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Indian equity indices witness sharp rally on resilient Q1 GDP data, SCO outcomes

Mumbai: The domestic benchmark indices ended the session in green on Monday, registering a sharp rally amid heavy buying in IT and automobile stocks. The unprecipitated Q1 FY26 GDP growth rate (7.8 per cent) boosted the investor sentiment amid global uncertainties, as experts welcomed the joint statement of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) condemning the Pahalgam terror attack, lauding Prime Minister Narendra Modi

for firmly presenting India's stand on crossborder terrorism on the global platform.

Sensex settled at 80,364.49, up 554.84 points or 0.70 per cent. The 30-share index started the session flat at 79,828.99 against the last session closing of 79,809.65. However, the index picked up the gaining momentum amid overall buying, especially in IT and Auto stocks. It touched an intra-day high at 80,406.84. Nifty ended the session at 24,625.05, up

198.20 points or 0.81 per cent. India's Q1 GDP growth of 7.8 per cent, exceeding projections, has reinforced investor confidence in the economy's resilience amid global uncertainties.

"Expectations of GST rationalisation at the upcoming council meeting continue to bolster sentiment, supporting discretionary consumption," said analysts. This optimism is particularly benefiting sectors such as Auto and Consumer Durables.



Commercial LPG cylinder's price reduced by Rs 51.50

New Delhi: Oil marketing companies (OMCs) said that the price of commercial LPG gas cylinders will be reduced by Rs 51.50, effective September 1. Following the revision, a 19-kg commercial LPG cylinder in Delhi will now be available at Rs 1,580. Earlier, OMCs had reduced the price of a 19 kg commercial LPG gas cylinder by Rs 33.50. Prior to that, OMCs had reduced prices by Rs 58.50 on July 1.

However, there has been no change in the price of 14.2-kg domestic LPG cylinders, the companies said. The price cut brings relief to commercial consumers across the country after the latest monthly revision. Earlier in June, oil firms had announced a Rs 24 cut for commercial cylinders, setting the rate at Rs 1,723.50. In April, the price stood at Rs 1,762. February saw a small Rs 7 reduction, but March reversed this slightly with a Rs 6 increase. According to experts, the price adjustment of the commercial gas cylinders will directly benefit restaurants, hotels, and other commercial establishments that use these LPG cylinders for daily operations. The pricing adjustments are part of the regular monthly revisions based on global crude prices and other market factors.

Meanwhile, the Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, this month approved the targeted subsidy of Rs 300 per 14.2 kg cylinder for up to 9 refills per year (and proportionately pro-rated for 5 kg cylinder) to the beneficiaries of the Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY) during FY 2025-26 with an expenditure of Rs 12,000 crore.

Maruti Suzuki India's domestic sales fall 8 pc in August

New Delhi: Maruti Suzuki India Limited on Monday reported an 8.25 per cent year-on-year (YoY) decline in its domestic passenger vehicle sales for August. The company sold 1,31,278 units in the domestic market during the month, compared to 1,43,075 units in August 2024.

According to the company statement, total domestic sales, which include passenger vehicles and light commercial vehicles, stood at 1,34,048 units, down from 1,45,895 units in the same month previous year. Exports also saw a dip, with Maruti Suzuki shipping 18,466 units in August 2025 compared



to 22,566 units a year earlier. As a result, the company's total sales, including domestic and exports, stood at 1,52,514 units, lower than 1,68,361 units in August 2024.

While overall demand was

subdued, Maruti Suzuki highlighted that sales of its utility vehicles such as Brezza, Grand Vitara, and Ertiga remained strong, continuing to drive a significant portion of volumes.

Gold prices rise by over Rs 2,000, silver jumps by Rs 5,000 amid global uncertainties

New Delhi: Both gold and silver witnessed a significant rise on Monday, continuing the last week's gaining momentum amid uncertain global geopolitical conditions, with the yellow metal rising by Rs 2,000 and the latter escalating over Rs 5,000. According to the Indian Bullion Jewellers Association (IBJA), the 24-carat gold price closed at Rs 104,493 per 10 grams, up Rs 2,105 against last day's closing price of Rs 102,388, while silver closed at Rs 122,800 per kg, rising Rs 5,228 against last session's closing of Rs 117,572. Similarly, the 22-carat gold rate rose to Rs 95,716 per 10 grams, and the 18-carat gold price closed at Rs 78,370 per 10 grams.

"We have continued our bullish stance on gold for more than 2 years now, predicated on the weakness of the DXY as well as the de-dollarisation



trend gaining strength, especially post the incumbent US President (Trump) taking over," said Sandip Raichura, CEO of Retail Broking and Distribution & Director, PL Capital In addition, N.S. Ramaswamy, Head - Commodity desk and CRM - Ventura stated, the Federal Reserve rate cut expectations (September 16-17) have intensified after the US PCE data (Personal Consumption Expenditures price index), which came in line with estimates.

Adani Defence and Aerospace set to ramp up bullet manufacturing drastically

The Adani Defence and Aerospace facility in Kanpur, a manifestation of 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat in action', is producing a string of military equipment, ranging from bullets to fighter jets. The Kanpur-based manufacturing facility of the Adani Defence and Aerospace is set to increase production of bullets drastically, almost doubling it in the next few months.

The information was shared by Adani Defence and Aerospace Company CEO Ashish Rajvanshi during an interaction with journalists via video conferencing. He said that all the wars and military conflicts, in the last few years, have not seen either the infantry crossing

the borders of another country or fighter jets breaching the airspace of another country, as the battlefield has completely changed in today's time.

"Information systems, machine learning and artificial intelligence are the new form of warfare. Now, wars are being fought with drones. In the future, drones will be used more than fighter jets. Along with this, robots are being developed which will be able to make their own decisions on the battlefield," he added. Shedding light on the Adani Group's commitment to preparing the nation for modern age defence against evolving threats, he said that the company will invest Rs 7,000 crore in



the next few years. Missiles will also be made in this Kanpur factory, for which an investment of \$1 million will be made.

He said that the company will soon begin production of bigger calibre bullets. Moreover, high-tech warfare equipment like bulletproof jackets, drones, fighter planes, helicopters and missiles will also be made here to give impetus and strength to the 'Make in India' resolve.

Dish TV penalised by BSE, NSE again over board composition issues

New Delhi: Direct-to-home operator Dish TV India Limited has once again been penalised by leading stock exchanges Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE) and National Stock Exchange (NSE) for failing to meet requirements related to the composition and quorum of its board of directors. In a regulatory filing, the company said it received notices from both exchanges on August 29 imposing fines for non-compliance of Regulations 17(1) and 19(1)(2) of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015, for the quarter ended June 30.

This is not the first time Dish TV has faced such action. The company was also fined in 2023 and 2024 for similar violations, stemming from its prolonged boardroom tussle involving promoters and shareholders. According to the exchanges, both BSE and NSE have imposed penalties of Rs 5.69 lakh each, which Dish TV has been directed to pay within 15 days.

The company has confirmed it will make the payment and clarified that "there is no impact on financial, operational or other activities of the company, other than the monetary fine amount payable." Dish TV explained that the reduction in board strength was due to shareholders not approving the appointment of directors, a matter it said was beyond the control of the board or management.

Eastern India's first major trade show: KOLKATAWOOD 2025

Guwahati: From September 12-14, 2025, KOLKATAWOOD will take place at Biswa Bangla Mela Prangan, marking Eastern India's inaugural large-scale exhibition dedicated to woodworking, furniture, and mattress manufacturing. Organized by NuernbergMesse India, the event builds on the legacy of INDIWOOD, aiming to connect innovation with local growth through live demos, B2B matchmaking, and skilling sessions.

Over 150 leading brands will showcase the latest advancements in machinery and materials, tapping into the rising demand driven by urbanization and increasing disposable incomes in markets like Kolkata and Guwahati. Major investments from companies such as the Ambuja Neotia Group and Reliance Industries are further fueling the sector.

KOLKATAWOOD will unite industry professionals, offering hands-on experiences that bridge traditional craftsmanship with modern techniques. "Eastern India is an emerging industrial hub," said Sonia Prashar, Managing Director of Nuernberg-Messe India. The event aims to position Kolkata as a key player in the national furniture market, projected to double by 2032.



Experts Call for Cross-Sector Collaboration and Tech-Led Tracking to Curb Illicit Tobacco trade

At the recent summit held in Manila, 'Combating Illicit Trade in Southeast Asia: Cross-border and Cross-Sector Strategies for Tackling the Threat', experts from Southeast Asia underscored the escalating threat of illicit tobacco trade — a challenge undermining public health systems and draining government revenues in India and Southeast Asia. Fueled by affordability gaps, tax disparities, and weak enforcement, the illegal tobacco market is expanding rapidly. Globally, an estimated 500 billion illicit cigarettes are consumed annually, representing 14-15% of total tobacco use. These products evade taxation and quality control, resulting in significant fiscal losses and

heightened health risks.

Jericho Nograles, President, Philippine Tobacco Institute, highlighted how the scale of the problem is growing "In the Philippines, one in five cigarettes is illicit, with a sharp rise seen post-pandemic. Yet governments often avoid discussing the issue, sometimes due to embarrassment. Legal exports can end up fueling illicit imports elsewhere so we need to normalise honest policy dialogue about the existence of illicit trade, if we want real solutions."

On the sidelines of the event, Rodney Van Dooren, Head of Illicit Trade Prevention, Philip Morris International said, "Illicit tobacco is not just an economic concern but also a



health hazard. Counterfeit cigarettes have been found to contain up to 160% more tar and 133% more carbon monoxide than regulated products. In India, where about 120 million people smoke cigarettes, nearly one in four is illicit. Industry estimates suggest this translates into annual excise losses of ₹12,000-13,000 crore (USD 1.5-1.6 billion)."

The affordability of these un-

regulated products, particularly in low-income and border regions, drives sustained demand. In some cases, the absence or prohibition of regulated, less harmful alternatives has inadvertently pushed consumers toward black-market products. Regional dynamics further complicate enforcement. Illicit products often originate legally in one jurisdiction before being smuggled into others.

slice SFB appoints ex-RBI Executive Director Eugene Karthak as Chairman to boost Northeast focus

Guwahati: slice Small Finance Bank (SFB) has appointed Eugene Emmanuel Karthak, former Executive Director of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), as Part-time Chairman and Independent Director, marking a significant boost to its governance and Northeast presence.

Karthak, with over 30 years of regulatory and supervisory experience, has headed critical RBI departments including Information Technology and Corporate Services and served as Regional Director in Delhi and Bengaluru. He also played a key role in setting up RBI's first office in Gangtok, Sikkim, and currently leads the Guwahati-based Indian Institute of Bank Management, in addition to being on the Governing Council of CAFRAL, Mumbai.

In Guwahati, Karthak's appointment signals a stronger alignment with local aspirations. With Guwahati emerging as a financial hub for the Northeast, businesses and small borrowers see the move as an opportunity for faster credit disbursal, digital-first solutions, and greater confidence in compliance-driven banking. Local entrepreneurs and MSMEs expect the bank's renewed leadership to further ease access to capital.

Headquartered in Assam, slice SFB has created over 400 jobs in the region over the past year and expanded its footprint with new branches in Nagaland and Mizoram. The bank continues to focus on MSMEs, agri-linked enterprises, women's empowerment, and financial inclusion.

Manipal Hospital EM Bypass brings advanced neurosurgery and robotic cancer care to Mizoram patients



Aizawl: Manipal Hospital EM Bypass, Kolkata, has showcased its advanced neurosurgery and robotic cancer care capabilities for patients from Mizoram, highlighting successful outcomes at a press conference in Aizawl. Dr. Harsh Jain, Senior Consultant – Neurosurgery, and Dr. Abhay Kumar, HOD – Urology, Surgical Oncology & Robotic Surgery, shared cases demonstrating how cutting-edge technology and surgical expertise are transforming patient care.

Dr. Jain highlighted complex neurosurgical cases, including the successful removal of large brain and spinal tumours using microsurgical techniques, intraoperative neuromonitoring, and neuro-navigation, ensuring patients retained critical neurological functions. Among the patients, 37-year-old SaithangpuiaSailo and 31-year-old Lalmuanpuia made remarkable recoveries, showcasing the hospital's proficiency in handling high-risk neurosur-

geries.

Dr. Kumar emphasized the role of robotic surgery in cancer and urological treatments, citing cases such as H Zohmingthanga's robotic prostatectomy and V Lalbiakzama's scolovesical fistula repair, highlighting minimal invasiveness, faster recovery, and improved outcomes. Patients from Mizoram, including Samuel Lalchhuanawma and LalthanpuiaSailo, have benefitted from advanced endoscopic procedures for kidney stone removal.

In Aizawl, local patients now have greater access to world-class surgical expertise without needing to travel extensively to metropolitan centres. This development is expected to boost medical confidence and demand for advanced treatments among Mizoram residents.

With these interventions, Manipal Hospital EM Bypass continues to strengthen its position as a leading healthcare provider for Eastern and North-Eastern India.

SBI Card, Flipkart unveil co-branded credit card with cashback edge

Guwahati: SBI Card, India's largest pure-play credit card issuer, and e-commerce giant Flipkart on Tuesday announced the launch of the Flipkart SBI Credit Card, aimed at enhancing affordability and rewards for customers across Flipkart, Myntra, Shopsy, and Cleartrip platforms.

Launched in the presence of SBI Chairman Challa SreenivasuluSetty and SBI Managing Director Ashwini Kumar Tewari, the card offers up to 7.5% cashback on Myntra spends and 5% cashback on Flipkart, Shopsy, and Cleartrip purchases. Additionally, customers will receive 4% cashback on brands like Zomato, Uber, Netmeds, and PVR, and 1% unlimited cashback on all other eligible spends.

In Guwahati, the card is expected to drive stronger participation from younger shoppers, particularly in fashion, electronics, and travel segments. With e-commerce adoption steadily rising in Assam's urban markets, the new offering could encourage greater use of digital payments, while boosting consumer confidence in online shopping.

Salila Pande, MD & CEO of SBI Card, said the launch reflects efforts to deliver "a rewarding and seamless payment experience." Flipkart CEO Kalyan Krishnamurthy added that the initiative will help "democratize access to formal credit in India."

The card carries a joining and annual fee of ₹500 with welcome benefits worth ₹1,250 and limited-period launch offers.

Flipkart expands supply chain network ahead of Big Billion Days, strengthens regional markets

Guwahati: Flipkart, India's homegrown e-commerce marketplace, has announced a major expansion of its pan-India supply chain infrastructure ahead of its flagship festive event, The Big Billion Days. With the addition of new fulfilment centres (FCs) and last-mile hubs across key states such as Uttar Pradesh (Varanasi, Agra, Ghaziabad), Bihar (Patna), Haryana (Manesar), and Tripura (Agartala), Flipkart is deepening its regional presence, enabling faster festive deliveries, and creating thousands of jobs while powering the rapid growth of quick commerce in India. This year's expansion spans 35 lakh sq. ft., covering 21,000+ pincodes nationwide. In addition to Varanasi, Patna, Manesar, Ranchi, Ghaziabad, Agra, and Agartala, Flipkart has gone live with new



facilities in Guwahati, Singur, and Saidham, to name a few, strengthening last-mile reach ahead of the festive season.

With these additions, Flipkart's network now comprises over 100 fulfilment centers nationwide, collectively capable of processing millions of festive orders with speed and precision. Hemant Badri, Senior Vice President and Head of Supply Chain, Customer Experience & Re-Commerce, Flipkart Group, said: "Flip-

kart's supply chain blends the scale of large fulfilment centers with the agility of hyper-local hubs, creating a hybrid network that serves every corner of Bharat." Complementing its large-scale fulfillment centers, Flipkart is also scaling its quick commerce backbone through nearly 400 new micro-fulfilment centers and dark stores across 19 cities. As part of its festive readiness, Flipkart has created over 2.2 lakh additional seasonal job opportunities across warehousing, logistics, and last-mile delivery roles. Ekart, in partnership with NReach Online Services Limited, has launched on-ground health camps under its Suraksha wellness program to support over 6,000 warehouse associates across 21 supply chain facilities.

Grand Shopsy Mela returns; Flipkart's hyper value platform launches biggest festive sale

Guwahati: Shopsy by Flipkart has announced the return of its biggest annual shopping event, the Grand Shopsy Mela (GSM), running from August 29 to September 7. The sale, themed "Aise Girenge Dam, Shopping Hogi Subah Shaam," promises unmatched affordability with over 1 crore products priced under ₹149 across fashion, lifestyle, home, and beauty categories.

This year's edition brings a wide range of offers including Grand Jhatpat Deals, Crazy Offers, Jackpot Deals, and hourly price drops, making festive shopping accessible for millions of families in Tier 2, 3, and 4 towns. According to Kapil Thirani, Business Head of Shopsy and Flipkart Marketplace, "The Grand Shopsy Mela is set to be a key enabler of value-led shopping for Bharat, blending affordability with wide selection while empowering sellers."

In Guwahati market, traders note that the Mela is likely to boost competition between offline and online sellers. With growing digital adoption in Assam, many budget-conscious shoppers in Guwahati are expected to explore Shopsy first for festive shopping, particularly in categories like apparel, home décor, and kitchenware.

Shopsy has partnered with Cleartrip to launch a contest offering travel packages and flight



vouchers. With enhanced logistics and supply chain readiness, the platform aims to ensure smooth deliveries and a rewarding festive shopping experience across India.

Simba shines globally with silver and bronze at World Beer Awards 2025

Guwahati: Simba, India's pioneering craft beer brand, has earned international acclaim at the World Beer Awards 2025, securing two prestigious wins in the India Country Winners – Taste Category. Simba Wit, a Belgian-style wheat beer, clinched Silver, while Simba Stout bagged Bronze in the stout and porter category.

The World Beer Awards is one of the industry's most respected global platforms, judged through blind tastings by brewers, writers, and specialists. Simba's success places it alongside globally celebrated breweries, highlighting India's growing footprint in the international craft beer movement.



Expressing pride in the achievement, Ishwaraj Singh Bhatia, Co-Founder and COO of Simba Beer, said, "From the beginning, our vision has been to put Indian craft beer on the

world map, and these awards are a true reflection of our team's passion, innovation, and dedication to quality."

In Guwahati, one of the fastest-growing urban markets in Northeast India, Simba's global recognition is expected to boost demand for premium craft beers. Retailers and distributors note that younger consumers in the city are increasingly seeking innovative and high-quality options, making Simba's achievement a strong catalyst for further growth in the region.

Simba is part of Saltborn, a collective redefining premium lifestyle experiences, with a portfolio that also includes Zig-Zag Vodka.

Tata Digital drives credit access on ONDC with over 1 million loan applications

Guwahati: Tata Digital has emerged as a frontrunner in democratizing credit access in India through its early adoption of the Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC). In just three months, the company has facilitated over one million personal loan applications, contributing the largest share of users, applications, and disbursements on the ONDC Network.

The loan marketplace on Tata Neu now features 14 lending partners, including two integrated via ONDC, offering customers competitive pricing and customized loan products across categories such as gold loans and personal loans. The platform caters to both salaried and self-employed individuals, including first-time borrowers, ensuring broader financial inclusion.

Gaurav Hazrati, President of Financial Services at Tata Digital, said the company's participation in ONDC reinforces its commitment to India's digital infrastructure. Vibhor Jain, Acting CEO and COO of ONDC, highlighted that the network is transforming access to credit by enabling transparent, seamless integration between fintechs, lenders, and consumers.

In Guwahati, financial experts note that the availability of instant and paperless loans through ONDC-backed platforms like Tata Neu is expected to boost small businesses and salaried households. With demand for personal credit rising, Guwahati's growing market stands to benefit significantly from such digital lending innovations.

Manipal Hospital EM Bypass brings advanced neurosurgery and robotic cancer care to Mizoram patients

Aizawl: Manipal Hospital EM Bypass, Kolkata, has showcased its cutting-edge neurosurgery and robotic cancer care for patients from Mizoram, highlighting remarkable success stories at a press conference today. Addressed by Dr. Harsh Jain, Senior Consultant – Neurosurgery, and Dr. Abhay Kumar, HOD – Urology, Surgical Oncology & Robotic Surgery, the event emphasized how advanced technology combined with surgical expertise is transforming patient outcomes.

Dr. Jain shared cases including a 37-year-old patient with acoustic neuroma and a 31-year-old woman with a large spinal tumour, both treated successfully using microsurgical techniques, neuro-navigation, and intraoperative neuromonitoring. Dr. Kumar

highlighted robotic-assisted procedures, such as a radical prostatectomy and complex colovesical fistula repair, enabling faster recovery, minimal trauma, and improved quality of life.

Aizawl patients have increasingly sought advanced treatments closer to home, reducing the need for long-distance travel to metropolitan hospitals. Local pharmacies, diagnostic centers, and allied health services in Aizawl have reported a rise in demand, reflecting growing confidence in accessing world-class medical care regionally.

With these interventions, Manipal Hospital EM Bypass continues to cement its reputation as a hub for advanced medical care, delivering hope and improved clinical outcomes to patients across Eastern and North-Eastern India.

Comic Con India 2025 makes Northeast debut; Guwahati edition to kick off on November 22



Guwahati: Comic Con India, the country's largest pop culture festival, is set to make its debut in the Northeast with the first-ever Guwahati edition on November 22-23, organizers announced. The two-day event promises a complete celebration of comics, cosplay, anime, gaming, and experiential sessions, bringing the global fandom experience closer to fans in the region.

Speaking about the expansion, Akshat Rathee, Co-founder and MD of NODWIN Gaming, said, "Guwahati has always been a cultural gateway to the Northeast. Now, the city becomes a stage where local creativity and fandom can shine for the world to see. Fans no longer need to travel across India; Comic Con comes to them." Shefali Johnson, CEO of Comic Con

India, added that the expansion aims to make the festival accessible to every fan and provide a platform to showcase local talent in cosplay, comics, and gaming.

From the market perspective, Guwahati has emerged as India's fastest-growing destination for international travellers, according to Agoda's New Horizons ranking. The city's thriving youth culture, growing cafes, entertainment hubs, and active local markets are expected to benefit from increased footfall, offering local vendors and businesses an opportunity to engage with a diverse audience.

The Guwahati edition will also serve as a launchpad for emerging artists, illustrators, and gamers, while providing interactive experiences for fans of all ages. Tickets for the event are now live on the District app.

Medanta expands in Delhi-NCR by launching 550-bed super specialty hospital in Noida

Guwahati: Global Health Limited "Medanta", one of the largest private multi-specialty tertiary care providers operating in the North and East regions of India, has announced the commencement of operations at its new 550 bedded hospital in Noida, Uttar Pradesh. The launch further strengthens Medanta's commitment to provide highest standard of healthcare in the National Capital Region (NCR). The state of the art hospital opens with 300 operational beds, including 100+ ICU beds and 5 advanced operating theatres. Equipped with cutting-edge technology such as Da Vinci Xi Surgical Robot, Next generation O-Arm, Artis Icono AI-driven

Biplane Cath Lab, advanced diagnostic systems including 3 Tesla MRI, 256-Slice Dual Source CT, PET Scan, and Gamma Camera, the facility is designed to provide world-class medical care.

Medanta Noida will deliver comprehensive tertiary and quaternary care across more than 20 super specialties including Cardiology, Oncology, Neurosciences, Gastroenterology, Orthopaedics, and all kind of Transplants. Strategically located in Sector 50, Noida, with direct connectivity to the Metro network, the hospital is well positioned to serve patients across Delhi-NCR and the underserved regions of Western Uttar Pradesh. Speaking

about the launch of the Noida unit, Dr. Naresh Trehan, Chairman and Managing Director of Medanta, shared: "Our new hospital in Noida marks another milestone in Medanta's journey of bringing world-class healthcare to the people of India." Highlighting the importance of expanding healthcare services in Delhi-NCR, Mr. Pankaj Sahni, Group CEO, Medanta, said: "The launch of our Noida facility today represents a significant step in Medanta's growth journey. This expansion strengthens our presence in the NCR while extending access to a large and underserved population in Noida and Western Uttar Pradesh."

Medanta's Dr. Ashok Rajgopal achieves 40,000 knee replacements, strengthens India's orthopaedic care

Guwahati: Medanta Gurugram, ranked India's Best Private Hospital by Newsweek for six consecutive years, has honoured Dr. Ashok Rajgopal, Group Chairman – Medanta Institute of Musculoskeletal Disorders and Orthopaedics, for completing 40,000 knee replacement surgeries, a milestone achievement that reinforces Medanta's unparalleled clinical expertise in orthopaedic care. This landmark feat is a testament to Dr. Rajgopal's pioneering skills and decades-long experience, as well as Medanta's commitment to advancing joint replacement care in India by using advanced infrastructure, state-of-the-art technology, and a skilled team of doctors at an accessible cost. Dr. Naresh Trehan, Chairman and Managing Director, Medanta, congratulated Dr. Rajgopal



and his team for his watershed achievement and hailed his unwavering dedication to patient care and pioneering work in knee replacement surgery. Mr. Pankaj Sahni, Group CEO, Medanta, also lauded Dr. Rajgopal's work, affirming that his expertise, dedication, and compassion have set a standard for other doctors to aspire to.

Dr. Rajgopal's patients at-

tended Medanta—The Medicity to applaud their surgeon and share their journeys from pain and vulnerability to liberty and empowerment. Highlighting his views on the evolving orthopaedics space, Dr. Ashok Rajgopal, Group Chairman, Medanta Institute of Musculoskeletal Disorders and Orthopaedics, Medanta-The Medicity, Gurugram said,

With advanced surgical techniques and patient-specific approaches, we are able to restore mobility, independence, and quality of life for thousands.” Dr. Rajgopal further said, “We treat thousands of patients with advanced knee conditions every year and perform approximately 1600-1700 knee replacements annually, achieving a 98% success rate. We have successfully managed more than 9500 revision surgeries and performed over 1500 robotic-assisted knee replacements.” Hailing Dr. Rajgopal's achievement, Dr. Naresh Trehan, Chairman and Managing Director, Medanta said, “Dr. Rajgopal's unwavering dedication to patient care and pioneering work in knee replacement surgery have transformed the lives of thousands.”

Amway's Nutrilite secures NFSU trusted tag, market outlook strengthens across India

Imphal: Amway India has gained a significant boost in the nutrition supplements market with five of its flagship Nutrilite products receiving the NFSU-NSTS Trusted Recognition. The certification, granted by the Centre of Excellence – National Supplement Testing for Sports persons (CoE-NSTS) at National Forensic Sciences University (NFSU), Gujarat, confirms compliance with global anti-doping standards set by the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA).

The recognized products include Nutrilite All Plant Protein, Nutrilite Cal Mag D Plus K2, Nutrilite Glucosamine HCL with Boswellia, Nutrilite Salmon Omega-3 Softgels, and Nutrilite Daily Plus. These will now carry the “NFSU-NSTS Trusted” mark, ensuring credibility for athletes and fitness-conscious consumers. Analysts suggest the move could enhance Amway's competitive positioning in India's expanding wellness economy, where trust and transparency are becoming decisive factors.

Rajneesh Chopra, Managing Director, Amway India, said the recognition reinforces the



90-year Nutrilite legacy and strengthens consumer confidence.

In Imphal, a key emerging market in the Northeast, distributors expect the certification to fuel higher demand among athletes and youth engaged in sports, alongside a growing segment of urban consumers focused on preventive health. Retailers note that recognition by a national authority is likely to shift consumer preference toward verified supplements.

JSW Group partners with the Government of Assam to set up a state-of-the-art museum in Guwahati

Guwahati: The JSW Group—one of the largest corporate promoters of arts, culture, and heritage in the country—has partnered with the Government of Assam to set-up a state-of-the-art museum in Guwahati. To begin with, the world-class museum will house the Vrindavani Vastra, the 17th-century devotional textile created under the guidance of Srimanta Sankardev and currently preserved at the British Museum in London. The British Museum has consented to loan the Vrindavani Vastra for public exhibition in Assam in 2026–27, where it will remain for 18 months. The Government of Assam has allotted land at the Sericulture Farm, Khanapara, Guwahati, for the construction of the museum, which will be fully funded by the JSW Group.

Mrs. Sangita Jindal, Chairperson, JSW Foundation, said, “The JSW Group is honored to part-

ner with the Government of Assam in building a befitting museum that will safeguard the Vastra under global standards, while creating a lasting world-class cultural institution in the city of Guwahati.” The Vastra measures approximately 9.5 meters in length and two meters in width, making it one of the largest surviving devotional silk textiles of its era. Mr. Abin Chaudhuri, architect of the proposed museum, said, “Our vision is to create a space that balances reverence and modernity - where the architecture itself pays homage to the textile's devotional essence while providing the most advanced conservation facilities.” The initiative was recently announced by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Assam, Dr. Himanta Biswa Sarma, who welcomed the JSW Group's commitment as a vital step in realizing a long-cherished cultural aspiration of the people of Assam.

Kalyan Jewellers expands Assam operations with new Dibrugarh showroom launch



Dibrugarh: Kalyan Jewellers, one of India's leading jewellery retailers, has expanded its network in Assam with the inauguration of a new showroom at K.C. Gogoi Path, Khalimari, Dibrugarh. The outlet was launched by actor Genelia Deshmukh, marking a key step in the company's Northeast expansion strategy.

The showroom features Kalyan's extensive house brands, including Muhurat (wedding jewellery), Mudhra (handcrafted antique jewellery), Nimah (temple jewellery), Glo (dancing diamonds), Ziah (solitaire-like jewellery), Anokhi (uncut diamonds), Apoorva (special occasion diamonds), Antara (wedding diamonds), Hera (daily wear diamonds), Rang (precious stones), and the recently launched Lila (coloured stones and diamonds). Alongside, the brand introduced Candere, its lifestyle jewellery line offering lightweight, trendy designs for Gen Z, working women, and style-conscious men, with price points beginning at ₹10,000.

In Dibrugarh, Kalyan Jewellers' move into Upper Assam reflects a growing appetite for branded jewellery across the state. Dibrugarh has emerged as a key hub for organised jewellery retail, with rising consumer demand for hallmarked, design-led collections. The Dibrugarh launch is expected to strengthen Kalyan's competitive positioning while broadening customer access in Assam.

The brand announced launch offers, including 0% making charge on half the purchase value and its Special Gold Board Rate, uniform across all showrooms. All jewellery is BIS hallmarked and backed by Kalyan's 4-Level Assurance Certificate, ensuring purity, lifetime maintenance, and transparent exchange policies.

Alcatel Expands Offline Network in Assam Through Partnership with BSM Ventures

Guwahati: Alcatel has strengthened its offline retail presence in Assam by entering into a strategic partnership with BSM Ventures, a leading distribution house in the North East. The collaboration aims to make Alcatel's innovative and reliable products more accessible to consumers while offering strong after-sales support and warranty.

BSM Ventures, led by Binoy Kumar Agarwala, has a proven track record of building visibility for consumer electronics and lifestyle brands across the region. Leveraging its retail expertise, the partnership is expected to significantly boost Alcatel's footprint and deepen consumer engagement across Assam and the North East.

“At a time when disposable income is rising in the North East, this partnership will allow us to meet growing aspirations and create new opportunities for growth,” said Atul Vivek, Chief Business Officer, NxtCell India (Alcatel). Ansh Rathi, COO, NxtCell India, added that the initiative would not only strengthen regional connectivity but also pave the way for expansion into other states.

In Guwahati, industry observers believe the collaboration could reshape consumer access to technology. With Guwahati emerging as a key retail hub for electronics, Alcatel's offline presence is expected to tap into increasing demand and enhance competition among technology brands.



Serchhip College to host public 5G use case demo on September 9

Aizawl: Government Serchhip College in Mizoram will host a public demonstration of 5G use cases on September 9, 2025, from 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM. The event, aimed at showcasing technology-driven solutions to societal challenges, is being organized under the project “Deepening of Scientific Research on 5G Use Cases for Solving Challenges of Society.”

The initiative is funded by the North Eastern Council (NEC) under the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (MDoNER), implemented by the North Eastern Regional Community Resource Management Society (NERCORMS), and executed in collaboration with Amantya Technologies.

Students, startups, and innovators will present prototypes and working models developed in the college's 5G lab. Established as one of the first such labs in India, it has become a milestone for technology education in Mizoram. The demonstration will include live presentations highlighting how early-stage concepts are being transformed into practical, tested prototypes.

The programme is open to the public, researchers, and technology enthusiasts. Organizers said the initiative aims to encourage innovation for social good while building on momentum created by recent regional technology initiatives.

'Bigg Boss 19': Ashnoor gets immunity as Kunickaa removed from captaincy

Mumbai: Although actress Kunickaa Sadanand won the captaincy task fair and square in Bigg Boss 19, she was removed as the house captain after the co-contestants were asked to vote. The Bigg Boss 19 house witnessed its first major twist this week, as tensions flared during a dramatic assembly room session. The fate of the season's first captain, Kunickaa, was put to a vote when Bigg Boss asked the housemates: "Does Kunicka deserve to be safe from the nomination list this week?" Around 12 contestants voted against



Kunickaa, who has previously been accused of mistakenly treating the Bigg Boss house as a "gurukul." In the upcoming episode, Bigg Boss will be seen announcing that Kunicka was stripped of her captaincy, would receive no immunity this week, and would now be eligible to be nominated by the housemates. Bigg Boss will be heard saying: "The housemates don't consider Kunicka a captain, and she shouldn't get immunity either. The first captain of the house has completely failed."

Sunny Deol wishes his 'mama' Prakash Kaur on b'day, says 'love you'



Mumbai: Bollywood superstar Sunny Deol on Monday penned a heartfelt birthday note for his mother Prakash Kaur and showcased his love for her through a short message. Sunny took to Instagram, where he shared two pictures of himself sitting with his message. In the image, the actor is wearing a black shirt paired with grey pants and a turban and is lovingly holding his mother, who looks elegant in a yellow salwar-kameez. In the image, the two are looking at the camera and smiling as they pose for pictures.

"Happy Birthday Mama Love You," Sunny wrote as the caption. Veteran Bollywood star Dharmendra's first marriage was to Prakash Kaur at the age of 19 in 1954, before he entered the film industry. They have two sons Sunny Deol and Bobby Deol. The former couple also have two daughters, Vijeta and Ajeeta. Talking about Sunny, he will next be seen in the upcoming war drama "Border 2", which has been locked for a January 22, 2026 release. The film also stars Diljit Dosanjh, Varun Dhawan and Ahan Shetty. Directed by Anurag Singh, Border 2 also stars Medha Rana, Mona Singh and Sonam Bajwa with production by Bhushan Kumar and JP Dutta.

Mannara Chopra reveals she shot for the 'Gun Gunate Chale Mausam' song 26 hours straight

Mumbai: Actress Mannara Chopra was seen romancing Hardik Banga in Ankit Tiwari's melodious track "Gun Gunate Chale Mausam". Dropping some BTS fun from the shoot on social media, Mannara revealed that they shot for the track 26 hours straight from 6 am in the morning to 9:30 am the next day with non-stop rain and zero sleep.

Posting a video compilation of some behind-the-scenes moments from the track, Mannara wrote on her Instagram: "26 hours. 6am to next day 930 am. Non-stop rain. Zero sleep. First time ever... and I survived..." Reacting to the post, one of the Insta user penned: "The pair's chemistry is undeniable, making the romance feel so genuine." Another one wrote, "I'm so proud of your Hard Work!! Your dedication to your projects is admirable." The third comment read, "@memannara Congratulations to you, Mannara. We are proud of you. You do a lot of work and always give 100 percent. We love you very much. We are looking forward to your next new projects."

A cybercitizen shared: "Mannara's smile is as captivating as the romantic setting." Crooned by Ankit Tiwari, "Gun Gunate Chale Mausam" enjoys music provided by Harsh Kargeti, with beautiful lyrics penned by Samay. Prior to this, Mannara reminisced about her childhood in Ambala Cantt - her nani's house.



Sharing a collage of some fond memories from her childhood, Mannara wrote: "My Nani's house in Ambala Cantt — where every corner holds a piece of my heart." The actress also paid a homage to her late grandfather who was an army person and whose discipline and strength has always influenced her. Talking about the same, Mannara wrote, "I added a touch of jazz to this video — a small homage to my Nana, who had a soft spot for timeless melodies. A dignified soul from a proud army background, just like many in my family. That discipline, grace, and quiet strength continue to shape who I am today."

National Nutrition Month: How Almonds Can Boost Your Daily Nutrition

Guwahati: A balanced diet is key to good health, and this year's Nutrition Month theme, "Food Connects Us Together," underscores the role of food in building connections. Starting the day with nutrient-dense foods like almonds, fruits, and whole grains fosters both energy and well-being. California Almonds, rich in 15 essential nutrients including zinc, magnesium, iron, and vitamin E, are a simple way to fuel mornings and support overall health. The Indian Council of Medical



Research-National Institute of Nutrition (ICMR-NIN) also released Dietary Guidelines for Indians, which recognize almonds as a nut to consume daily for good health. Eating almonds every day may support weight management, enhance heart health, and help control blood sugar levels. Bollywood actress Soha Ali Khan, known for her dedication to fitness, says, "I prefer starting my day with something light yet nourishing like California almonds, which keep me energized and satisfied for hours. Even when I'm on the go, I carry a small box of California almonds to snack on."

Commenting on National Nutrition Month, Ritika

Samaddar, Regional Head of Dietetics at Max Healthcare, Delhi, said, "Being rich in Vitamin B2, Vitamin

E, magnesium, and phosphorus, almonds also help keep you energetic throughout the day." Nutrition and Wellness Consultant Sheela Krishnaswamy said, "Beginning the day with almonds not only keeps you energetic but also helps meet the body's daily nutrient needs." Ayurveda expert Madhumita Krishnan said, "Siddha practice also recognizes almonds for their therapeutic role in addressing weakness from chronic and lifestyle-related conditions such as diabetes." National Nutrition Month serves as a reminder that every bite matters. This year, let's commit to acknowledging the crucial role of nutrition in overall well-being.

Yami Gautam shares pictures with son, father from her Leh getaway

Mumbai: Actress Yami Gautam, who was last seen in the streaming movie 'Dhoom Dhaam', is currently enjoying her downtime in Leh.

On Monday, the actress took to her Instagram, and shared two pictures from her vacation. The first picture shows her with her son Vedavid at the Leh palace. The second picture is of her father, Mukesh Gautam with their tour guide.

She also penned a note in the caption, as she wrote, "Meandering with my little one at the historic Leh Palace !!! Post that witnessed beautiful evening at Sindhu Darshan &

experience sight of the mighty Indus River (that's my daddy dear along with Raje padme-the sweetest guide ever)".

The Leh Palace, which overlooks the city of Leh in Ladakh, India, was constructed by the Namgyal dynasty. It was constructed circa 1600 AD by Sengge Namgyal. The palace was abandoned when Dogra forces took control of Ladakh in the mid-19th century and forced the royal family to move to Stok Palace.

Meanwhile, the actress' father, Mukesh Gautam is a Punjabi film director. He is the VP of PTC Network.

The actress has been in Leh



for the past one week. Earlier, she visited the historic

Thiksey Monastery in Leh and said the chants she heard

there will forever stay with her. Yami took to Instagram, where she shared a string of memories from her visit to the monastery, which is noted for its resemblance to the Potala Palace in Lhasa, Tibet, and is the largest monastery in central Ladakh.

The monastery, which is a twelve-storey complex and houses many items of Buddhist art such as stupas, statues, thangkas, wall paintings and swords. One of the main points of interest is the Maitreya Temple installed to commemorate the visit of the 14th Dalai Lama to this monastery in 1970.

India conclude preparatory camp in Visakhapatnam ahead of Women's ODI WC



Visakhapatnam: India have wrapped up their week-long preparatory camp for the 2025 ICC Women's ODI World Cup at the ACAVDCA Stadium in Visakhapatnam. Apart from skill-based training and emphasis on fitness, the players went through various match-stimulation training in the build-up to the marquee event.

Opener Pratika Rawal expressed confidence in the team's batting depth. "We had different scenarios. Most of us were able to do it and I think it's a very good start. I mean, few of us batted brilliantly. I think the amount of depth this team has, I am pretty sure it's going to be great for us," she said in a video posted on BCCI's social media handles on Monday.

Pratika also highlighted the team's growing camaraderie as a key takeaway from the preparatory camp. "I feel like the way that we are bonding right now, it's amazing. The girls are understanding each other's perspective, which is a very good sign. So, our team looks united," she added. Seam-bowling allrounder Arundhati Reddy noted that the camp provided her with plenty of challenges, particularly in honing her bowling skills against quality batters in the national team. "For me, I have had few challenges with the batters when I go in. I think it's good for both of us because it gets the best out of whoever I am bowling to and I personally like a challenge when I am bowling," Reddy said.

New Delhi to host 30th edition of BWF World Championships in August 2026



New Delhi: The BWF World Championships will return to India after 17 years, with the capital city, New Delhi, chosen to host the landmark 30th edition in August 2026. The announcement was made during the closing ceremony of the 2025 Championships in Paris, where a handover took place between BWF president Khunying Patama Leeswadtrakul, Frank Laurent, president of the Federation Francaise de Badminton and Sanjay Mishra, general secretary of the Badminton Association of India.

India's selection reflects its transformation into one of badminton's most consistent medal-winning nations at the BWF World Championships, with 15 podium finishes since 1983. The country's breakthrough came with Prakash Padukone's bronze in Copenhagen in 1983, while in 2011 Jwala Gutta and Ashwini Ponappa became the first Indian doubles medallists, signalling the nation's all-round rise. At the forefront stands PV Sindhu, one of the most successful women's singles players in the tournament's history, with five medals: a gold, two silvers, and two bronze.

Riyan Parag Eyes India Comeback After Using Duleep Trophy to Regain Match Fitness

Bengaluru: For Assam all-rounder Riyan Parag, the Duleep Trophy quarterfinal was less about runs and wickets and more about regaining valuable game time after battling a persistent shoulder injury. Leading East Zone in their clash against North Zone, Parag said he was satisfied to have eased back into competitive cricket even though his team fell short.

"The match felt good. That was the main goal when I came here — to get back on the field. Performances, I didn't really focus on much. I just wanted to have some fun because I hadn't played competitive cricket in a long time," Parag told reporters after East Zone's exit, with North advancing to



the semifinals on a first-innings lead. The 23-year-old suffered the injury late last year and admitted it had hampered both his batting and bowling in IPL 2025. He stayed away from cricket after the T20 league before returning in the Duleep Trophy. Against North Zone,

Parag made 39 off 47 deliveries and bowled 22 overs, picking up one wicket in the second innings

"Since the IPL, I hadn't played any cricket. Even there, I was managing a lot of stress and the shoulder. But this was a good outing. Not in terms of

the overs we fielded, but I got to roll my arm over, bat a bit. I could have converted it into a bigger score, but I'm happy. The arm feels much better now," he said. Looking ahead, Parag's immediate focus is on maintaining fitness before the domestic season resumes. His next competitive opportunity will come either in the Ranji Trophy or India's white-ball tour of Australia in mid-October, should he make the cut.

"I think it's back to basics now. Ranji is coming, then the Australia tour is there. If I get selected, I'll be ready. Otherwise, I'll go back to domestic cricket, keep scoring runs, have a good IPL, and push for India selection again," he explained.

US Open: Ostapenko issues apology for 'no class, no education' comment towards Townsend



New Delhi: Jelena Ostapenko has issued an apology for her "no class" and "no education" comments towards Taylor Townsend during a heated US Open row. Ostapenko has accused Townsend of having "no education and no class" in a fiery post-match exchange at Flushing Meadows after losing to the American 7-5 6-1 in the second round.

Tension between the pair escalated after a net cord went in Townsend's favour during a 7-5, 6-1 second-round win - and 25th seed Ostapenko accused her of not apologising. The pair had a curt handshake after Townsend clinched victory before Latvian Ostapenko made a comment at the net. Both players continued to express their views in an animated argument at Ostapenko's chair. Later at a press conference, Townsend said, "She told me I have no education, no class, and to see what happens if we play each other outside of the US." Ostapenko now took to Instagram to explain her side while addressing her behaviour and wrote, "I wanted to apologise for some of the things I said during my second-round singles match."

Hockey Asia Cup: Malaysia, Korea storm into super 4s with dominant wins

Rajgir: Malaysia and Korea sealed their berths in the Super 4 stage of the men's Asia Cup hockey tournament after registering emphatic wins in their respective Pool B matches on Monday. Malaysia, already the favourites in the group, underlined their superiority with a staggering 15-0 demolition of Chinese Taipei. Korea, meanwhile, brushed aside Bangladesh 5-1 to secure the second qualifying spot from the pool. With three wins from as many outings, Malaysia topped the pool with a maximum nine points. Korea followed in second with six points, while Bangladesh managed three points from their lone win. Chinese Taipei endured a forgettable campaign, ending without a single point.

The Malaysian juggernaut was powered by a flurry of goals from multiple scorers. Ashran Hamsani was the star of the show, netting four times in the 8th, 15th, 32nd, and 54th minutes. Akhimullah Anuar was equally impressive with a hat-trick, scoring in the 10th, 20th, 29th, and 45th minutes. Norsyafiq Sumantri also bagged a hat-trick, striking in the 20th, 40th, and 60th minutes. Abu Azrai (22nd), Andywalfian Effrynus (24th), and Aiman Rozemi (32nd) added to the tally as



Malaysia's relentless attack proved too much for Chinese Taipei's defence.

Earlier in the day, Korea faced a more competitive test against Bangladesh but still emerged as convincing winners. Dain Son struck twice in quick succession (9th, 11th minutes) to put Korea in command. Seungwoo Lee extended the lead in the 16th minute, before Bangladesh pulled one back through Sohanur Sobuj's fine effort in the 22nd. However, Korea restored their cushion almost immediately as Seyong Oh (22nd) and Jihun Yang (60th) sealed the victory.

After IPL retirement, Ashwin to enter ILT20 season four player auction



New Delhi: After announcing his retirement from the Indian Premier League (IPL), former India off-spin bowling all-rounder Ravichandran Ashwin is set to enter the player auction for season four of UAE's ILT20. Season four of the ILT20 is scheduled to be held from December 2

to January 4, 2026. The last date of registering for player auction is September 10, while the main auction itself will be held on September 30 in Dubai. "Yes, it's true that Ashwin has sent across his name for the upcoming ILT20 auction. Apparently, a few teams have offered to sign up Ashwin if he came in the auction and it will be fascinating to see who eventually picks him for the competition," said sources tracking the developments to IANS. Robin Uthappa (Dubai Capitals), Yusuf Pathan (Dubai Capitals) and Ambati Rayudu (MI Emirates) are the only other Indian cricketers to have played in the ILT20, where five teams have Indian owners - three of them also operate Delhi Capitals, Mumbai Indians and Kolkata Knight Riders in the IPL.