



## 'Zero-Terror Plan' in Jammu Amid Recent Attacks

Union Home Minister Amit Shah chaired a high-level meeting to address the recent surge in terrorist attacks in Jammu and Kashmir. He directed security agencies to replicate successful anti-terror strategies from Kashmir in the Jammu division. Shah emphasized the need for coordination among agencies and reviewed preparations for the upcoming Amarnath Yatra. Recent terror attacks in Reasi, Kathua, and Doda resulted in the deaths of nine pilgrims and injuries to civilians and security personnel.



## Supreme Court Refuses to Halt NEET-UG 2024

The Supreme Court refused to halt NEET-UG 2024 counselling and a retest for 1,563 candidates. It also paused paper-leak case proceedings in various high courts. Concerns over exam discrepancies, including unprecedented full scores and issues at a Meghalaya center, were raised, prompting calls for an independent review committee.

## US Woman Scammed into Buying Fake Jewellery for ₹6 Crores in Rajasthan

Cherish, a US citizen, was scammed into buying artificial jewellery worth ₹300 for ₹6 crores from a shop in Jaipur's Johri Bazaar. She discovered the fraud when she displayed the jewellery at a US exhibition. Returning to confront shop owner Gaurav Soni, who denied the allegations, Cherish filed a police complaint in Jaipur and sought assistance from the US embassy. The police are now investigating the matter.



## Jain Community Saves Goats from Eid Slaughter, Becomes a Sensation

Near Jama Masjid, Vivek Jain, a chartered accountant, raised Rs 15 lakh to save 124 goats from slaughter during Eid al-Adha. The goats were brought to Naya Jain Mandir in Chandni Chowk, where mantras were played to calm them. This act of compassion drew significant attention, with people visiting the temple to see the goats and donating for their upkeep. The event highlighted the Jain community's values and became a social media sensation, with the hashtag "Jain" trending widely. Jain expressed pride in their community's efforts, calling it a historic moment for them.

## Hamas Commander Involved in October 7 Massacre Killed in IDF Strik



Ahmed Hassan Salame Al-sauarka, a Hamas squad commander and sniper involved in the October 7 massacre in southern Israel, was killed in a targeted airstrike by the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) in Beit Hanoun, northern Gaza. The operation, based on intelligence from IDF and Israel Security Agency (ISA), aimed to eliminate Al-sauarka, who led attacks and sniper activities against IDF troops.



## UGC Allows Biannual Admissions in Higher Education

The University Grants Commission (UGC) has introduced a new policy permitting higher education institutions to admit students twice a year, starting from the next academic session. This decision aims to benefit students who face delays in board results or have health/personal issues, providing them with more enrollment opportunities. UGC Chairman Mamidala Jagadesh Kumar highlighted that biannual admissions will also facilitate campus recruitment cycles, thereby improving job prospects for graduates.

## Gujarat Government Announces Recruitment of 7,500 Teachers Amid Protests

The Gujarat government has responded to protests by announcing a significant recruitment drive to fill 7,500 permanent teaching positions in state-run and grant-in-aid secondary and higher secondary schools. Minister Rushikesh Patel confirmed the decision, emphasizing that vacancies will be filled within the next three months. Priority will be given to candidates who have cleared the Teacher Aptitude Test (TAT). Additionally, plans for a Teacher Eligibility Test (TET) for primary school positions are underway to address ongoing protests in Gandhinagar.

## Education Ministry Plans Reforms for National Testing Agency



The Indian Education Ministry is considering significant reforms to the National Testing Agency (NTA) to ensure future exams are error-free. Discussions are focused on addressing issues like cheating, impersonation, and paper leaks, highlighted by recent incidents in the NEET UG and the now-cancelled UGC NET exams. The ministry, acknowledging irregularities such as time loss at some centers, cited a recent NEET UG paper leak investigation by Patna police, resulting in 13 arrests. Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan emphasized that isolated malpractice incidents should not jeopardize the futures of all students, and currently, there are no plans to cancel the NEET UG exam.

## BLOG



### SUNIL SHARMA

Senior advisor & Consultant  
(Goboundry)

## Real Estate Education and Licensing in Building a Successful Career

Real estate education and licensing are pivotal for success in the industry. Education equips professionals with essential knowledge of market trends, legalities, and financial considerations. It instills confidence in clients and ensures transactions are handled competently and ethically. Licensing mandates uphold standards, protecting both agents and consumers. Continuous learning through courses and certifications keeps professionals abreast of industry changes, fostering long-term career growth. Ultimately, a solid educational foundation and proper licensing are indispensable for navigating the complexities of real estate transactions and building a reputable career.



## Neeraj Chopra Wins Gold at Paavo Nurmi Games in Turku

Olympic champion Neeraj Chopra triumphed at the Paavo Nurmi Games in Turku, Finland, clinching gold in the men's javelin with a throw of 85.97m. His performance marked a solid return after a break, testing his fitness against a strong field. Finnish athlete Toni Keranen secured silver with a personal best of 84.19m, while former champions Anderson Peters and Keshorn Walcott missed the top positions.

## Gautam Gambhir Set to Succeed Rahul Dravid as Indian Cricket Team Head Coach



Former Indian cricketer Gautam Gambhir is on the verge of being appointed as the next head coach of the Indian men's cricket team. Following initial interviews with the BCCI-appointed Cricket Advisory Committee (CAC), Gambhir's appointment is reportedly imminent. He has already begun selecting his support staff, with talks of potentially bringing in Jonty Rhodes as the fielding coach. His likely appointment has garnered praise, even from Pakistani cricketers, highlighting his perceived ability to lead and elevate the team.



## Lorenzo Musetti and Tommy Paul Set to Clash in Queen's Club Championships Final

Lorenzo Musetti defeated Jordan Thompson 6-3, 3-6

6-3 to reach the Queen's Club Championships final, his first on grass. Tommy Paul beat Sebastian Korda 6-4, 7-6(2) to also advance. Paul aims to become the top American player with a win, while Musetti seeks to stay unbeaten in finals. Musetti's journey to the final included challenging three-set matches against Alex de Minaur and Brandon Nakashima. He holds a 7-1 record on grass this season, bolstered by his semi-final run in Stuttgart.

## Indian Athletes Secure Qualifications for Paris Olympics 2024



### Athletics

1. Neeraj Chopra - Men's Javelin
2. Parul Chaudhary - Women's Steeplechase
3. Avinash Sable - Men's Steeplechase
4. Seven race walkers

### Shooting

1. Rudranksh Patil - Men's 10m Air Rifle
2. 20 other shooters across rifle/pistol and shotgun events (final list pending NRAI trials)

### Badminton

1. HS Prannoy, Lakshya Sen (Men's Singles)
2. PV Sindhu (Women's Singles)
3. Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty (Men's Doubles)
4. Ashwini Ponnappa and Tanisha Crasto (Women's Doubles)

### Weightlifting

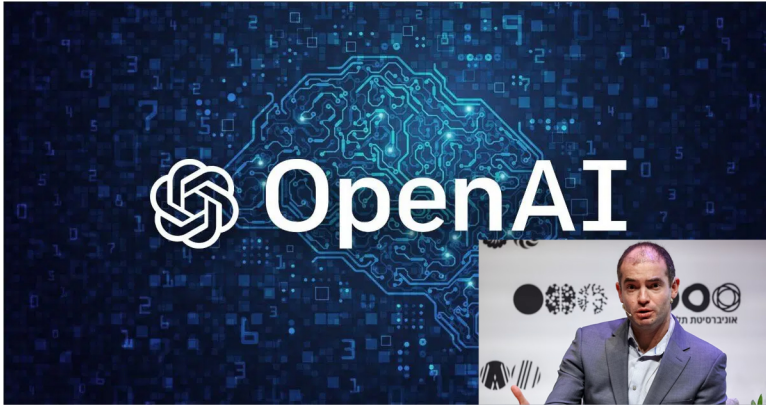
1. Mirabai Chanu

### Wrestling Hockey

1. Antim Panghal (women's 53kg)
2. Vinesh Phogat (women's 50kg)
3. Anshu Malik (women's 57kg)
4. Reetika Hooda (women's 76kg)
5. Nisha Dahiya (Women's 68Kg)
6. Aman Sehrawat (Men's 57kg)

### Hockey

1. Indian men's hockey team

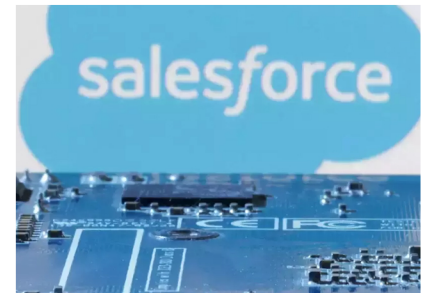


## Ilya Sutskever Launches Safe Superintelligence Inc (SSI) After OpenAI Departure

Ilya Sutskever, co-founder and former chief scientist at OpenAI, has founded Safe Superintelligence Inc (SSI), a new company dedicated to developing safe and powerful AI systems. SSI, co-founded with Daniel Gross and Daniel Levy, prioritizes AI safety alongside capabilities, aiming for a focused and undistracted approach in AI development.

## Salesforce Launches Digital Lending Platform for India

Salesforce introduces Digital Lending for India, leveraging the country's digital infrastructure like Aadhaar and CIBIL. The cloud-based platform aims to streamline the lending process for banks, integrating borrower information, verification, and underwriting according to Indian regulations. Key features include a unified underwriter console for efficient creditworthiness analysis and approval workflows tailored to local lending norms.



## ISRO Successfully Re-enters Cryogenic Upper Stage of LVM3 Rocket

ISRO confirmed the re-entry of the cryogenic upper stage from the LVM3 M3/OneWeb India-2 mission into Earth's atmosphere. The stage, left in a 450 km orbit after deploying 36 OneWeb satellites on March 26, 2023, underwent passivation to minimize risks. Tracked by ISRO's MOTR at Sriharikota, the re-entry was managed through IS4OM, adhering to international space debris guidelines via natural orbital decay within two years.



## Entrepreneurial Beginnings of KOTAK

Uday Kotak's journey from a humble start in 1985 to transforming Kotak Mahindra Bank into India's third-largest private bank is a testament to his visionary leadership. Under his guidance, the bank diversified into various financial services and expanded through strategic acquisitions like ING Vysya Bank in 2014. Kotak's proactive governance and involvement in government initiatives underscore his influence in shaping India's banking sector. His recent resignation, coupled with meticulous succession planning, highlights his commitment to ensuring the bank's continued growth and stability.



## Breakthrough in Perovskite Solar Cell Efficiency

Researchers have made significant progress in improving the efficiency of perovskite solar cells, potentially surpassing the performance of conventional silicon cells. By incorporating a specially treated conductive layer of tin dioxide and modifying the perovskite formula, the efficiency of these cells has reached 25.2%, exceeding many existing solar panels.

## Taylor Swift's London Residency Breaks Records

Taylor Swift's "The Eras Tour" will feature eight performances at Wembley Stadium in London, making it her largest stint in any city globally. This residency is expected to draw nearly 700,000 fans and provide a significant economic boost to London's hospitality sector. Mayor Sadiq Khan highlighted the event's impact, showcasing London as a premier destination for live music and cultural experiences. The tour begins on June 21, accompanied by city-wide celebrations.



## Kangana Ranaut Reacts to Airport Slapping Incident



Actor Kangana Ranaut addressed a recent incident where she was slapped by a female CISF officer during a security check at Chandigarh airport. Initially assuring her well-being in a video post, Kangana later shared concerns on Instagram Stories. Chandigarh Superintendent of Police KS Sandhu initiated an investigation, while Haryana Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini promised action against the accused CISF officer involved.

## Anurag Kashyap Criticizes Escalating Entourage Costs and Celebrity Demands



Anurag Kashyap, in a recent interview, highlighted the rising costs of entourages and specific demands of movie stars. Without naming anyone, he mentioned an actor who hires a chef for Rs 2 lakh per day to prepare specialized, healthy meals. Kashyap questioned the small portion

sizes and unconventional food choices, suggesting they resemble bird feed. He noted that such demands are often justified by health concerns and dietary restrictions of the actors.



## Lower Your Salt Intake to Manage Hypertension

Excessive sodium intake is a significant contributor to high blood pressure. Many Indians exceed the recommended daily limit, which increases the risk of hypertension-related complications. To manage this:

- 1). Awareness: Be mindful of hidden sources of sodium in processed foods, sauces, and snacks.
- 2). Reduce Consumption: Opt for fresh foods over processed ones and cook at home to control salt levels.
- 3). Read Labels: Choose packaged foods with lower sodium content and avoid adding extra salt while cooking or at the table.
- 4). Season with Herbs: Substitute salt with herbs and spices to enhance flavor without increasing sodium intake.

Lowering salt intake can help maintain healthy blood pressure levels and reduce the risk of heart disease, strokes, and kidney issues associated



## Ranbir Kapoor's Ramayana Project Faces Mixed Reactions

Actor Ranbir Kapoor is diligently preparing for his role as Lord Ram in Nitesh Tiwari's upcoming movie Ramayana. The film's announcement, however, has sparked mixed reactions, possibly influenced by the controversial reception of Om Raut's Adipurush, which was criticized for deviating from the original texts of sage Valmiki and sage Tulsidas. Amrit Sagar, grandson of late filmmaker Ramanand Sagar, who famously directed the iconic television show Ramayan in 1987, shared advice for the Ramayana team.

## Hinduja Family Convicted for Exploiting Domestic Workers in Geneva

Four members of the prominent Hinduja family were convicted for exploiting underpaid servants at their luxurious villa in Geneva, Switzerland. Elder family members, Prakash (78) and Kamal Hinduja (75), received sentences of 4 1/2 years each, while Ajay Hinduja and his wife Namrata were sentenced to 4 years. The family was found guilty of underpaying staff hired from India, with wages significantly below Swiss standards. Their business manager, Najib Ziazi, received an 18-month suspended sentence. The Hindujas plan to appeal the decision, maintaining that the staff were treated well. However, the court found evidence of exploitative practices, including confiscation of passports, excessive working hours, and wages paid in inaccessible Indian accounts. The family's legacy includes a vast business empire with a collective wealth of \$20 billion, placing them among Asia's top 20 wealthiest families.



## Indian Household Spending Rises 18% Due to Inflation



Indian households spent 18% more in early 2024 than in mid-2022, driven by inflation, according to Kantar. The average household spent ₹49,418 in the March 2024 quarter, with urban households spending ₹64,583 and rural households ₹41,215. Groceries, the largest expense, increased by 19%. Less affluent households spent around ₹38,000 quarterly. Urban monthly per capita expenditure was ₹6,459, 71% higher than rural at ₹3,773, as per the Consumer Expenditure Survey 2022-23.

## Bengaluru to Host Global Investors Meet 2025 Focused on "Reimagining Growth"



From February 12-14, 2025, Bengaluru will host the Global Investors Meet 2025, announced Chief Minister Siddaramaiah. Themed "Reimagining Growth," the event aims to promote tech-driven, green, inclusive, and resilient development in Karnataka. Featuring over 100 speakers and 30 sessions, it will attract over 5,000 delegates. The event will focus on sustainable and inclusive growth, particularly for SMEs and startups. Highlights include the SME Connect '25 platform and the second edition of VentuRISE - the Global Startup Challenge, supporting manufacturing-related startups.

### Director's Desk

#### SUMIT BHRIYA

Founder & CEO  
(Goboundry)

#### Rising Rents in Indian Cities :

Rising rents in Indian cities such as Mumbai, Bengaluru, and Noida are imposing significant financial and mental stress on young professionals. Data from early 2024 reveals an alarming trend: average rent increases of 4-9% within just three months, with some areas witnessing hikes of up to 30-40%. This surge greatly exceeds the typical annual growth rates of 5-10%, adding severe pressure on tenants' budgets. These steep increases force many to make difficult decisions, such as seeking additional roommates or relocating to more affordable but less convenient areas. For professionals with variable incomes, the financial strain is particularly challenging, depleting savings and limiting career flexibility. The trend reflects broader market pressures in rapidly growing urban centers and underscores the urgent need for sustainable, inclusive housing solutions. Addressing this issue is crucial for supporting the aspirations of millions of young Indians striving to build their futures in dynamic urban environments.