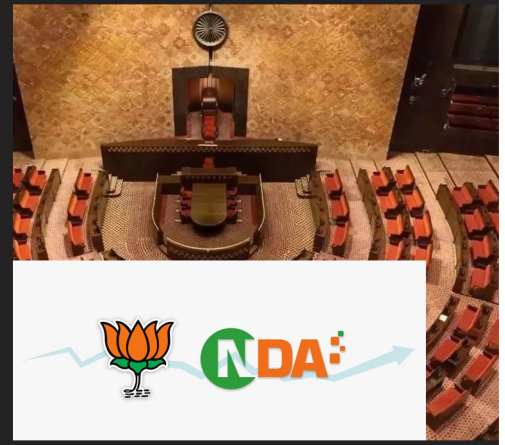


# NEWS LETTER

## BJP-Led NDA Eyes Multiple Rajya Sabha Seats Amid Vacancies, Opposition Strategies in Play

The BJP-led NDA expects to secure two seats each in Bihar, Maharashtra, and Assam, and one seat each in Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, and Tripura, leveraging their numerical advantage over the Opposition. The government is also expected to nominate four new members who are likely to align with the Treasury benches. There are currently 19 vacant seats in the Rajya Sabha, including four from Jammu and Kashmir. The Congress aims to win a seat in Telangana, but any gain is expected to be offset by a loss in Rajasthan, where the BJP will likely secure a seat. The BJP is also confident of winning the lone seat in Haryana.



## Increased Security for Trump Amid Iran Plot Allegations and Assassination Attempt

Recent intelligence suggests an Iranian plot to assassinate former President Donald Trump, leading to heightened Secret Service security around him. Although 20-year-old Thomas Matthew Crooks, who attempted to kill Trump at a Pennsylvania rally on July 13, was not linked to the Iranian plot, the incident has raised concerns. Crooks, who was killed by the Secret Service, injured Trump and killed an audience member. Iran has denied involvement, calling the allegations baseless. The Secret Service had increased security resources before the rally, but questions remain about security lapses that allowed the shooter to gain access.

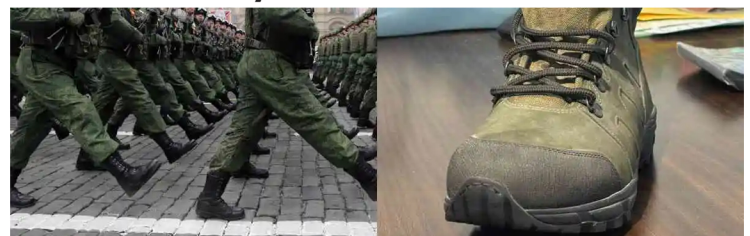


## Ukrainian President Criticizes Modi's Moscow Visit Amid Russian Missile



Ukrainian President Zelenskyy condemned Indian Prime Minister Modi's visit to Moscow, calling it a "huge disappointment" and a "devastating blow" to peace efforts. Zelenskyy's remarks came after a Russian missile strike killed 37 people, including children. During his visit on July 8-9, Modi emphasized the need for peace talks to resolve the Ukraine conflict and expressed sorrow over the deaths of innocent children, including those at the Ohmatdyt Children's Hospital.

## Russian Army in boots made in Bihar



As the Russian army advances in Ukraine, specialized military boots from Bihar's Hajipur are supporting their efforts. Produced by Competence Exports, these boots are known for their durability and ability to withstand extreme conditions. The company, which began in 2018 to create local jobs, has become a major exporter to Russia, with plans to expand into Europe. Last year, they exported 1.5 million pairs worth ₹100 crore. This collaboration highlights the strong trade relationship between India and Russia, with a goal of reaching \$100 billion in annual trade by 2030.

# EDUCATION

## Tripura Faces Alarming HIV Crisis Among Students



Tripura is experiencing a severe HIV crisis among its student population, with 828 registered HIV-positive students, according to the Tripura State AIDS Control Society (TSACS). Of these, 572 are alive, and 47 have died. Intravenous drug abuse is a significant factor, with 220 schools and 24 colleges identified as affected. The state has 8,729 registered cases in ART centers, with 5,674 people currently living with HIV. Most affected students come from affluent families. Health authorities stress the need for enhanced awareness and collaborative efforts to combat the epidemic and support affected communities.

## JNU to Establish Centres for Hindu, Buddhist, and Jain Studies



Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) will establish a Centre for Hindu Studies, alongside centres for Buddhist and Jain Studies, under the School of Sanskrit and Indic Studies. This decision, approved by JNU's Executive Council on May 29, aligns with the National Education Policy (2020) and aims to incorporate the Indian Knowledge System into the university's curriculum. A committee was formed to explore and recommend the implementation of these initiatives. Following a similar path, Delhi University (DU) established a Centre for Hindu Studies last year and plans to introduce undergraduate courses. DU also received approval for a Centre for Advanced Studies in Buddhism, with an estimated budget of Rs 35 crore.

## Chhattisgarh Government Launches Free Coaching Scheme for Construction Workers' Children



The Chhattisgarh government will introduce a free coaching scheme next month for children of registered construction workers to help them prepare for competitive exams. The 'Mukhyamantri Nirman Shramikon Ke Bachchon Hetu Nishulk Coaching Sahaayata Yojana' will start in 10 districts, including Raipur, Bilaspur, and Durg. The initiative, led by the state labour department under Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai, aims to assist these children in exams for state public service, professional boards, banking, railways, police, and more. The coaching, available online and offline, will last 4 to 10 months. Eligible beneficiaries can apply online, with initial batches already formed in three districts.

### BLOG



### SUNIL SHARMA

Senior advisor & Consultant  
(Goboundry)

### A Harmonious Blend

Cultural Heritage Meets  
Modern Luxury :

Blending cultural heritage with modern luxury creates unique, harmonious spaces that honor the past while embracing the future. This combination preserves traditional architecture and design elements, giving them new life through contemporary comforts and innovations. The result is living environments that celebrate history and cultural identity, offering residents a deep connection to their roots.

# SPORTS

## Manika Batra Optimistic About India's Medal Chances in Paris Olympics

Manika Batra, who made history by winning the gold medal at the 2018 Commonwealth Games in Gold Coast, Australia, believes India has a strong chance to secure a table tennis medal at the upcoming Paris Olympics from July 26 to August 11. Batra's crucial role in helping the Indian women's team qualify for the Olympics for the first time has been pivotal. She also emphasized the significant growth and inspiring performances of Indian women in table tennis, predicting continued progress in the sport. Her recent impressive performances, such as reaching the quarter-finals of the WTT Saudi Smash and defeating top-ranked players, highlight her readiness and determination. In an interview with Ultimate Table Tennis (UTT), Batra expressed her optimism about the team's potential, stating, "India qualifying for the first time is a huge achievement. I think we have a shot at the medal and we should give our best."





## Indian Athletes Poised for Paris Olympics 2024

Start : July 26, 2024

End : August 11, 2024

As the Paris Olympics 2024 approach, Indian athletes are preparing to set new records and win medals. India, which has won 35 Olympic medals since its first participation in 1900, will aim to add more to its tally. Notably, India secured its first individual Olympic gold in 2008 with Abhinav Bindra's victory in Men's 10m air rifle shooting, followed by Neeraj Chopra's gold in Men's javelin throw at the 2020 Tokyo Olympics.

	
<b>Tennis:</b>	<b>Badminton:</b>
Men's Singles 1st Round	Group Play Stages for Men's Singles
Women's Singles 1st Round	Women's Singles
Men's Doubles 1st Round	Men's Doubles
Women's Doubles 1st Round	Women's Doubles
	Mixed Doubles
	Timings: 17:30 to 23:00

Indian athletes across various sports will be competing, aiming to add to India's Olympic medal tally, which currently stands at 35. The nation is hopeful for strong performances, inspired by previous gold medal victories from Abhinav Bindra (2008, Men's 10m air rifle shooting) and Neeraj Chopra (2020, Men's javelin throw).

## Lionel Messi to Miss MLS Matches Due to Ankle Injury



Lionel Messi will miss at least two Major League Soccer matches following an ankle injury sustained during the Copa America Final against Colombia on July 15. Inter Miami coach Gerardo Tata Martino confirmed on July 16 that Messi will undergo further testing to determine the severity of the injury. Martino stated that the team's Messi, the 37-year-old Inter Miami captain and eight-time Ballon d'Or winner, has been a standout in his first full MLS season, with 12 goals and 13 assists in 12 matches. Despite his absence, Inter Miami, currently second in the Eastern Conference standings, will face Toronto FC and Chicago Fire in their upcoming home matches. Physiologist, Walter Insaurralde, who also serves the national team, is being cautious with the diagnosis until test results are available.

# TECHNOLOGY



## South Korea's First "Robot Suicide" Sparks National Debate

A robot civil servant working for the Gumi City Council in South Korea has caused a national stir after what is being called the country's first "robot suicide." The incident occurred last Thursday afternoon when the 'Robot Supervisor' was found in pieces at the bottom of a stairwell. Witnesses reported the robot circling strangely before its fall. Employed since August 2023, the robot performed various tasks, including document delivery and public

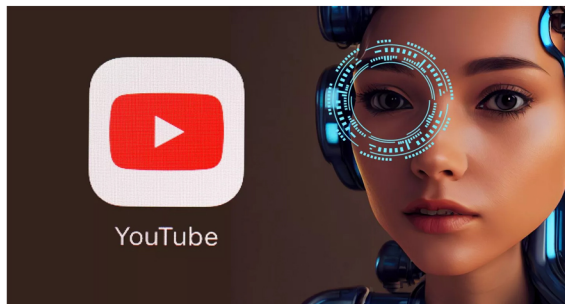
information. Developed by Bear Robotics, it was part of South Korea's high robot density initiatives. The incident has prompted discussions on robot workload and the implications of robotic integration into daily life. The Gumi City Council has paused further robot adoption plans in response.

## Dawn Ver Cafe Empowers Disabled Individuals Through Robot Control

At the Dawn Ver cafe in Japan, ten individuals with movement-restricting conditions are controlling robots to work as waitstaff. These controllers earn the standard pay of 1,000 yen per hour. The OriHime-D robots, developed by Japanese start-up Ory, were designed to assist people with severe movement restrictions and can move, observe, talk to customers, and carry objects via eye movement commands. The pilot project aims to enhance independence for disabled individuals by providing them a way to earn wages and interact socially. The cafe, open for an initial two-week period, seeks crowdfunding to potentially open permanently by 2020.



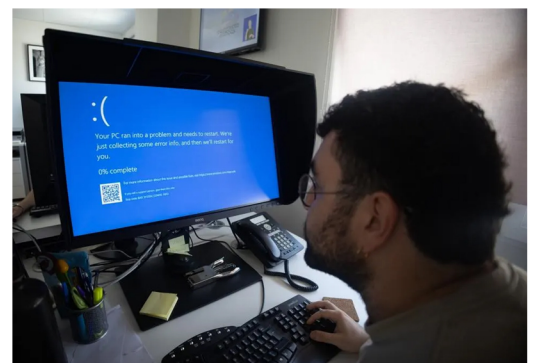
## Tech Giants Use YouTube Subtitles to Train AI Models, Violating Policies



An investigation by Proof News has revealed that major tech companies are using subtitles from 173,536 YouTube videos to train their AI models, violating YouTube's policies against unauthorized content usage. This dataset includes transcripts from over 48,000 channels, including educational sources like Khan Academy and popular creators like MrBeast. The practice highlights the significant data requirements for AI training and raises questions about ethical content use in AI development.

## Widespread Windows Glitch Attributed to Software Bug, Not Cyberattack

On Friday morning, a significant glitch affected thousands of computers running Microsoft Windows in conjunction with a cybersecurity program by CrowdStrike, leading to the infamous Blue Screen of Death (BSOD). The disruption impacted a wide range of sectors including airlines, banks, government organizations, and private companies, causing widespread concern and speculation of a cyberattack. However, CrowdStrike CEO George Kurtz clarified the situation on Twitter (now X), stating that the issue was due to a bug in a specific content update for Windows hosts and not a security breach or cyberattack.



# ENTERTAINMENT

## Singer Rahat Fateh Ali Khan Denies Arrest Rumors in Dubai

Reports surfaced claiming Pakistani singer Rahat Fateh Ali Khan was arrested in Dubai following a defamation complaint by his former manager, Salman Ahmed. However, the singer refuted these claims in an Instagram video, stating he was in Dubai to record music and called the arrest reports baseless. The rumors originated from a reported dispute between Rahat and his former manager, with both parties allegedly filing cases against each other. Rahat urged fans not to believe the misleading news.



## Kiran Rao Discusses Her "Happy Divorce" from Aamir Khan

Filmmaker Kiran Rao, known for her recent film *Laapataa Ladies*, spoke about her amicable divorce from Aamir Khan. In an interview with Faye D'Souza, Rao described the separation as a "happy divorce," emphasizing the importance of redefining relationships over time. She explained that the divorce made her happy and that she enjoys her independence while co-parenting their son, Azad. Rao feels supported by both families and emphasized that loneliness hasn't been an issue. Despite their separation in 2021, Rao and Khan continue to collaborate professionally.



## The Growing Influence of AI in Fashion show



Artificial Intelligence (AI) is increasingly becoming a part of everyday life and making significant inroads into the film industry worldwide. Recently, Elon Musk shared a video showcasing an AI-generated fashion show featuring global leaders like Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi and former U.S. President Donald Trump. AI refers to the intelligence exhibited by machines, encompassing tasks like speech recognition, computer vision, and language translation.

## 'Kalki 2898 AD' Hits Rs 1000 Crore Amid Controversy

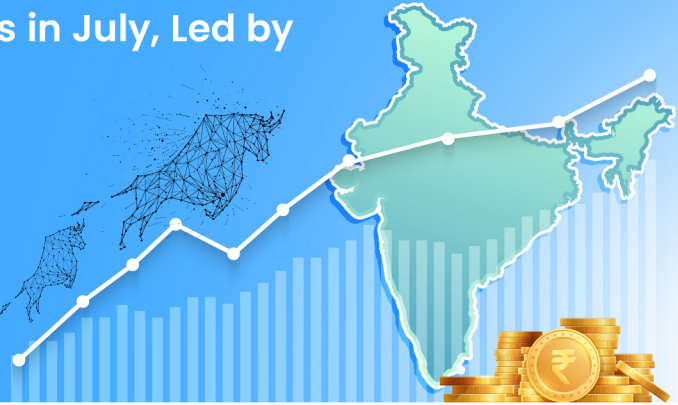


Amitabh Bachchan and Prabhas' film *Kalki 2898 AD* is nearing Rs 1000 crore globally, but it's embroiled in controversy over alleged inflated box office figures. The filmmakers have sued analysts Sumit Kadel and Rohit Jaiswal for Rs 25 crore, demanding proof of their claims. Directed by Nag Ashwin, the film is a sci-fi and mythological visual spectacle. Its success has expedited a sequel, though Deepika Padukone might not return.

# REALESTATE

## India's Economic Growth Strengthens in July, Led by Services and Manufacturing

India's economic activity surged in July, driven by growth in services and manufacturing, according to an HSBC Holdings Plc survey. The services purchasing managers' index (PMI) increased to 61.1 from 60.5, while the manufacturing PMI rose slightly to 58.5 from 58.3. The composite PMI reached a three-month high of 61.4. A PMI above 50 signals expansion.



## Indian Budget 2024



### > Technology and Telecom

- 1) Reduced Basic Customs Duty (BCD): On mobile phones, chargers, and parts for manufacturing.
- 2) Increased BCD: On PCBA for specific telecom equipment.
- 3) Oxygen-Free Copper Strip & Connectors: BCD reduced to nil for manufacturing.

### > Consumer Products

- 1) Customs Duty Reduction: On gold, silver, and platinum.
- 2) BCD Exemptions: On leather items for export manufacturing.
- 3) Luxury Goods Tax: 1% TCS on values exceeding Rs 10 trillion.

### > Food Industry

- 1) BCD Reduction: On prawn, shrimp, and fish feed ingredients.
- 2) Shea Nuts: BCD reduced from 30% to 15%.
- 3) Support for MSMEs: Financial aid for 50 food irradiation units and development of vegetable production clusters.

### > Pharmaceuticals

- 1) Research Funding: Rs 2,143 crores allocated for pharmaceutical PLI.
- 2) BCD Waivers and Reductions: On specified cancer drugs and medical x-ray equipment.

## India Achieves Record Defence Exports in FY24



India's defence exports reached a record \$2.5 billion in FY24, a 25% increase from \$2 billion in FY23, according to the Economic Survey 2023-24. This marks a 12-fold rise from FY17, reflecting India's shift from the world's second-largest arms importer to a top 25 arms exporter.

## Director's Desk

### SUMIT BHRIYA

Founder & CEO  
(Goboundry)

## Leadership in the Digital Age :

Leading in the digital age presents both challenges and opportunities. Leaders must adapt to rapid technological changes, embracing digital tools to enhance productivity and communication. This era offers opportunities to innovate, reach global audiences, and harness data for informed decision-making. The challenge lies in balancing technology with human touch, ensuring team engagement and collaboration. By fostering a culture of continuous learning and adaptability, leaders can thrive and drive their organizations toward a successful, tech-enabled future.