

# MIDNIGHT REPORTER

**Bureaucracy, Public Sector, Corporate, Real Estate & Tourism**

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## DSP Siraj : Dilo Ka Sartaj

IND vs ENG 5th Test: When Mohammed Siraj dismantled Harry Brook's stumps with the help of the inside edge on Day 2, he brought up his usual Cristiano Ronaldo post-goal pirouette celebration. Hailing from Hyderabad and a huge Cristiano fan, Siraj became the highest wicket-getter of the ongoing series and also rose to the occasion in Jasprit Bumrah's absence and helped the side bounce back. The right-arm pacer scalped 23 wickets and led India to a famous six-run win against the hosts in the fifth and final Test at the Oval. The 31-year-old took five wickets in the second innings of the final game, helping Shubman Gill's India register a miraculous win against all odds to level the series.

He does boast of brilliant skills, and that gets overshadowed by the size of his heart. Whether during rain interruptions or playing under bright sunshine or on bowler-friendly pitches, or suffering heartbreaking defeats, he has bowled in ball after ball and over after over, and his intensity never came down, and neither did he express his frustration throughout this series. He was seen shrugging off his shoulders after dropping catches, but remained energetic to bowl long spells and also motivated his fellow teammates and threw himself out as if his life depended on it. In a lot of ways, he became the engine of the team along with Rishabh Pant.

The Day was all about Siraj's heroics and the way he stood up in Bumrah's absence. The Gujarat Titans' star pacer proved his worth, and Bumrah himself acknowledged his effort of being a successful bowler. And whenever Bumrah hasn't played in this series, Siraj was at his absolute best, as he spearheaded India's pace attack from the front.



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## Appointments

K.Muralidhar, IRS Appointed Addl. Commissioner, State Taxes Department, AP Shri Kommisetty Muralidhar IRS (C&IT 2014), presently Joint Commissioner, Kochi GST & CX, Kochi, Kerala, is deputed as Additional Commissioner – State Taxes Department, HQ, Government of Andhra Pradesh, for a period of 3 years on Central Deputation basis.

### 4 AGMUT IPS Transfers To Delhi

The Ministry of Home Affairs has issued fresh transfer and posting orders for four (04) Indian Police Service (IPS) officers of the AGMUT cadre, including the transfer of the current DIG of Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu, Shri Dumbere Milind Mahadeo, a 2006 batch officer of the cadre. The appointments are effective immediately. These transfers are part of routine cadre planning to ensure effective leadership placement across Union Territories.

Shri Dumbere Milind Mahadeo IPS (AGMUT 2006), presently posted as Deputy Inspector General (DIG) of Police, Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu (DNH&DD), with additional charge of DIG, Prisons, DNH&DD, is transferred to Delhi Police.

Shri Amit Sharma IPS (AGMUT 2010), presently posted as Superintendent of Police (SP), Dadra & Nagar Haveli, with additional charges of SP, Anti-Corruption Unit, DNH&DD, SP, Traffic, DNH, and, Principal, Police Training School, Sayli, DNH&DD, is transferred to Delhi Police.

Shri Santosh Kumar Meena IPS (AGMUT 2010), on return from Central Deputation where he was posted as DIG, National Investigation Agency (NIA), is transferred to DNH&DD

Shri Mohd Irshad Haider IPS (AGMUT 2013), presently SP, HQ, Andaman & Nicobar, is transferred to Delhi Police.

### Appointments Committee Clears Apex Scale for SPG Director Alok Sharma IPS

Shri Alok Sharma IPS (Uttar Pradesh 1991), presently serving as Director – Special Protection Group (SPG), MHA, and due to retire on 30 June 2026, has been granted the Apex Pay Scale (Level-17 in the pay matrix), by the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) with immediate effect (4th August, 2025). Shri Alok Sharma, born 15 June 1966, has been the Director General of the Special Protection Group (SPG) India since 17 November 2023.

### Longjam Siddhartha Singh given extension as Additional Secretary & FA- Ministry of Defence



Shri Longjam Siddhartha Singh IA&AS (1994) presently Additional Secretary & Financial Advisor, Ministry of Defence has been given extension in central deputation for a period up to 12.05.2026. Mr. Siddhartha Singh Longjam is a distinguished officer from the Indian Audit & Accounts Department, Government of India, with a decade-long track record in auditing and governance. A certified professional in both Information Systems Auditing and Internal Auditing, he has consistently demonstrated deep expertise and a commitment to enhancing transparency and accountability within public institutions.

Mr. Longjam was honored with the prestigious Prime Minister's Award for Excellence in Public Administration in 2008, recognizing his contribution as part of the pioneering team that introduced Information Systems Audit within government operations—a significant step toward modernizing public administration. Between 2006 and 2011, he served on deputation as Director in the Ministry of Steel, where he was instrumental in overseeing key responsibilities such as inter-agency coordination, restructuring and mergers of steel public sector enterprises, and the development of corporate social responsibility initiatives. His role also extended to addressing regulatory and policy matters concerning India's ship recycling industry, a sector vital to both environmental sustainability and economic development.

### Mayank Sharma appointed as Financial Adviser – Defence Services, MoD

Shri Mayank Sharma IDAS (1989) presently Controller General of Defence Accounts (CGDA) has been appointed as Financial Adviser (Defence Services) in the Ministry of Defence with effect from 01.08.2025. Punya Salila Srivastava given extension as Chairperson- FSSAI Ms. Punya Salila Srivastava IAS (Uttarakhand 1993) presently Secretary- Department of Health and Family Welfare has been given extension in the additional charge as Chairperson- FSSAI for a further period of 06 months w.e.f. 01.08.2025.

### Dr Jitendra Singh hails UPSC 'PRATIBHA Setu' Initiative



but narrowly miss out on selection.

PRATIBHA, which stands for *Professional Resource And Talent Integration*, and Setu, meaning *bridge*, together symbolize a meaningful link between talent and opportunity. It serves as a recruitment bridge for those aspirants who have successfully cleared the written and interview stages of the UPSC examinations but were not ultimately recommended in the final merit list.

Dr. Jitendra Singh, in his remarks following a meeting with the newly appointed UPSC Chairman Dr. Ajay Kumar, praised this initiative as a "forward-thinking approach" to tapping into a pool of talented individuals. He emphasized that many of these aspirants, having gone through one of the most rigorous selection processes in the country, possess a high level of competence and commitment—traits that can significantly benefit both public and private sector institutions.

Originally developed from the Public Disclosure Scheme of 2018, PRATIBHA Setu has now evolved into a robust platform that facilitates direct interaction between prospective employers and non-recommended candidates. Unlike the earlier model where candidate details were merely published on the UPSC website, the upgraded interface allows verified organizations to register and access candidate data securely. So far, over 113 organizations have joined the initiative, and many more are expressing keen interest in tapping into this unique talent reservoir.

### Sonali Mishra IPS Appointed as First Woman DG of RPF



Ms. Sonali Mishra IPS (Madhya Pradesh 1993) has been appointed as the new Director General of RPF, in a landmark moment in the 143-year history of the Railway Protection Force (RPF). With this appointment, she becomes the first woman to hold the top position in the force, a development widely welcomed across the policing and railway community. The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has approved her appointment to the post until her superannuation on October 31, 2026. A seasoned Indian Police Service officer, Ms. Mishra brings with her over 30 years of wide-ranging and exemplary service marked by integrity, dedication, and leadership.

Prior to this assignment, Ms. Mishra served as Additional Director General of Police (Selection/Recruitment) in Madhya Pradesh, while also holding the additional responsibilities of ADG, Police Training & Research Institute, Bhopal, and Director of the Madhya Pradesh Police Academy. Her leadership in these key training and selection positions has been instrumental in shaping the next generation of police professionals.

### Vaidya given extension as Consultant in Digital Health and Innovation, WHO



Dr. Vaidya Rajeshwari Singh RO(Ay), Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences (CCRAS) has been given extension in international assignment as Consultant in Digital Health and Innovation (DHI), World Health Organization (WHO), for a further period of one year from 01.07.2025 to 30.06.2026 on the proposal of Ministry of AYUSH.

Dr. Rajeshwari Singh is a distinguished professional in the field of Ayurveda, holding an M.D. in Ayurveda Pharmacology from the esteemed National Institute of Ayurveda, Jaipur.

With a strong academic foundation and deep-rooted commitment to the traditional systems of medicine, Dr. Singh is currently serving as Research Officer and Officer on Special Duty (Technical) in the Office of the Secretary, Ministry of Ayush, Government of India.

Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Science and Technology, Earth Sciences, and Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office, Dr. Jitendra Singh, has lauded the Union Public Service Commission's (UPSC) innovative initiative—PRATIBHA Setu. This forward-looking platform is designed to offer alternate career pathways for aspirants who reach the final stages of the Civil Services Examination (CSE)

### Raj Kumar Arora, IDAS takes over as Controller General of Defence Accounts



Shri Raj Kumar Arora IDAS (1990) takes over as Controller General of Defence Accounts. Shri Raj Kumar Arora has served the Government in various strategic and sensitive positions, both in the Ministry of Defence and in allied sectors of financial management and oversight. His career has been marked by significant contributions to areas such as financial policy, accounting, audit, budgeting, procurement, and personnel administration—all vital components of national defence and governance.

### Sanjay Singhal, IPS apptd. as Director General- Sashastra Seema Bal



Shri Sanjay Singhal IPS (Uttar Pradesh 1993) presently Special DG-BSF has been appointed as Director General- Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB) (Level-16 of Pay Matrix) by the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet with effect from the date of assumption of charge of the post on or after 01.09.2025, for a tenure upto the date of his superannuation on 31.12.2028 vice Shri Amrit Mohan Prasad IPS (Odisha 1989) upon his superannuation on 31.08.2025.

Sharmistha Maitra, IDAS given extension as Director – Ministry of Defence

Ms. Sharmistha Maitra IDAS (2005) presently Director in the Ministry of Defence has been given an extension for a period of two years beyond 31.08.2025 and upto 31.08.2027 by the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet. The central deputation tenure of Ms. Sharmistha Maitra IDAS (2005) is w.e.f. 01.09.2020.



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# Corridors of Power



## Hectic Month

Dr. Himanshu Pathak, Director General, ICRISAT called on Chief Secretary K. Ramakrishna Rao. Chief Secretary has attended "Hybrid Annuity Model (HAM), Road show (map) meeting at NAC auditorium. It was a hectic month for the CS because of heavy rains and floods. The Chief Secretary had a video conferences with all the Collectors & Senior Officers on the heavy rains situation and gave directions accordingly.

## Opportunity for police personnel's



The Telangana Police Department has entered into a MoU with Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Open University, Hyderabad, to enable non-graduate police personnel to complete their graduation. Director General of Police Dr. Jitender, IPS, stated that over 30,000 police personnel currently working in the department are non-graduates, and this initiative will give them the opportunity to become

graduates within the next five to six years. He emphasized that higher education will boost the self-respect and confidence of the personnel, and expressed pride that Telangana Police is the first in the country to introduce such a measure. University Vice-Chancellor Sri Chakrapani appreciated the efforts of the DGP, noting that within a short period, he was able to make the MoU possible. Additional DGP (Law and Order) Sri Mahesh M. Bhagwat, Additional DGPs Anil Kumar, Charu Sinha, IGPs M Ramesh, Ramesh Naidu, Tafseer Iqbal, University registrar LVK Reddy and others participated in the MOU program.

## It's all because of 'Strict Law & Order'



Shehar mein 'aman-shanti' hai! Major events, VIP visits, important festivals and other incidents, all smooth, success and shanti. And this is all because of our happening kotwal, Hyderabad police chief & DG Cv. Anand. Recently disputes among rowdy sheeters & criminal gangs from various zones were reviewed. A total of 101 members from 11 gangs (10 PS limits) were interrogated. Several gangs resolved their differences peacefully, while others assured to maintain peace. This is the impact! Impact of CP

Hyderabad, who has warned of strict legal action under Sec. 126 BNSS, 2023 against anyone disturbing public order. Yu hi nahi chain ki nind so raha hai shehar, inn khaki walo ney raato ki nindey gavayi hai !!

## Training Program on Entrepreneurship



Dr. MCR HRD Institute, Govt. of Telangana has launched 2 weeks training program on Entrepreneurship Creating Successful Startups for ITEC participants from across the globe. The program is sponsored under the Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC) initiative by the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India.

Smt. Santhi Kumari, IAS (Retd.), Vice Chairman & Director General (FAC) of the Institute, who graced

the occasion as the Chief Guest, underlined that entrepreneurship is not merely about creating businesses but about driving innovation, generating employment, and contributing to sustainable growth. Dr. Madhavi Ravulapati, Course Director, Prof & Head, Centre for Law & Public Administration, shared the program's objectives and highlighted its unique curriculum.

## Historic Moment for Singareni



Historic Moment for Singareni! For the first time in its 136-year history, SCCL has entered the field of critical mineral exploration. Through Govt. of India auction, Singareni secured an exploration license for gold & copper blocks in Devadurga, Karnataka — a major boost to our rapid diversification goals.

A great stride towards making India Atmanirbhar in critical minerals. N. Balam, Chairman and MD, SCCL conveyed his best wishes to Singareni Collieries for venturing into new mining with the exploration of gold & copper blocks in Karnataka. "The endeavour will further strengthen India's mineral security and unlock mineral wealth for the nation's economic growth." He added.



## Belated Birthday Wishes

Belated birthday wishes to Telangana Governor Jishnu Dev Varma! "I am grateful to those who have organized my Birthday at the Anvesha Child Home in Agartala. It was a pleasure to be able to speak to the Children and staff through VC." said the Governor in his post. Another new is he interacted with the students and teachers from border villages of East Sikkim under OP Sadbhavana National Integration Tour by Indian Army.



## Warm Welcome To New US, CG

It's a news, that the diplomat Laura Williams took over as the new U.S. Consul General in Hyderabad! As an expert in diplomacy and technology, her expertise will make the ties between the U.S. and India more stronger. The CG also met Governor Jishnu Dev Varma to discuss U.S.-India cooperation particularly on emerging technologies. "This is my first Independence Day in Hyderabad, and I learned so much about today from my colleagues." Said Laura.



## Honoured to be at Red Fort

"Deeply honoured to be at the Red Fort to celebrate India's Independence Day." Said British High Commissioner to India, Lindy Cameron. Another great news is, the first international university under UGC regulations have arrived in India! "I'm delighted it's British 'University of Southampton Delhi' is a milestone in UK-India education ties. It opens world-class opportunities to students and drives growth, innovation & global collaboration." Cameron.



## London Tech Week 2025

"Pleasure to host a panel & interaction with companies from AP & Telangana, who were part of London Tech Week 2025." Said Dy. High Commissioner of UK Gareth Wynn Owen in his post. "It was a great conversations on their experiences & insights from the event. Brilliant evening with our fantastic Chevening alumni who continue to demonstrate the strength of ties. The evening included Fellows from the first cohort nearly 30 years ago to Scholars who returned last year." Said Mr. Owen.

## Royal Highness Prince Hosted Dinner In Honor Of Dr. Nawab Mir Nasir Ali Khan



His Royal Highness Prince Abdulaziz bin Faisal bin Abdul Majeed Al Saud graciously hosted a distinguished dinner in honour of His Excellency Dr. Nawab Mir Nasir Ali Khan, Honorary Consul of the Republic of Kazakhstan in Hyderabad for Telangana and Andhra Pradesh, India, at his Palace in Riyadh during Dr. Khan's official visit to Saudi Arabia.

During the dinner, His Royal Highness presented a memento on behalf of the Impact Meena Access Circle to Dr. Nawab Mir Nasir Ali Khan, recognizing his visionary contributions and ongoing commitment to supporting the realization of Vision 2030. In a gesture of goodwill and future collaboration, His Excellency Dr. Nawab Mir Nasir Ali Khan extended an invitation to His Royal Highness Prince Abdulaziz bin Faisal bin Abdul Majeed Al Saud to visit Kazakhstan.



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### 'Women Power' In One Frame



Selfie of the month! State Minister Dr. Anasuya Seethakka along with Sr. IPS lady officers Abhilasha Bisht, Swati Lakra, Charu Sinha and Rema Rajeshwari are in one frame. It's a rare picture, spreading smiles and off course the union of women power. Occasion, first state-level women police officers' conference, after inaugurating the conference, the Minister for Panchayati Raj & Rural Development Dr. Anasuya Seethakka stated that the government will always extend its support for the welfare of women. She urged all women officers to work with dedication, discipline and dignity, and called upon them to display courage and commitment, while adapting to changing circumstances.

On this occasion, Police Academy Director Abhilasha Bisht briefed the Minister about the objectives of this first State-level Women Police Officers' Conference and the key themes to be discussed. Around 400 officers from across Telangana, representing nearly 90 police stations and other uniformed services such as Prisons and Forest Departments have participated in this three-day conference.

### Visit To Mahabubnagar



Arvind Kumar, IAS, Special Chief Secretary, Disaster Management visited Mahabubnagar. 83% excess rainfall rated this monsoon in the district. Officer interacted with TGSDRF, NCC & Aapda Mitra volunteers. District Collector her team is fully geared & immediate repairs have commenced. Mr. Kumar also inspected Telangana social welfare residential school for girls at Bhootpur, Mahabubnagar interacted with students and had

lunch with them. Overall it's was a hectic trip. Glad that state have hardcore officers like Arvind Kumar.

### Inspiring Episode



Mr. Sabyasachi Ghosh, IAS, Special Chief Secretary to Government AHDD&F been to Sarojini Devi Eye Govt. Hospital for Eye care, for a surgical procedure in his eye. His visit reinforces the faith of him in particular and the public in general, of the efficiency and impact of the government health care system in Telangana. Being a senior IAS officer, he could have availed treatment in any private eye hospital and got full reimbursement. But he preferred the government facility for best results. On leaving the hospital, he expressed his satisfaction with the treatment and medical care he received and thanked all the doctors for their attention. He was attended to by a team lead by Dr Modhini. P.

### Sonibala Devi awarded Doctorate by OU



SATG vice-chairman and MD A. Sonibala Devi received a Doctorate from Osmania University for her research on *Gymnema sylvestre*, with the degree presented by Telangana Governor Jishnu Deva Sharma. Sports Authority of Telangana vice-chairman and managing director A. Sonibala Devi has been conferred with a doctorate degree by the prestigious Osmania University.

Dr Sonibala Devi was awarded the doctorate for her remarkable research

work on "Studies on the efficacy of *Trichoderma* spp. in the enhancement of phytochemical compounds in *Gymnema sylvestre* (Retz) R Br ex Sm collected from various districts of Telangana State." The doctorate degree was formally presented to her by the Governor of Telangana and Chancellor of Osmania University, Jishnu Dev Varma, in the august presence of Prof M Kumar Garu, Vice-Chancellor, Osmania University.



### On Field Inspection

Heavy rains! Crops & old houses in villages got effected. The Collector & District Magistrate, Medak Rahul Raj along with the RDO & Tahsildar inspected the house that collapsed due to rains in Tuniki village of Kaudipalli mandal. Kudos to the DM for his efforts and pains.



### To Strengthening The Bond

The Telangana IAS Officers' Wives Association (TG IASOWA) called on the Hon'ble Governor of Telangana, Shri Jishnu Dev Varma, at Raj Bhavan, Hyderabad. The Hon'ble Governor, accompanied by the First Lady, Smt. Sudha Dev Varma, interacted warmly with the members of the Association. Appreciating their commendable initiatives in the sphere of social service, the Governor lauded the Association's commitment to community welfare and urged the members to continue serving as a source of inspiration through their exemplary work. The Governor hosted a traditional lunch to the Association members at Raj Bhavan. The occasion provided an opportunity for cordial exchanges in an informal setting, further strengthening the bond between Raj Bhavan and the Association. The Chief Secretary, Shri K. Ramakrishna Rao, IAS; Principal Secretary to the Governor, Shri M. Dana Kishore, IAS; Joint Secretary to the Governor, Shri J. Bhavani Shankar; along with other senior Raj Bhavan officials, were present in this interaction.

### 7th All India Prison Duty meet 2025 host by Telangana Prisons



A review meeting was held today by Dr. Soumya Mishra, IPS, Director General of Prisons & Correctional Services, Telangana, regarding the forthcoming 7th All India Prison Duty Meet-2025, which is scheduled to be held in Hyderabad from 9th to 11th September 2025 at the RBVRR Telangana State Police Academy. The meeting, convened at the State Institute of Correctional Administration

(SICA), Hyderabad, was attended by all Working Committee Members, including serving Prison Officials, retired senior officers, coaches, and referees. On this occasion, Dr. Soumya Mishra, IPS, formally launched the official event website of the All India Prison Duty Meet-2025. Along with this, the official logo was unveiled, marking an important step towards the smooth conduct of the national event. So far, 22 States have confirmed participation, out of which 13 States have already submitted their participants list. It is expected that over 1200 participants from across the country will take part, making it one of the largest gatherings in the history of the All India Prison Duty Meets.

### IAS Sharath Apptd. As Chairman, TGREDCO

Telangana government appointed retired IAS officer Dr. A. Sharath as the chairman of the Telangana Renewable Energy Development Corporation Limited (TGREDCO). He will serve for a period of two years.

The appointment has drawn criticism on social media. Critics point out that Dr. Sharath had earlier been publicly seen touching the feet of Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, an action deemed inappropriate for an IAS officer.



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## Public Sector

### NLCIL GROUPS REPORTS STRONG Q1 FY 25-26

Prime Minister of India has dedicated Unit 1 (660 MW) of NUPPL's Ghatampur Thermal Power Station to the Nation.

Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) in its meeting dated 16.07.2025 provided the approval for making investment to the tune of ₹ 7000 Crore in NIRC beyond the investment limits prescribed under the Navratna guidelines issued by DPE.

NUPPL successfully achieved Oil synchronization of Unit-2 (660 MW) of the Ghatampur Thermal Power Project.

Declared as preferred bidder for "Semhardih Phosphorite and Limestone Block" and "Raipura Phosphorite and Limestone Block of Balod, Chhattisgarh" in the auction of Critical and Strategic Mineral Blocks by Ministry of Mines. NLCIL's maiden entry into Critical Minerals Mining business.

Govt. of Tamil Nadu granted permission for disposal of Overburden soil from the external dumps of mines and to produce M-Sand from overburden

Machhakata (Revised) OCP – Land Acquisition – MoC issued notification under section 4(1) of CBA (A&D) Act 1957

NIRC has been awarded with a combined capacity of 250MW / 500 MWhr Battery Storage System (BESS) project by Tamil Nadu Green Energy Corporation Limited (TNGECL) under Viability Gap Funding (VGF) scheme.

Received LoA from NTPC for setting up of 450 MW ISTS (Inter State Transmission System) Connected Wind-Solar Hybrid Power Project.

Entered an MoU with IREL (India) Limited to collaborate in the critical minerals sector.

MoEF&CC granted Stage-II Forest Clearance for Pachwara South OCP of NUPPL

Notification u/s 9(1) of CBA (A&D) Act, 1957 in respect of North Dhadu (Western Part) Coal Block was issued by MoC.

Capex Achievement for Q1 2025-26 is ₹ 1,925.62 Cr which is 113% against the Target of ₹ 1,708.88 Crore upto June 2025

Major Financial Highlights :

Revenue from operations of Rs. 3,825.61 Cr as against Rs.3,378.17 Cr in the previous year, registering a growth of 13.25%.

NUPPL has generated Rs.642.29 Cr revenue from operations for the part of Quarter ended June 2025.



### GAIL Hindustan Copper Sign MoU to Jointly Explore and Develop Critical Mineral Resources



GAIL (India) Limited and Hindustan Copper Limited (HCL) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to collaborate on the exploration and development of critical mineral resources in India and overseas.

Sanjay Agarwal, Executive Director (Business Development and Exploration & Production), GAIL and Binod Kumar Gupta, Executive Director (Mining)-Resource Planning, HCL signed the MoU in the presence of R.K.

Singhal, Director (Business Development), GAIL and Sanjeev K. Singh, Chairman and Managing Director, HCL along with senior officials from both the organisations.

This strategic partnership between Hindustan Copper and GAIL marks a significant development in India's critical minerals sector, potentially enhancing the country's self-reliance in these crucial resources and supporting its growing technology and clean energy industries. It also reflects India's growing focus on sustainable development and the need to reduce dependence on imported resources by strengthening domestic capabilities in mining and mineral processing. This MoU represents a forward-looking step toward unlocking the potential of India's mineral wealth while also exploring strategic opportunities abroad. The collaboration reaffirms the commitment of both companies to national development, technological progress, and sustainable resource management.

### HUDCO Q1 FY26 results : Post Highest ever PAT of Rs 630.23 crore is an increase of 13%



The HUDCO Board of Directors in its meeting held on 06/08/2025 approved the financial results for the first quarter of FY26 wherein HUDCO continued to record outstanding performance.

The key financial highlights for Q1 FY 2025-26 compared to Q1FY 2024-25 are as follows:

Loan Sanctions stood at Rs. 34,224Crore as against Rs 14,097 Crore

which is an increase of 143% (YoY) and the highest ever Q1 loan sanction.

Loan Disbursements: Highest ever Q1 loan disbursements of Rs. 12,812Crore during Q1FY26 as against 12,625Crore during Q1FY25.

Profit After Tax: Highest ever PAT of Rs 630.23 crore is an increase of 13% in the Q1FY26 against Rs557.75 crore in Q1FY25.

Revenue from Operation: Growth of around 34.22% YOY, from Rs. 2,188.35 in Q1FY25 to 2,937.31 crore for Q1FY26

Loan Book: Growth of 30% from 1.04 lakh crore in Q1FY25 to Rs 1.34 lakh crore in Q1FY26 (YoY)

Gross NPAs: Significant reduction from 2.42% in Q1FY25 to 1.34% in Q1FY26 marks significant improvement in asset quality.

### PFC Q1 FY26 results : Net profits up by 25% at Rs. 8,981 cr



Power Finance Corporation Limited, #Maharatna status under the aegis of Ministry of Power today announced its FY26 Q1 results today. The company registered increase of 25% consolidated net profit which stands at Rs. 8,981 cr. The Consolidated Loan Asset Book of the company grew by 13% – Rs. 11,34,347cr. as on 30.06.2025 vs. Rs. 10,04,735 cr. as on 30.06.2024.

The consolidated disbursement increased by 1.5 at Rs. 95,660 cr. disbursed in Q1'26 vs Rs.63,135 cr. in Q1'25. Net NPA has reached its lowest level at 0.31% in Q1'26 from 0.84% in Q1'25. Gross NPA significantly declined by 150 bps from 2.97% in Q1'25 to 1.47% in Q1'26. Commenting on the PFC performance, Chairman and Managing Director, Parminder Chopra shared that "PFC has

once again delivered a strong financial performance in Q1 FY26. This quarter marked our highest-ever first-quarter disbursements, and we recorded a robust year-on-year growth of 16%, with our renewable energy portfolio growing impressively by 36%. Director (Finance), Mr. Sandeep Kumar shared that "We have started the financial year on a promising note. In Q1'26, PFC reported a net profit of Rs. 4,502 crore, marking 21% Y-o-Y growth, primarily driven by 26% increase in Net Interest Income. Our financial position remains resilient, underpinned by a healthy capital adequacy ratio and continued improvement in asset quality". The Board has declared an interim dividend of ₹ 3.70 per share for Q1 FY26.

### BSNL, Numaligarh Refinery ink pact for secure 5G captive network

Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) and Numaligarh Refinery Limited (NRL) signed a landmark Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in a major step toward accelerating India's digital transformation and industrial modernisation, according to a statement issued by the Ministry of Communications on Sunday. The MoU paves the way for BSNL and NRL to collaborate for deploying India's first 5G CNPN (Captive Non-Public Network) within the refinery sector, ushering in a new era of secure, ultra-reliable, and real-time industrial connectivity. This initiative is a pioneering step in leveraging indigenous 5G infrastructure for mission-critical operations, the statement explained. This partnership between BSNL and NRL is expected to set the stage for replicable models across other industrial sectors, reinforcing the union government's vision for a digitally empowered and self-reliant Bharat, the statement said.

### SBI clocks 12.5 pc rise in Q1 net profit at Rs 19,160 crore



The country's largest lender State Bank of India on Friday reported a 12.5 per cent increase in net profit at Rs 19,160 crore for the April-June quarter of the current financial year, compared to the corresponding figure of Rs 17,035 crore in the same quarter of the previous fiscal.

SBI's operating profit for Q1 FY26 grew by a robust 15.49 per cent year-on-year to Rs 30,544 crore. Net Interest Income (NII), which reflects the difference between the interest earned on loans and that paid on

deposits, for the quarter remained flat at Rs 41,072.4 crore, which is around the same as the previous year's figure of Rs 41,126 crore. SBI's asset quality for the quarter improved by 38 basis points with gross NPAs at the end of the April-June quarter at 1.83 per cent.

Net NPA improved by 10 basis points to 0.47 per cent compared to the same quarter of the previous year. The bank's slippage ratio for Q1 FY26 improved by 9 basis points year-on-year to stand at 0.75 per cent. The slippage ratio in banking is a measure of the rate at which a bank's good loans turn into non-performing assets (NPAs). It is the ratio of new NPAs to the standard advances at the beginning of a year. Fresh accretion of NPAs during the year or a falling below the current position of standard assets of the bank is a slippage. The bank's SME advances recorded a robust 19.10 per cent year-on-year growth, followed by agricultural advances which grew by 12.67 per cent. Retail personal advances and corporate advances registered year-on-year growth of 12.56 per cent and 5.7 per cent respectively.

### OIL and IREL Sign MoU to Collaborate on Rare Earth and Critical Minerals

In a significant step towards strengthening India's self-reliance in strategic mineral sourcing, Oil India Limited and IREL (India) Limited have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on August 7, 2025 in Mumbai to cooperate and collaborate for development of Critical Minerals.

Oil India, a Maharatna PSU under the aegis of the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas, is a premier integrated Oil and Gas company, possessing proven expertise in exploration, development, production and transportation of crude oil and natural gas.

Given the increasing importance of critical minerals, OIL has diversified into Critical Minerals apart from its present portfolio of Oil and Gas. IREL, a Miniratna PSU, under Department of Atomic Energy, is engaged in mining and processing of mineral sands, including extraction and refining of Rare Earth Elements.

OIL and IREL's partnership marks a crucial milestone in India's pursuit of self-reliance in critical minerals and rare earth elements. As part of identified PSUs under the National Critical Mineral Mission of Govt. of India, this collaboration will play a vital role in securing strategic mineral resources essential for the nation's energy security and technological advancement. The MoU was signed by Ranjan Goswami, Executive Director (BD) of Oil India, and Ravi Prakash Jha, General Manager (Projects) of IREL in the presence of Dr Ranjit Rath, Chairman & Managing Director of Oil India and Sarada Bhushan Mohanty Chairman & Managing Director of IREL and senior officials of both the companies.



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**CM Presented Cash Incentive To Singer Rahul**

Chief Minister A.Revanth Reddy presented 1 Cr. cheque to singer Rahul Sipliganj during Independence Day celebrations. The government has recently announced a cash incentive of Rs 1 crore to Rahul Sipliganj. In this view, the singer met the Chief Minister. During the meeting the singer expressed his heartfelt gratitude to the Chief Minister for the recognition and support.



**3rd Edition of Run for SMA held to Raise Awareness on Rare Genetic Disorder**

Cure SMA Foundation of India, a parent-led non-profit organization, organized the 3rd edition of Run for SMA – 2025 at Gachibowli Stadium, Hyderabad. The run aims to raise awareness about Spinal Muscular Atrophy (SMA)—a severe and rare genetic disorder that affects children’s muscle strength and movement, often leading to respiratory failure if left undiagnosed and untreated. The run was flagged off by Special Chief Secretary to Govt of Telangana Jayesh Ranjan, along with Guests of Honours included, Bhavani Sri, Secretary, National Turmeric Board, Archana Suresh, Director, Telangana Social Impact Group. Dr. Radha Rama Devi, Senior Consultant, Pediatrician & Geneticist, Rainbow Children’s Hospital, Mayur Patnala, Founder & Global CEO, Nirmaan Organization. The Run featured both timed and non-timed running categories 21K, 10K, 5K (timed), and a 5K non-timed run. It witnessed enthusiastic participation from approximately 2,500 runners. Srilakshmi Nalam, Co-founder and Trustee of Cure SMA India, emphasized the importance of collaboration between medical professionals to create a sustainable ecosystem for rare disease families in India.



**IRS Officer Dr.M.Mohan Babu Releases MR’s July Edition**

Midnight Reporter’s July edition is out with a bang released by the happening IRS officer Dr.M.Mohan Babu, Additional Commissioner of Income Tax, Chennai. Click the link for epaper : [https://midnightreporter.com/July\\_2025.pdf](https://midnightreporter.com/July_2025.pdf)



**‘OSAA BY ADARSH’ @ Hyderabad**

OSAA BY ADARSH, ace couturier from Kolkata launched their beautiful new store in Hyderabad. A lovely new store showcasing beautiful ensembles, intricately embroidered and differently styled!. The guest Pinky Reddy graced the occasion with her presence, looking absolutely stunning in summery mustard yellow by ‘osaabyadarsh’. It was a delightful evening over soulful music, as the ladies not only enjoyed the beautiful colourful clothes, but also got to feast on some delicious Calcutta staples.



**Jai Jai Ganesha**

“Get home this beautiful handmade terracotta Ganesha from Urvi Terracotta.” Says Veni La, the happening feminine in her recent post. Veni always promotes the tradition wear saree, especially handlooms. Very versatile! The terracotta Ganesha is very beautiful and this year let’s go with terracotta Ganesha!



**The Sweet Couple**

“The stars pale before the light of your eyes, and the moon envies the glow of your smile. No measure of time with you would be enough; yet let us begin with forever” these lines shows the bonding and affection between the sweet couple Govind Sinwal & Chanda Sharma. Best wishes to the couple!



**Happy Janmashtami**

Sri Krishna Janmashtami is been celebrated in the city with joy, especially in the Iskcon temples it has been celebrated on large scale. The happening couple Hitesh Jashnani and Jyoti Jashnani participated in the event. Radhe-radhe...!!

**Patola Art Exhibition Held**



**National Silk Expo Organized**

Socialite and Life Coach Srilaxmi Reddy formally Inaugurated a 6-day National Silk Expo-2025 at Sri Sathya Sai Nigamagaram, Srinagar Colony, which is organized by Jagdishwar Hastkala. Platforms such as this are required to reach out women looking for well-designed handmade cotton, silk wear & exclusive, silk saris and handloom creations coming together under one roof,” said Srilaxmi Reddy.



Celebrity Coach and Saree connoisseur Dr.Sangeetha Kosuru inaugurated the four-day D Sons Patola Art Exhibition at the Labels Pop-up Space, Road No. 1, opposite Taj Krishna, Banjara Hills. Speaking at the

launch Dr Sangeetha Kosuru, said, “It’s wonderful to see a diverse collection of apparel, especially Patola art sarees, pure handloom, and silk products, showcased under one roof in the city.” The exhibition features a rich variety of traditional textiles and handcrafted Products from across India. Collections including Patan Patola, Bandhani, Banarasi, Paithani, Zari Kota, Chanderi, Maheshwari, Kashmiri, Lucknowi, Kanchipattu, venkatagiri, dress materials, Ajrak Sarees, Sits and Kurtis, bedsheets and jewellery. The expo offers a vibrant platform for textile lovers and artisans alike.

Organizer of the Exhibition Jayesh Kumar, speaking to media said that, Main social objective of the handloom exhibition was to promote weavers and encourage and provide a market to the handloom industry. Through these exhibitions, we have been able to create good market for the weavers and their handloom woven ware, even in places where exhibitions are not feasible.

# hub n home



## Eight elegant & durable kitchen islands that demonstrate the versatility of marble

For our latest lookbook, we take a look at eight kitchen interiors where veiny marble surfaces form hardwearing and decorative kitchen islands.

Marble is a hard, durable material that is resistant to heat, making it a practical choice for kitchen surfaces.

It is a metamorphic stone known for its unique veined patterns that come in a variety of colours, including muted neutrals, bold greens, and high-contrast whites and browns.

This is the latest in our lookbooks series, which provides visual inspiration from Dezeen's archive. For more inspiration, see previous lookbooks featuring kitchens that double as partition walls, interiors with mirrored accents and living rooms decorated with metal accessories.

**Balmoral Blue House, Australia, by Esoteriko**

At Balmoral Blue House in Sydney, interiors studio Esoteriko overhauled the majority of the interiors with light colours and natural materials, including a chunky kitchen island made from a marble indigenous to North Queensland.

**Manhattan apartment, USA, by General Assembly**

A white and grey marble island containing a sink and shelving adds a touch of drama to this kitchen, designed by local studio General Assembly as part of its transformation of an apartment on New York City's Upper West Side.

**Deknudt Nelis office, Belgium, by Arjaan de Freyter**

Although marble was not used for the worktop on this kitchen island, slabs of deep-green marble lining the side walls add a pop of colour to this office kitchen, designed by Belgian studio Arjaan de Freyter for a law firm.

**Steele's Road House, UK, by Neiheiser Argyros**

London-based studio Neiheiser Argyros has renovated this Victorian terrace by adding large openings in the walls to bring in more light.

**Versailles townhouse, France, by RMGB**

A monolithic Calacatta Viola marble island with dark veining conceals the hob and oven in this kitchen, located in a 19th-century townhouse in Versailles that was renovated by interior design studio RMGB.

**Zwaag family home, Netherlands, by DAB Studio**

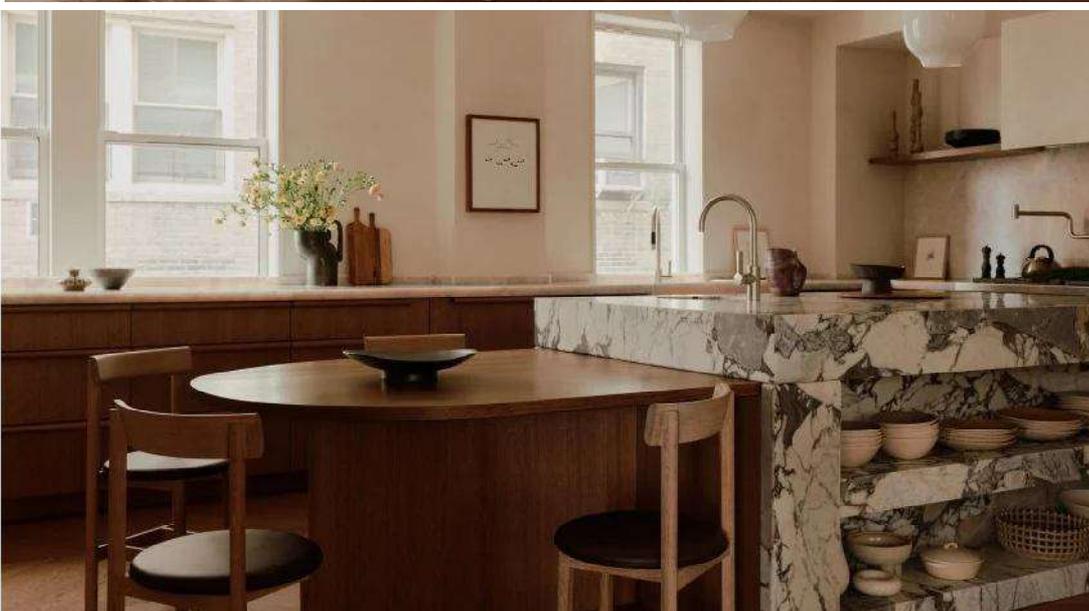
Arebescato Orobico marble wraps the sides of this island, forming a waterfall countertop that contrasts against the Aframosia wood cabinet doors.

**Sunderland Road House, UK, by 2LG Studio**

Local firm 2LG Studio also created a marble waterfall counter for the kitchen island at Sunderland Road House, an Edwardian house in London that was transformed with a playful colour palette.

**Penthouse 3, USA, by Ash Staging**

Located in a Manhattan skyscraper designed by British architecture firm RSHP, the interiors of Penthouse 3 were designed by local studio Ash Staging to have double-height spaces with views across the city.



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## मितने की कगार पर यह देख, सारे नागरिक सम्मान सहित ऑस्ट्रेलिया में हो जाएंगे शिफ्ट !



प्रशांत महासागर का छोटा सा द्वीपीय देश तुवालु अब मानचित्र से मितने के खतरे में है। जलवायु परिवर्तन और बढ़ते समुद्र स्तर ने यहां के लोगों का भविष्य ही छीन लिया है। हालात इतने गंभीर हैं कि पूरा देश योजनाबद्ध तरीके से ऑस्ट्रेलिया में बसने की तैयारी कर रहा है। यह दुनिया के इतिहास में पहली बार होगा, जब एक संप्रभु देश की पूरी जनसंख्या आधिकारिक वीजा और समझौते के तहत किसी दूसरे देश में माइग्रेट करेगी।

तुवालु नौ प्रवाल द्वीपों वाला देश है, जहां लगभग 11,000 लोग रहते हैं। समुद्र तल से इसकी अधिकतम ऊंचाई सिर्फ 16 फीट है, जो इसे जलवायु परिवर्तन के कारण सबसे संवेदनशील देशों में शामिल करती है। रिसर्च के अनुसार, अगले 25 वर्षों में इसकी ज्यादातर जमीन जलमग्न हो जाएगी। नासा की रिपोर्ट बताती है कि 2023 में यहां समुद्र स्तर पिछले 30 वर्षों की तुलना में 15 सेंटीमीटर बढ़ चुका है, और 2050 तक अधिकांश भूमि व बुनियादी ढांचा डूब जाएगा। इस खतरे को देखते हुए 2023 में तुवालु और ऑस्ट्रेलिया ने 'फ्लोपिली यूनियन ट्रीटी' पर हस्ताक्षर किए। इसके तहत हर साल 280 तुवालु नागरिकों को ऑस्ट्रेलिया में स्थायी निवास मिलेगा, जिसमें स्वास्थ्य सेवा, शिक्षा, आवास और नौकरियों के पूरे अधिकार शामिल होंगे। यह कार्यक्रम चरणबद्ध तरीके से चल रहा है और एक दशक के भीतर करीब 40 प्रतिशत आबादी ऑस्ट्रेलिया में बस चुकी होगी। ऑस्ट्रेलिया की विदेश मंत्री पेनी वॉंग ने कहा कि यह प्रवासन योजना तुवालु के लोगों को सम्मानजनक जीवन का अवसर देगी। वहीं, यूएनएसडीब्ल्यू सिडनी के काल्डोर सेंटर की प्रोफेसर जेन मैकएडम का कहना है कि यह समझौता जलवायु शरणार्थियों के लिए एक मिसाल है। तुवालु सरकार ने वैश्विक समुदाय से अपील की है कि जलवायु परिवर्तन से जूझ रहे अन्य देशों के लिए भी ठोस कदम उठाए जाएं, ताकि कोई और देश अपने अस्तित्व को खोने पर मजबूर न हो।

## एयर इंडिया क्रैश में शवों की गड़बड़ी से उड़ी ब्रिटिश परिवारों की नींद



अहमदाबाद हवाई अड्डे से उड़ान भरने के तुरंत बाद दुर्घटनाग्रस्त हुए लंदन जाने वाले एयर इंडिया 171 विमान में सवार रिश्तेदारों के अवशेषों का इंतजार कर रहे ब्रिटिश परिवारों को भारत-ब्रिटेन सरकार की उच्च स्तरीय वार्ता के बाद डीएनए मिलान की पुष्टि की उम्मीद है। उनकी कानूनी टीम ने यह जानकारी दी। कानूनी परामर्श प्रदाता कीस्टोन लॉ, जो 12 जून की दुर्घटना में अपने प्रियजनों को खोने वाले अनेक परिवारों की सहायता के लिए विमानन विशेषज्ञों के साथ काम कर रहा है, ने

इस सप्ताह इस प्रक्रिया में तेजी लाने का आह्वान किया। पिछले सप्ताह प्रधानमंत्री नरेन्द्र मोदी की ब्रिटेन यात्रा के दौरान 'डाउनिंग स्ट्रीट (ब्रिटिश प्रधानमंत्री का आवास सह कार्यालय) ने पुष्टि की थी कि प्रधानमंत्री केअर स्टार्मर ने द्विपक्षीय वार्ता के दौरान एयर इंडिया विमान दुर्घटना पर चर्चा की थी।

यह चर्चा ब्रिटेन की मीडिया में आई उस खबर की पृष्ठभूमि में हुई थी जिसमें कहा गया था कि ब्रिटेन भेजे गए कुछ शवों पर गलत लेबल लगे थे। कीस्टोन लॉ के एविएशन पार्टनर जेम्स हीली-प्रेट ने कहा, इस समस्या के अंतरराष्ट्रीय मीडिया कवरेज के परिणामस्वरूप, ब्रिटेन और भारत की सरकारों ने उच्च स्तरीय वार्ता की है। उन्होंने कहा, ऐसा माना जा रहा है कि कुछ मेल खाते डीएनए अवशेष अब भारत में पाए गए हैं। पुष्टि की प्रतीक्षा है। इस दुर्घटना में मारे गए 241 यात्रियों और चालक दल में 52 ब्रिटिश नागरिक शामिल थे, तथा अंतिम संस्कार के लिए ब्रिटेन भेजे गए 12 ताबूतों में से दो (के अवशेषों) की पहचान गलत पाई गई थी।

इस मामले की व्यापकता के अनुमान को लेकर पूछे जाने पर, कीस्टोन लॉ ने कहा कि भारत से ब्रिटेन भेजे गए 12 ताबूतों के अवशेषों में से दो पर गलत लेबल लगा हुआ था, गलत तरीके से रखा गया था और गलत पहचान की गई थी। हीली-प्रेट ने कहा, यदि इस त्रुटि दर को आगे बढ़ाकर देखा जाए, यानी 15 प्रतिशत की अस्वीकार्य गलती दर को ध्यान में रखा जाए-तो यह संकेत मिलता है कि लगभग 40 शवों की पहचान, लेबलिंग या देखभाल में गलती हो सकती है। यह एक ज्ञात-अज्ञात तथ्य है, और इनमें से कई परिवारों के प्रियजनों का पहले ही अंतिम संस्कार किया जा चुका है।

## आयरलैंड में भारतीयों पर नस्ली हमले तेज, दूतावास ने जारी की चेतावनी

आयरलैंड स्थित भारतीय दूतावास ने शुक्रवार को एक परामर्श जारी कर राजधानी डबलिन और उसके आसपास हुए हाल के हमलों के बाद सुरक्षा संबंधी चिंताएं व्यक्त कीं तथा भारतीय नागरिकों से सुरक्षा को लेकर सतर्कता बरतने का आग्रह किया। ऑनलाइन जारी किए गए परामर्श में कहा गया, 'हाल में आयरलैंड में भारतीय नागरिकों के खिलाफ हमलों की घटनाओं में वृद्धि हुई है। इसमें कहा गया, 'दूतावास इस संबंध में आयरलैंड के संबंधित अधिकारियों के संपर्क में है। साथ ही, आयरलैंड में सभी भारतीय नागरिकों को परामर्श दिया जाता है कि वे अपनी व्यक्तिगत सुरक्षा के लिए सतर्कता बरतें और सुनसान इलाकों में जाने से बचें।

यह परामर्श 19 जुलाई को डबलिन के तलाग्ट उपनगर में पार्कहिल रोड पर 40 वर्षीय एक भारतीय व्यक्ति पर हुए हमले के बाद जारी किया गया है। स्थानीय लोगों ने इस हमले को 'विवेकहीन, नस्ली हिंसा बताया है। स्थानीय मीडिया की खबरों के अनुसार, पीड़ित कुछ सप्ताह पहले ही आयरलैंड पहुंचा था, जब तलाग्ट के पार्कहिल रोड पर उस पर हमला हुआ। आयरलैंड में पुलिस को 'गार्डर्ड' के नाम से जाना जाता है, जिसने मामले की जांच शुरू कर दी है और आयरलैंड में भारतीय राजदूत अखिलेश मिश्रा उन लोगों में शामिल हैं जिन्होंने सोशल मीडिया पर इस हमले को लेकर आश्चर्य व्यक्त किया है। घटना के कुछ दिन बाद दूतावास ने सोशल मीडिया पर एक पोस्ट में कहा, "डबलिन के तलाग्ट में एक भारतीय नागरिक पर हमले के संबंध में, दूतावास पीड़ित और उसके परिवार के संपर्क में है। सभी आवश्यक सहायता प्रदान की जा रही है। दूतावास इस संबंध में संबंधित आयरिश अधिकारियों के संपर्क में भी है।

## LAC पर चीन की नई साजिश, सीमा के बिल्कुल पास बिछाया पट्टी, भारत के बड़ी टैन



चीन शिनजियांग प्रांत को तिब्बत से जोड़ने के लिए सबसे महत्वाकांक्षी रेल परियोजना पर काम कर रहा है और इसका एक हिस्सा भारत के साथ लगती वास्तविक नियंत्रण रेखा के नजदीक से गुजरेगा। मीडिया में आई खबरों में यह जानकारी दी गई है। हांगकांग से प्रकाशित साउथ चाइना मॉनिंग पोस्ट की खबर के मुताबिक इस साल विश्व की सबसे महत्वाकांक्षी रेल परियोजनाओं में से एक पर काम शुरू होने की उम्मीद है। इसके लिए

एक सरकारी स्वामित्व वाली कंपनी की स्थापना की जाएगी जो शिनजियांग के होटन को तिब्बत के ल्हासा से जोड़ने वाली रेल परियोजना के निर्माण और संचालन की देखरेख करेगी।

साउथ चाइना मॉनिंग पोस्ट ने शंघाई सिक्योरिटीज न्यूज के हवाले से दी गई खबर में कहा कि शिनजियांग-तिब्बत रेलवे कंपनी (एक्सटीआरसी) को औपचारिक रूप से 95 अरब युआन (13.2 अरब अमेरिकी डॉलर) की पूंजी के साथ पंजीकृत किया गया है और परियोजना के निर्माण के लिए इसका पूर्ण स्वामित्व चाइना स्टेट रेलवे ग्रुप के पास है। हुबेई स्थित हुआयुआन सिक्योरिटीज ने शुक्रवार को एक शोध पत्र में कहा, "इस महत्वाकांक्षी परियोजना का लक्ष्य 2035 तक ल्हासा केंद्रित 5,000 किलोमीटर लंबा पठारी रेल ढांचा स्थापित करना है। अखबार में शनिवार को प्रकाशित खबर के मुताबिक परियोजना की पंजीकृत पूंजी प्रारंभिक वित्तपोषण को दर्शाती है, न कि कुल परियोजना लागत को।

उदाहरण के लिए, 1,800 किलोमीटर लंबे सिचुआन-तिब्बत रेलवे के निर्माण पर 320 अरब युआन (45 अरब अमेरिकी डॉलर) लागत आने की उम्मीद है। खबर में कहा गया है, 'रेल मार्ग के कुछ हिस्से चीन-भारत वास्तविक नियंत्रण रेखा (एलएसी) के पास से भी गुजरेंगे, जो दोनों देशों के बीच मौजूदा सीमा है। इसके मद्देनजर यह शेष चीन की तुलना में कम बुनियादी ढांचे वाले सीमांत क्षेत्र में सामरिक महत्व रखता है। इस क्षेत्र में चीन ने कई विशाल अवसंरचना परियोजनाओं पर काम किया है जिनमें शिनजियांग-तिब्बत राजमार्ग, जिसे जी 219 राजमार्ग के नाम से भी जाना जाता है, विवादित अक्साई चिन क्षेत्र से होकर गुजरता है, जो 1962 के युद्ध में एक प्रमुख विवाद बिंदु था। खबर में कहा गया कि शिनजियांग-तिब्बत रेलवे तिब्बत को देश के बाकी हिस्सों से जोड़ने के लिए प्रस्तावित चार रेल मार्गों में से एक है, जबकि अन्य सेवाएं पश्चिमी क्षेत्र को किंगई, सिचुआन और युन्नान प्रांतों से जोड़ती हैं।

इसमें कहा गया है कि किंगई-तिब्बत लाइन चालू है, जबकि अन्य दो पर निर्माण कार्य जारी है। चीन का तिब्बत क्षेत्र हवाई, सड़क और रेल नेटवर्क से अच्छी तरह जुड़ा हुआ है। ल्हासा से इसका हाई-स्पीड रेल नेटवर्क अरुणाचल प्रदेश की सीमा तक फैला हुआ है। उल्लेखनीय है कि नए शिनजियांग-तिब्बत रेल संपर्क की चीन की योजना ऐसे समय में आई है जब पूर्वी लद्दाख में सैन्य गतिरोध के कारण चार साल से ज्यादा समय तक संबंधों में आई कड़वाहट के बाद बीजिंग और नई दिल्ली के बीच संबंधों में सामान्यीकरण की शुरुआत हुई है। अक्साई चिन इसी क्षेत्र का हिस्सा है। पिछले वर्ष रूस में ब्रिक्स शिखर सम्मेलन के दौरान प्रधानमंत्री नरेन्द्र मोदी और चीनी राष्ट्रपति शी चिनफिंग के बीच हुई बैठक के बाद संबंधों में सुधार आना शुरू हुआ। मोदी के 31 अगस्त से शुरू होने वाले दो दिवसीय शंघाई सहयोग संगठन (एससीओ) शिखर सम्मेलन में भाग लेने की उम्मीद है। चीन तिब्बत में कई विशाल निर्माण परियोजनाओं पर काम कर रहा है। चीन ने हाल ही में अरुणाचल प्रदेश के निकट, पारिस्थितिक रूप से संवेदनशील तिब्बत में ब्रह्मपुत्र नदी पर दुनिया के सबसे बड़े बांध का निर्माण शुरू किया है।

## भारत पर ट्रंप की टैरिफ दादागिरी के खिलाफ खुलकर बोला चीन



अमेरिका के राष्ट्रपति डोनाल्ड ट्रंप की नई टैरिफ नीति ने वैश्विक स्तर पर कूटनीतिक भूचाल ला दिया है। इस नीति के तहत भारत समेत कई देशों पर 50 प्रतिशत तक आयात शुल्क लगाने के फैसले के बाद, अब चीन खुलकर अमेरिका के खिलाफ खड़ा हो गया है। बीजिंग ने इसे दादागिरी और संयुक्त राष्ट्र चार्टर का उल्लंघन बताते हुए अमेरिका की आलोचना की है। चीन के भारत में राजदूत जू फेइहोंग ने बिना ट्रंप का नाम लिए सोशल मीडिया पर तीखा हमला बोला। उन्होंने लिखा, घांस जमाने वाले को थोड़ी सी भी ढील दे दो, तो वे सिर पर चढ़ बैठते हैं।

ट्रंप ने हाल ही में भारत, ब्राजील और चीन सहित कई देशों से आयातित उत्पादों पर 50 प्रतिशत तक टैरिफ लगाने की घोषणा की। ट्रंप ने भारत पर रूस से अत्यधिक व्यापार और ऊर्जा खरीद को लेकर नाराजगी जताई और इसे यूक्रेन युद्ध में रूस को आर्थिक मदद करार दिया। चीन के अनुसार, टैरिफ के हथियार का इस्तेमाल संयुक्त राष्ट्र और WTO के नियमों के खिलाफ है।

ट्रंप के एकतरफा फैसले से नाराज BRICS देश (ब्राजील, रूस, भारत, चीन, दक्षिण अफ्रीका) अब ट्रंप के खिलाफ एकजुट होते नजर आ रहे हैं। चीन के विदेश मंत्री वांग यी और ब्राजील के राष्ट्रपति के मुख्य सलाहकार की बातचीत का हवाला देते हुए कहा गया कि अमेरिका का यह रवैया अंतरराष्ट्रीय व्यवस्था को कमजोर कर रहा है। भारत ने स्पष्ट कहा है कि वह अपने राष्ट्रीय हितों की रक्षा के लिए सभी जरूरी कदम उठाएगा। भारत की तरफ से यह ट्रंप को एक सख्त कूटनीतिक संदेश माना जा रहा है।



**Tourism**

# Indonesia Set for Cruise Tourism Boom

Indonesia is set for a cruise tourism boom with the upcoming opening of the Bali Maritime Tourism Hub in Benoa. The new terminal is projected to enhance the attractiveness of the region's cruise industry for prominent businesses and Australian tourists. It will also further bolster Bali's standing as a premier cruise destination at the international level. Bali Maritime Tourism Hub is equipped with international-standard facilities which allows the docking of three large cruise ships simultaneously. This will keep Bali at the forefront of the cruise market for Australian tourists while also positioning Indonesia as a developing contender in the international cruise tourism industry. The new cruise hub is set to transform the travel experience for tourists and position Bali as a sought after location for scenic cruise vacations in Southeast Asia.

consuming process. However, with the opening of the Bali Maritime Tourism Hub, all of that is set to change. This new facility will offer passengers a seamless and more efficient disembarkation process, enhancing their overall experience while exploring Bali's world-famous beaches, temples and cultural landmarks. The new terminal will play a crucial role in expanding Bali's cruise tourism capacity, providing the infrastructure necessary to accommodate an increasing number of large vessels. This will make it easier for cruise lines to include Bali on their itineraries, ensuring that the island becomes an essential stop for both regional and international cruises.

### Bali's Growing Appeal as a Cruise Destination

For years, Bali has been a popular stop for cruise ships, but the island's port of Benoa has faced significant limitations in accommodating larger vessels. Passengers on these ships were traditionally tendered to shore, which could be an inconvenient and time-

### A Major Boost for Australian Travellers

Bali has always been the favorite visiting spot for Australian travellers due to its proximity and affordability. With the new cruise terminal, Australians can now sail back to Australia from Bali instead of facing the exhausting overnight flights which can be very tiring and instead can return home in a more laid back fashion. This change is likely to increase the island's attractiveness as a cruise center for Australians wishing to visit Southeast Asia in detail, particularly as fly-cruise holidays become more common.

## Goa Leads the Way as Air Travel Surge and Flight Bookings Soar for IDay Long Weekend

As the Independence Day long weekend approaches, Goa has become the leading travel destination, with flight bookings seeing a significant increase. This surge in travel demand can be attributed to the extended four-day weekend, as August 15 falls on a Friday, encouraging many travelers to plan a getaway. Goa's popularity is further amplified by its status as a top beach destination offering relaxation, vibrant nightlife, and cultural experiences. With airfares rising and demand soaring, it's clear that Goa remains the top choice for those looking to make the most of their extended holiday break. The timing of the holiday has contributed to this surge. As August 15 falls on a Friday, many workers are taking Thursday off to create a four-day weekend. This extended break has encouraged more travelers to book flights, particularly to popular leisure destinations like Goa, where pristine beaches, vibrant nightlife, and rich cultural experiences await.

Although Goa remains the front-runner, interest is also growing in other destinations. Scenic spots like Kannur and Coimbatore are seeing an uptick in travel interest, but it is Goa that remains the clear favorite for most holidaymakers this year. Its combination of beach resorts, tropical weather, and laid-back atmosphere continues to captivate vacationers from across the country.

However, this increase in demand has also led to a noticeable rise in airfares, especially for flights to Goa. Prices for routes from major cities like Mumbai and Delhi have more than doubled in the week leading up to the holiday weekend. For instance, a flight from Mumbai to Goa, priced at ₹ 4,995 on August 7 and 8, has surged to ₹ 12,376 during the holiday period. Similarly, Delhi to Goa fares have spiked from ₹ 6,512 to ₹ 13,687, reflecting the heightened demand. Other popular routes like Delhi to Port Blair and Delhi to Kochi have also seen substantial increases.





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