



“Welfare of the Poor is Our Resolve”



Trump files \$10 billion defamation lawsuit against BBC over speech edit

MUSTREAD
Telangana Police deny local link in Sydney Terror attack

Hyderabad: The Telangana Police on Tuesday said there was "no connection to India or Telangana" in the alleged radicalisation of Sajid Akram, one of the perpetrators identified in the terrorist attack during a public Hanukkah celebration at Bondi Beach, Sydney, on Sunday. According to reports from Australian authorities, the attack left 15 people dead, along with one of the two attackers, and is being treated as a terrorist incident. The two alleged perpetrators have been identified as Sajid Akram (50) and his son Naveed Akram (24), with investigators stating that they were inspired by ISIS ideology.

131 flights cancelled at Delhi's Airport on Tuesday

New Delhi: A total of 131 flights were cancelled at Delhi's Indira Gandhi International Airport on Tuesday morning, an official said. Airport officials added that, 52 domestic outbound flights and 79 inbound flights have been cancelled. "Although dense fog like on Monday was not present today, the impact of delays and cancellations from Monday continued to affect operations. In addition, low visibility today also had some impact," he said.

Indian Rupee breaches 91-per-dollar mark

New Delhi: For the first time in history, the Indian Rupee on Tuesday breached the 91-per-dollar threshold. The fall in the rupee was pressured by increased hedging activity and portfolio outflows, which is coming amid issues in the trade negotiations between the US and India. Indian Rupee fell 0.3 per cent to 91.0750, hitting a record low for a fourth consecutive session.

Sensex
BSE..... 84,679.86 (-533.50)
NSE..... 25,860.10 (-167.20)

Bullion
Gold..... 1,33,860 (24 carat 10gm)
Silver..... 1,99,100 (1kg)
USD(\$)/INR(Rs)..... 90.92

Weather			
Sunrise	Sunset	Day	Night
6:55	5:37	26.6	4.8

India signs five MoUs with Amman

Amman (UNI) Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday hailed the outcomes of his state visit to Jordan, describing them as a "meaningful expansion" of the India-Jordan partnership. During the visit, India and Jordan signed multiple key agreements to strengthen cooperation in strategic sectors. These five agreements include a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on technical cooperation in new and renewable energy, another MoU on collaboration in water resources management and development; a Twinning Agreement between Petra and Ellora to promote heritage conservation and tourism; Fourth agreement involves the renewal of the Cultural Exchange Programme for 2025-2029 to deepen people-to-people ties, while the fifth agreement involves a Letter of Intent on sharing India's successful digital solutions at population scale for digital transformation. Speaking on the significance of the visit, PM Modi emphasized that



these agreements reflect the growing depth and breadth of India-Jordan ties. "Cooperation in new and renewable energy demonstrates our shared commitment to clean growth, energy security, and climate responsibility," he said in a post on X. "Collaboration in water resources

management will allow us to share best practices in conservation, efficiency, and technology, ensuring long-term water security for both nations."

The Twinning Agreement between Petra and Ellora will open new avenues for academic exchanges,

heritage conservation, and tourism promotion, while the renewal of the Cultural Exchange Programme seeks to foster deeper connections between the peoples of India and Jordan. Sharing India's digital innovations will support Jordan's ongoing digital transformation and promote inclusive governance.

During his visit, PM Modi was warmly received by King Abdullah II at Al Husseinia Palace, where the two leaders held extensive discussions on bilateral relations, regional stability, and global issues of mutual interest. The talks also covered trade and investment, defense and security, counter-terrorism, agriculture, infrastructure, renewable energy, and tourism, with both leaders reiterating a united stand against terrorism.

The visit also marked the announcement of India's support for the India-Jordan Centre of Excellence at Al Hussein Technical University in Amman, which will train 10 Master Trainers over three years, strengthening educational and technical collaboration.

IPL 2026 Auction: CSK spend record 14.2 Cr each for Prashant Veer, Kartik Sharma

Abu Dhabi: The Indian Premier League (IPL) 2026 player auction started on a dull note in the uncapped players' category, but Prashant Veer and Kartik Sharma then scripted history as Chennai Super Kings roped them in for a record price of Rs. 14.20 crore each.

It all started with the uncapped batters category, but to everyone's surprise, all six players in the list went unsold. The list included Aarya Desai, Yash Dhull, Abhinav Manohar, Anmolpreet Singh, Atharva Taide, and Abhinav Tejrana.

However, what followed next was an unexpected bidding war for Auqib Dar, a Jammu and Kashmir all-rounder who bagged an extraordinary deal of Rs. 8.4 crore from the Delhi Capitals as the franchise beat Rajasthan Royals, Royal Challengers Bengaluru, and SunRisers Hyderabad to win the tense battle.

Then came Prashant Veer, who stole the limelight by attracting the interest of five teams.

Luthra brothers arrested



New Delhi: (UNI) The Luthra brothers, who co-own an upscale nightclub in Goa where a devastating fire killed 25 people recently, were arrested at the Delhi airport on Tuesday. The brothers, who had fled to Thailand, landed at the Indira Gandhi International Airport here on an IndiGo flight at 1.45 pm. According to official sources, the duo will be produced before the chief judicial magistrate at Patiala House court. The Goa police is likely to seek their transit remand. The Luthra brothers might also seek 15 days to assist the

police with their investigation. Talking to UNI, Vishnu Joshi, the counsel for one of the victims, asserted that he would oppose any bail plea filed by the accused brothers. The fire broke out at 'Birch by Romeo Lane' nightclub in Arpora, North Goa, on the intervening night of December 6 and 7. The incident resulted in the death of 25 people, mostly club staff and four tourists from Delhi, with most victims dying from suffocation. Safety violations investigations revealed the club was operating illegally without the mandatory fire safety No Objection Certificate (NOC) and had been issued demolition notices previously, which were stayed by local officials. The narrow access lane also hampered firefighting efforts. Meanwhile, an altercation took place between the pilot of the IndiGo flight carrying the Luthras, and the journalists on board.

Court refuses to take cognisance of the chargesheet

New Delhi (UNI) In a significant relief to former Congress president Sonia Gandhi and senior party leader Rahul Gandhi, Delhi's Rouse Avenue Court on Tuesday declined to take cognisance of the Enforcement Directorate's (ED) chargesheet in the National Herald money laundering case. The order also brings relief to five other accused named in



National Herald case

the case. The court, however, said the ED was free to continue its investigation, if it so desired. In its observations, the court noted, "In the absence of a registered FIR, a money laundering investigation and the prosecution complaint filed on its basis could not be sustained." "Legal proceedings for money laundering based on such a complaint are also not maintainable. Taking cognisance on a complaint filed by a private in-

dividual is not legally permissible," the court said, adding that there was no need to examine other arguments on the merits of the case. The ED's chargesheet had named Sonia Gandhi, Rahul Gandhi, Sam Pitroda, Suman Dubey, Sunil Bhandari, Young Indian and Dotex Merchandise Private Limited, alleging the wrongful takeover of assets worth over Rs 2,000 crore belonging to Associated Journals Ltd. (AJL). Reacting to the court's order, the Congress termed it a "victory of truth" and reiterated that the case was politically motivated.

13 killed, 66 injured in Yamuna Expressway accident

Mathura (UNI) At least 13 people were killed and 66 others injured in a major road accident involving eight buses and three cars on the Yamuna Expressway in Mathura, police said. The accident occurred near milestone 127 in the Baldev police station area amid dense fog. Several vehicles caught fire after the collision, causing heavy damage. Police said the death toll may rise as identification of some victims is still underway. SSP Shlok Kumar confirmed that Doctors at the mortuary have verified 13 deaths so far. Three of the deceased have been identified as Rampal from Azamgarh, Sultan from Gonda, and Akhileendra from Prayagraj. The remaining victims will be identified through DNA testing. Rescue operations continued for nearly six hours and involved around 50 personnel from the police, fire brigade and SDRF, along with teams from nine police sta-



tions. The accident led to a traffic jam stretching nearly three kilometres on the expressway. The injured were taken to Mathura District Hospital and the Joint District Hospital in Vrindavan using 20 ambulances. Those with serious injuries were referred to Agra Medical College for further treatment. Police said a passerby alerted authorities about the accident. Local residents also reached the spot and assisted before emergency teams arrived. A magisterial inquiry has been ordered into the incident and will be conducted by Additional District Magistrate (Administration) Amresh.

ON A SPECIAL VISIT TO VANTARA, LIONEL MESSI EXPERIENCES WITH ANANT AMBANI UNFORGETTABLE ENCOUNTERS WITH SACRED INDIAN TRADITIONS AND WILDLIFE



Jamnagar, India – Global football icon Lionel Messi made a special visit to Vantara, a wildlife rescue, rehabilitation and conservation centre founded by Anant Ambani. At the centre, initiatives traditionally begin with seeking blessings in accordance with *Sanatana Dharma*, which emphasises reverence for nature and respect for all living beings. Messi's visit reflected this



Messi, accompanied by his Inter Miami teammates Luis Suárez and Rodrigo De Paul, was welcomed in grand traditional style with vibrant folk music, a showering of flowers symbolising blessings and purity of intent, and a ceremonial *aarti*. The football legend also participated in a *Maha Aarti* at the temple, including *Ambe Mata Puja*, *Ganesh Puja*, *Hanuman Puja* and *Shiv Abhishek*, offering prayers for world peace and unity in keeping with India's timeless ethos of reverence for all living beings. Following the welcome, Messi embarked on a guided tour of Vantara's expansive conservation ecosystem, home to rescued big cats, elephants, herbivores, reptiles and fostered young animals from across the globe. He also visited the green energy complex and the world's largest refinery complex, where he expressed

amazement at the scale and vision behind the operations. At the care centre for lions, leopards, tigers and other endangered species, Messi interacted with animals thriving in enriched, naturalistic environments, many of whom approached him with curiosity. He then visited the Herbivore Care Centre and the Reptile Care Centre, where he observed animals flourishing under



specialised veterinary care, customised nutrition, behavioural training and husbandry protocols that reflect Vantara's global leadership in wildlife welfare. During the visit, he also toured the multi speciality wildlife hospital, witnessing real time clinical and surgical procedures, and later fed the okapis, rhinos, giraffes and elephants. From a global perspective, he also praised the commitment of the Prime Minister of India to advancing wildlife care and conservation in the country.

At the Foster Care Centre, dedicated to orphaned and vulnerable young animals, Messi learned about their journeys of resilience. In a heartfelt gesture, Anant Ambani and Radhika Ambani together named a lion cub "Lionel," a name that now represents hope and continuity, given in honour of the football legend. The highlight of the tour came at the Elephant Care

Centre, where Messi met Maniklal, a rescued elephant calf saved along with his

ailing mother Prathima from harsh labour in the logging industry two years ago. In a moment that captured hearts across the centre, Messi engaged in an impromptu football enrichment activity with Maniklal, demonstrating the universal language of play. The calf responded enthusiastically to the activity, making playful moves that showcased his own emerging skills, marking one of the most memorable moments of Messi's visit to India.



Responding in Spanish to Anant Ambani thanking him for visiting Vantara and

inspiring everyone selflessly toward animals and mankind, Messi said, "What Vantara does is truly beautiful, the work for animals, the care they receive, the way they are rescued and looked after. It is genuinely impressive. We had a wonderful time, felt completely at ease throughout, and it is an experience that stays with you. We will surely visit again to continue inspiring and supporting this meaningful work."

As the visit came to a close, Messi participated in *Nariyal Utsarg* and *Matka*

Phod, traditional rituals symbolising goodwill and auspicious beginnings. The ceremony concluded with chants for peace and well-being, underscoring the shared values that align Vantara's mission with Messi's global legacy. Messi, who leads the Leo Messi Foundation dedicated to social causes, education, healthcare and children's welfare worldwide, expressed a deep sense of alignment with Vantara's purpose and appreciation for its vision of compassionate, science driven care for animals.

