategies that led to significant retail losses. Earlier in February, SEBI had proposed a ₹10,000 crore intraday cap on index derivative po-

sitions, but the plan was shelved after pushback from major market-making firms. Instead, exchanges were instructed to monitor intraday exposures more closely. Now, SEBI is revis-

iting the idea, with the panel expected to recommend new limits and enhanced monitoring mechanisms. Currently, SEBI has set an end-of-day exposure cap of ₹15,000 crore for option positions across a firm's portfolio. However, many traders take larger intraday positions, especially on weekly expiry days, and square them off before market close—effectively bypassing the EOD limit. To address this loophole, SEBI may introduce net intraday limits and enforce stricter compliance on expiry days. The regulator's renewed scrutiny comes amid alarming data.

Trump eyes 10% Intel stake



The Trump administration is in advanced discussions to acquire a 10% equity stake in Intel Corporation, a move that could make the U.S. government the largest shareholder in the struggling American chipmaker. The proposed investment would involve converting up to \$10.9 billion in grants awarded to Intel under the U.S. Chips and Science Act into equity.

Arsenal issue early Premier League warning with gritty victory over Manchester United

Arsenal's set-piece threat confirmed as Calafiori scored on 13 minutes

Manchester: Arsenal delivered an early warning to their Premier League rivals with a determined 1-0 victory over Manchester United at Old Trafford. The match was decided by a 13th-minute header from Riccardo Calafiori, who capitalized on a corner from Declan Rice after a misjudged clearance by United's goalkeeper Altay Bayindir. The win marked a continuation of Arsenal's dominance from set pieces. Since the start of the 2023-24 season, the Gunners have scored 31 league goals from corners—11 more than any other team. Despite the defeat, Manchester United showed promise. Manager



Ruben Amorim handed debuts to several high-profile signings, including Matheus Cunha, Bryan Mbeumo, and Patrick Dorgu. United registered 22 attempts on goal, with Dorgu hitting the post and Cunha and Mbeumo denied by Arsenal goalkeeper David Raya, who delivered a

standout performance. Arsenal, meanwhile, leaned on defensive discipline and tactical efficiency. New striker Viktor Gyökeres had a quiet debut, but the team's structure and substitutions—such as Kai Havertz and Jurriën Timber—helped them maintain control in the second half.

Post-match, Arsenal manager Mikel Arteta praised his team's resilience:

"A big, big result coming into the first game of the season at Old Trafford. We weren't at our best, but the team showed resilience and found a way to win. That's what competing at the top is all about."

"We were the better team. The performance was strong, and we created chances. But we need to be more clinical. I'm proud of the effort and believe we can win any game in this league." Bayindir's selection over Andre Onana drew criticism, especially after his error led to the decisive goal. Amorim defended the decision.

Liberatore aims rebound versus struggling Marlins



Left-hander Matthew Liberatore loser of four straight decisions and winless since June 29 will try to get back on track Monday night as his St. Louis Cardinals visit the Miami Marlins to open a three-game series. Liberatore, 25, was a first-round pick by Tampa Bay in 2018, straight out of the Arizona prep ranks. The Cardinals acquired him in January 2020 in a trade that sent outfielder Randy Arozarena to the Rays. With the Cardinals, Liberatore is 3-3 with a 3.89 ERA in 67 career relief appearances; and, as a starter, he is 11-19 with

a 4.91 ERA. This season, however, is the first when Liberatore has been exclusively a starter. He is 6-10 with a 4.08 ERA in 22 appearances. But the transition may be taking its toll. After compiling a 3.70 ERA over his first 17 starts, Liberatore has seen that number grow to 5.95 ERA over his last five starts a span over which he has failed to go more than 4 1/3 innings in any start. Part of the problem is that Liberatore's fastball tends to hit 95 mph for his first three innings. From there, the trend is for his velocity to drop to 93 and as low as 91 mph.

Asia Cup

Gill puzzle baffles selectors



As of now, the prolific Test captain, who had a dream run in England recently, is not organically fitting into the side which will play the continental showpiece from September 9 to 28. For Ajit Agarkar and his colleagues, the major point of deliberation will be how to fix something that doesn't need to be mended. It's a "scary" conundrum for the selectors but Indian cricket right now is a T20 talent factory with at least 30 players who are ready to come into the national squad with three to four options available for one slot. For the top three positions, there are six cricketers of similar pedigree available.

Abhishek Sharma, Sanju Samson and Tilak Varma have been phenomenal in national colours through last season but then the ones who are equally good, if not better, happen to be Gill, Yashasvi Jaiswal and Sai Sudharsan (the IPL Orange Cap winner).

Milwaukee's streak echoes Brewers' wild, roller-coaster ride in 1987

The Milwaukee Brewers have been the talk of baseball recently because of their 14-game winning streak. That run also gives us a chance to appreciate a particularly unusual big league season — the Brewers' super streaky run through 1987. It was those '87 Brewers who won their first 13 games of the season, triggering the same free burger promotion by a local chain that went into effect when this year's streak hit 12. That 13-0 start which included Juan Nieves throwing the first no-hitter in team history in win No. 9 — stood as the franchise's longest winning streak in



a season until this year's Brewers surpassed it Saturday. Milwaukee was 20-3 in 1987 before crashing back to earth with alarming quickness. May had barely begun when the team lost 12 in a row. The Brewers snuck in another losing streak of six games before

the month was over — only to follow with an immediate six-game winning streak. It wasn't just team streaks that made that season notable in Milwaukee. Hall of Famer Paul Molitor produced a 39-game hitting streak that year, a run that hasn't been matched since.

Kishan skips opener, Akash Deep gets rest

New Delhi: Wicketkeeper-batter Ishan Kishan will miss out on the Duleep Trophy opener for East Zone as he is currently recovering from a minor injury sustained during his county stint with Nottinghamshire in the UK. For the clash starting from November 28, Kishan has been replaced by Odisha's Aashirwad Swain in the East Zone's squad, as per ESPNcricinfo. As per ESPNcricinfo, Kishan's injury required multiple stitches, which is why he was not selected as a replacement for Rishabh Pant ahead of the fifth and final Test against England at The Oval, as the superstar batter was ruled out due to a foot injury. Eventually, the replacement was Tamil Nadu's Narayan Jagadeesan, as a back-up for Dhruv Jurel. Kishan's injury is however, not a serious one as his missing the campaign opener for East Zone is a precautionary measure as he could be running to appear in the India

Bangladesh likely to replace Pakistan in Asia Cup hockey

The Indian government had already said that it will provide visas to the Pakistani players for Asia Cup, but the Pakistan Hockey Federation (PHF) has refused to travel citing security concerns. The organisers have already approached Bangladesh to fill up Pakistan's place in the eight-team tournament, but Hockey India said the exact scenario will be clear in the next 48 hours. "The Indian

Proteas include Brevis, young pacer debuting

Teenage pacer Kwena Maphaka has been added to South Africa's squad for the three-match ODI series against Australia, starting from Tuesday onwards. Maphaka earns a place in the 17-player ODI squad on the back of some impressive performances during the recent T20I series with the Aussies, where the left-armer collected nine scalps to finish as the leading wicket-taker across the series, including a four-wicket haul, as per ICC. The 19-year-old could be in contention to add to his two ODI caps during the series with Australia that commences in Cairns on Tuesday, with in-form batter Dewald Brevis almost certain to win an ODI debut following some superb efforts in the 20-over series that the Aussies won 2-1. Brevis managed a series-best 180 runs across the three matches (including a century and fifty each) at an average of 90 and strike rate in excess of 200.

government has already said that it is willing to provide visas to Pakistani players but if they don't want to come to India, it's not our problem. Bangladesh has already been invited to participate in case Pakistan doesn't come but we will have to wait for two more days to get the confirmation," the HI official said when quizzed about the situation. "Neither Pakistan or Bangladesh have confirmed anything to us till now. But Bangladesh are likely replacement for Pakistan," he added. Pakistan's participation in the Asia Cup -- a qualifying tournament for the 2026 World Cup -- was uncertain after the military confrontation with India following the Pahalgam terror attack. India had launched Operation Sindoor to destroy terror infrastructure in Pakistan after the terror attack that killed 26 people.