

**Briefs**

NEW DELHI

**Anti-national acts: No entry to foreigners**

Foreigners may be refused entry into or stay in India if they are convicted on charges of anti-national activities, espionage, rape and murder, terrorist acts, child trafficking or being a member of a banned organisation, according to an official order. Under the Immigration and Foreigners Act, 2025, introduced recently, every state government and Union territory administration will set up dedicated holding centres or detention camps for the purpose of restricting the movement of foreigners till they are deported, the order issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs said.

CHANDIGARH

**Rape-accused MLA flees cop custody**

The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) legislator from Sanaur of Punjab's Patiala district, Harmeet Singh Pathanmajra, allegedly fled from his relative's house in Karnal's Dabri village, minutes after the Punjab police reached there to arrest him on Tuesday morning in connection with an alleged rape case. Even though an official statement from the Punjab police was still awaited, information was that Pathanmajra, had taken shelter at the residence of his relative Gurnam Singh Laadi since Monday in Dabri village of Haryana's Karnal district. Pathanmajra fled by jumping over the wall of the house with the help of his supporters and relatives while some of them pelted stones on the police. **- Rajesh Moudgil**

**From front page****'US Prez let family...**

He pointed out that India and the US had made "significant progress" in strengthening their ties before Trump "threw it aside" to favour Pakistan.

"Because of Pakistan's willingness to do business deals with the Trump family, Trump has thrown the India relationship over the side," the former US official said. Sullivan warned that Trump's approach damaged not only ties with India but also global confidence in the United States. "Our word should be our bond. We should be good for what we say. Our friends should be able to rely on us, and that has always been our strength. And what's happening with India right now has huge direct impacts. But it also has this reverberating impact across all our relationships and partnerships in the world," he said, adding that such moves make other nations believe, "that could be us tomorrow."

After years of strained ties, Washington's relationship with Islamabad has improved under Trump. Recently, Pakistani army chief, Field Marshal Asim Munir, was welcomed at the White House, where discussions covered trade, economic development, and cryptocurrency.

Days later, in July, the Trump administration announced a trade deal with Pakistan and pledged to help the country develop its "massive oil reserves."

Earlier in April, World Liberty Financial Inc (WLFI) - a cryptocurrency firm majority-owned by Trump and his family - signed a series of deals with the Pakistan Crypto Council (PCC) to promote investment and innovation in the crypto industry.

Calling Trump's actions a setback to decades of bipartisan efforts, Sullivan stressed that undermining India ties for family business deals was "a huge strategic harm in its own right because a strong US-India relationship serves our interests."

**Outcry over Modi...**

The remarks came a day after Prime Minister Modi visited China, where he attended the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) and met Russian President Vladimir Putin and Chinese President Xi Jinping.

A different note was struck by US Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent. He declared the "two great countries will get this solved." Bessent, however, criticised New Delhi's continued purchase of Russian oil despite US tariffs, and warned that the crude trade was fuelling Moscow's offensives in Ukraine.

Speaking to Fox Business, he also downplayed the significance of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's meeting with Russian President Vladimir Putin and Chinese President Xi Jinping at the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) summit in China, calling the gathering "largely performative."

"This is a longstanding meeting, it's called the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation, and I think it's largely performative," Bessent said.

"I think at the end of the day, India is the most populous democracy in the world. Their values are much closer to ours and to China's than to Russia's."

The Team Trump official further admitted that India's purchase of Russian crude was not the only factor behind US President Donald Trump's punitive 50% tariffs on India - the highest among Asian nations - and

**LEGAL DEBATE | Accused has constitutional and statutory remedy to seek relief when sentenced to life, says top court**

# Gangrape of minors: SC defines remission rights

**Agencies**

NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Tuesday outlined the right to seek remission of convicts sentenced to life imprisonment for the rest of their lives in gangrape cases involving minors, calling it not only a constitutional right but also a statutory one.

Justices B V Nagarathna and R Mahadevan was dealing with a plea challenging the constitutional validity of Section 376DA of the erstwhile IPC.

Section 376DA deals with the punishment for gangrape on a minor girl under 16 years.

The counsel appearing for an applicant seeking to be impleaded in the case said the expression "shall" in Section 376DA would mean that the sessions court had no other option except impose life imprisonment, meaning a jail term for the remainder of that person's natural life.

The bench examined two aspects with the first being on the punishment prescribed under the provision that has

to be imposed post the sessions court trial and which could be challenged before a high court and the Supreme Court.

The other aspect of the matter is that even if such a punishment is imposed on an accused, he has the right of remission in accordance with Article 72 or Article 161 of the Constitution of India as the case may be, by making an application for remission before President of India or before Governor of a state," the bench said.

In addition, the top court said, such an accused also had a statutory remedy to seek remission of the sentence.

"Therefore, the right to seek remission is not only a constitutional right but also a statutory right and each state has its own policy of remission... which is applicable even when the sentence is imposed under section 376DA or for that matter section 376DB of the IPC," the bench said.

Section 376 DB deals with punishment for gangrape on a minor girl under 12 years.

**Kerala Govt moves SC, wants CM to be out of VC selection process**

**New Delhi:** Kerala Governor Rajendra Arlekar on Tuesday moved the Supreme Court seeking the exclusion of Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan from the selection process of Vice Chancellors for the APJ Abdul Kalam Technological University and the Kerala Digital University. Governor, who is also the Chancellor of both the state-run universities, said neither of the universities envisioned any role for the chief minister in the selection process. The plea highlighted the role of chief minister in the entire selection process for appointment of VCs for the two universities and referred to "State of West Bengal v. Dr Sanat Kumar Ghosh and Others" the directions of which had been applied in the present case. **- PTI**

**Cartoonist gets anticipatory bail over offensive PM caricatures**

**New Delhi:** The Supreme Court on Tuesday granted anticipatory bail to Indore-based cartoonist Hemant Malviya booked for posting objectionable caricatures on Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) on social media during the Covid pandemic. A bench of Justices Aravind Kumar and N.V. Anjaria also disposed of the matter, after it was informed by the counsel appearing for Malviya that his client has posted his apology on his Facebook and Instagram accounts over his objectionable posts. The top-court however clarified that in the event that Malviya is not cooperating with the investigation, the State authorities are at liberty to seek cancellation of the bail granted to him. **- PTI**

**courtesy call**

Former Bihar Chief Secretary Amrit Lal Meena meets Chief Minister Nitish Kumar in Patna on Monday

claimed slow-moving India-US trade talks were an additional factor behind the White House's move to raise duties.

"I think at the end of the day, two great countries will get this solved. But the Indians have not been great actors in terms of buying Russian oil and then reselling it, financing the Russian war effort in Ukraine," he said.

Earlier, Trump had called trade with India a "one-sided disaster" and alleged that the high Indian tariffs keep US goods out of the Indian market.

**Economic selfishness...**

"The day is not far when the smallest chip made in India will drive the biggest change in the world," Modi said. "The day is not far when the world will say: Designed in India, made in India, trusted by the world."

Addressing experts related to semiconductors from nearly 40-50 countries, Modi said, "the world trusts India, the world believes in India and the world is ready to build the semiconductor future with India."

He exuded confidence that the speed at which India is progressing in the semiconductor sector, it would have a significant share in the \$1 trillion market that this industry is set to grow in the next few years.

The PM also spoke about the aspect of improving ease of doing business saying, "speed matters in semiconductors - the lesser the time from file to factory, the lesser the paperwork, the sooner the wafer work can start." He said the Centre has implemented the National Single Window System so that all the approvals from the Centre and the states are received on a single platform. "This has freed our investors from a lot of paperwork," he claimed.

Referring to various plants that are being set up, Modi said while the pilot plant of CG Power began 4-5 days ago, from August 28, the pilot plant of Kaynes is also about to start operating. "Test chips of Micron and Tata are already being produced and commercial chips will start being produced from this year."

He said the design centres being built in Noida and Bengaluru are "working on making some of the most advanced chips in the world" that will give "new power to the immersive technologies of the 21st century."

**'My dead mother...**

"Devotion and faith in the mother is the identity of Bihar. For our government, the honour of a mother, respect for her, and her swabhimaan are a huge priority. It is mothers who are our whole world," he said.

The trigger was a viral video from Darbhanga on August 27 during Rahul Gandhi's Voter Adhikar Yatra, where a local man, Mohammed Rizvi alias Raza, allegedly hurled obscenities against Modi and his late mother. The event, organised by Youth Congress leader Mohammad Naushad, saw immediate condemnation, with Raza reportedly slapped on the spot. He has since been arrested and remanded to judicial custody. Still, Modi made clear he would not let the Opposition off the hook. "The slang used on a Congress-RJD stage was not just for my mother, but for crores of mothers and sisters. Princes born in royal families won't understand the suffering of an underprivileged mother and her son's struggles. These people have been born with golden and silver spoons. But you have blessed an underprivileged mother's son and made him pradhan sevak," he said, taking direct aim at Gandhi and Yadav.

"There is a long list of slangs they have used against me. Sometimes they call me neech, sometimes gandi nali ka keeda, a snake — and now they have resorted to

calling me 'tu,'" he added, referring to Gandhi's rally language. Warning that such behaviour would not be forgiven, Modi declared, "I want to tell those who abused my mother in front of the people of Bihar — Modi might forgive you once, but the land of Bihar and India has never tolerated insult to a mother."

The BJP swiftly amplified Modi's remarks, calling the incident a "new low in politics." Congress leaders countered, claiming the abusive words were shouted by "BJP agents" to malign their rally. RJD's Mrityunjay Tiwari accused Modi of "using his mother as a shield," while Congress's Udit Raj said the Prime Minister was politicising a personal tragedy.

But Modi, returning from foreign visits to Japan and China, had chosen to make his first remarks before millions of Bihar's women, tying his mother's dignity to theirs. "My mother separated me from her so that I could serve crores of mothers like you," he said. "Those who hurl abuses at my mother also insult Bharat Mata. Such people must be punished."

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**Actor Ranya fined ₹102 cr by DRI in gold smuggling case****Agencies**

BENGALURU

The Directorate of Revenue Intelligence has imposed a fine of Rs 102 crore on Kannada film actress Ranya Rao in a gold smuggling case, the DRI sources said on Tuesday.

Along with her, the DRI imposed a penalty of Rs 63 crore on hotelier Tarun Kondaraju and Rs 56 crore each on jewellers Sahil Sakaria Jain and Bharat Kumar Jain.

On Tuesday, the DRI officials reached the Bengaluru Central Jail and served each of them a 250-page notice along with 2,500-page annexure.

"It was a Herculean exercise to prepare a detailed notice along with supporting documents. Today we served 11,000 pages of documents to the accused," a DRI source told PTI.

According to sources in the DRI, the actress was caught with 14.8 kg gold on March 3 at the Kempegowda International Airport in Bengaluru on her arrival from Dubai.

Rao is the step-daughter of Director General of Police rank officer K Ramachandra Rao.

**Kanhaiya Lal case: Bail for accused stays**

New Delhi:

The Supreme Court on Tuesday refused to cancel the bail of one Mohammad Javed, accused in the 2022 brutal murder of Kanhaiya Lal Tailor. While making its decision, a division bench of Justice M.M. Sundresh and Justice Satish Chandra Sharma considered the fact that, out of more than 170 witnesses, only eight have been examined by the prosecution. The NIA has accused Javed of having aided the killers by conducting a recce of the area. He was granted bail by the Rajasthan HC on the grounds that his location at the time of the incident was not clearly established.

**HC flags concerns over male gym trainers for women**

**Prayagraj:** The Allahabad High Court has raised serious concerns over the safety and dignity of women being trained by male trainers in gyms without adequate safeguards. Justice Shekhar Kumar Yadav made the observation while hearing an appeal filed by gym trainer Nitin Saini from Meerut, who has been accused of using a caste-based slur against a woman client. The court has fixed September 8 as the next date of hearing in the case. The victim, in her statement before the trial court, also alleged that the accused had sending obscene videos to another woman client.

**No adverse action against KCR**

**Hyderabad:** The Telangana High Court on Tuesday directed the state government not to take any adverse action against former chief minister K Chandrasekhar Rao and former minister T Harish Rao based on the findings of the judicial commission on the Kaleshwaram project, till October 7. The commission submitted its report to the government on July 31, holding Chandrasekhar Rao accountable for alleged irregularities in the project's construction and other aspects.

arranged four special trains to ease the rush, two to Vashi immediately and two more later in the night. By nightfall, the victory that began with tears at Azad Maidan echoed across Mumbai's streets and platforms — a people's triumph written in both jubilation and exhaustion.

**Will only interpret...**

Senior advocate Abhishek Manu Singhvi, for Tamil Nadu and others opposing the reference, argued that Bills "fall through" only when the first proviso to Article 200 is fully followed return for reconsideration and repassage contending that withholding assent without returning a Bill cannot make it lapse. He urged the Court not to take an "ivory-tower" view, citing repeated instances of long delays, and pressed for a general three-month limit with a consequence of "deemed assent" if timelines are breached. He relied on past orders where courts set time limits in specific matters, including directions to Speakers, and argued that case-by-case remedies under Articles 226 or 32 are too slow and enable a "pocket veto."

The bench questioned whether prescribing a general timeline would amount to amending the Constitution, and what the consequence would be if a Governor or the President did not comply. Justice Vikram Nath asked if the Court would then become part of the legislative process. Justice Narasimha said the constitutional flexibility of "as soon as possible" is a norm, and timelines are better addressed in individual disputes where the Court can use its powers, including Article 142, based on facts. The CJI stressed that earlier directions fixing time in other contexts were case-specific and not universal rules.

Singhvi maintained that timelines are compatible with the scheme of Articles 200 and 201 and repeated that "deemed assent" or even contempt could be consequences. He said exempting decisions of Governors and the President from judicial review would stretch their powers beyond constitutional limits, adding that Article 361 gives personal immunity but does not bar review of decisions. Senior advocate Kapil Sibal then argued that under Articles 200 and 201 the Governor and the President do not have a discretionary power to thwart legislation. He said the Governor can return a Bill for reconsideration or reserve it for the President, but cannot block the legislature's will. He described discretion under Article 200 as alien, stated that the President acts on the aid and advice of the Union government, and warned that allowing indefinite withholding would make the Constitution unworkable.

Responding to bench queries, Sibal said recommendations to the President are not subject to a personal discretion that can stall Bills, and reiterated that overriding a legislature's will is impermissible.

Earlier, when the Solicitor General indicated he might respond to state-specific examples, the CJI said the Court would not turn the hearing into an examination of individual episodes. The bench also underlined that its decision will be based on constitutional interpretation, not on which government held office at any time.

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