

THE TIMES OF INDIA

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On June 10, PM Modi will create a record for the longest unbroken stint as elected head of govt of India, surpassing Jawaharlal Nehru, after discounting the period till 1951-52 when India held its first general election P 5

Indian Grandmaster R Praggnanandhaa deals another blow to hometown hero and world No. 1 Magnus Carlsen, defeating him in a classical game for the 2nd time at Norway Chess 2026 and boosting his bid to be the first Indian to win the event P 16

Ukrainian long-range drones have struck an oil terminal in St Petersburg and set R ablaze, sending smoke billowing over the city where President Putin was born, claims Ukraine Prez Zelensky P 12

Suryakumar Yadav likely to be removed as captain of the Indian T20 team, may not be asked to attend the next selection meeting for the tour of Ireland and England later this month P 16



Indian dies in Iran drone strike on Kuwait airport

An Indian national was killed and several others injured in an Iranian drone strike on Kuwait International airport on Wednesday. In a statement, India has condemned the attack, confirming the death of the Indian national and injuries to others. "We call upon parties to cease such attacks. We offer our deepest condolences to the bereaved family. Our embassy is extending all possible assistance to the injured," MEA said. **P 12**

DKS takes over as K'taka CM with 13 new mins

D K Shivakumar with Rahul Gandhi after taking oath as the 24th Karnataka chief minister on Wednesday. Prominent Dalit face G Parameswara was sworn in as deputy CM and 12 other ministers, including outgoing CM Siddaramaiah's son Yathindra and several Siddaramaiah loyalists, were also inducted. **P 5**

FIR for actuaries exam paper leak on coaching instt

Navi Mumbai police on Tuesday lodged an FIR against the owner of a Delhi-based coaching institute and an aide for allegedly leaking the question paper and answer key of an online actuarial exam conducted on May 20 on a WhatsApp group formed for students enrolled in the classes. **P 3**

Andheri subway floods, shuts after first rain

Congress MP Varsha Gaiwad questioned BMC's handling of the first rain of the season's first pre-monsoon showers led to water logging at Andheri subway and its closure. Wednesday BMC maintained that the flooding at the subway is a structural challenge and it's exploring long-term solutions. **P 3**

Hooch deaths in Pune: Navi Mum man, son arrested

Ahmadshah CID which is probing the Pune hooch tragedy that left 20 people dead between May 26 and 28, Wednesday arrested a man and his son from Navi Mumbai for allegedly supplying toxic chemicals to an illicit liquor seller. With the total arrested in the case has risen to 10. **P 7**

Ahead of its first stir, CJP names 3 spokespersons

"Colonel" Janta Party (CJP) announced 3 spokespersons—journalist Sanjay D. filmaker Vijaya Dahiya & a management consultant Ashutosh Rantak—head of founder Abhinav Dipke's return to India on June 6 and a protest over exam related issues. **P 1**

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PLUS SPECIAL BOMBAY TIMES

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US roots 12.5% tariff on India, 53 on others over 'forced labour'

Move Comes Amid Talks In Delhi On Trade Deal

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: In a widely anticipated move, the US Trade Representative Tuesday proposed a 12.5% tariff on exports from India, accusing them of failure to prohibit import of goods using forced labour.

The announcement came while American officials are in India to discuss the details of the framework agreement, which Commerce & Industry ministry Piyush Goyal had said is close to finalisation.

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TRUMP & HIS TARIFF TRAJECTORY

Feb 13, 2025: Trump issues Reciprocal Trade and Tariffs' memorandum outlining plan to lower US Trade deficit

Aug 6, 2025: Another 25% penal tariff imposed on India for buying Russian oil. Total duty 50%

Feb 6, 2026: India, US announce framework agreement with 18% tariff

Feb 26, 2025: US levies emergency tariffs illegal, Trump slaps 10% duty on all countries for 150 days

Mar 11: USTR starts probe into structural excess capacity against India & 15 nations

Mar 12: 2nd probe against India & 15 nations for failing to prohibit shipment of goods produced with forced labour

Apr 2: Announces min 10% tariff on all countries along with country-specific levies. Indian exports face 17% additional duty

Apr 5: 10% global tariff implemented

Apr 9: Hours after country-specific tariffs kick in, Trump announces a 90-day suspension

July 1: Pending negotiations

July 31: India faces 25% tariff when fresh reciprocal tariffs

USTR is also expected to release its report on the second probe launched by it — dealing with excess capacity

In 6 countries, including India — in what is seen as a move to replace the temporary 10% in place till July 24

► **Shipment practices, P 13**

Many foreigners among 21 killed as fire tears through south Delhi hotel

Raj Shekhar Jha, Abhay & Devanshi | TNN

New Delhi: A deadly blaze ripped through a bed and breakfast facility in the densely packed neighborhood of south Delhi's Hauz Rani Wednesday morning, claiming 21 lives and leaving 20 others severely injured. The fire erupted at Flourish Stay Bed & Breakfast, which was hosting around 50 guests at the time, and spread to an adjacent inn.

At least nine of the 18 victims identified so far are foreigners, most of whom had come for medical treatment. It is suspected that fire originated from a commercial LPG cylinder in the basement kitchen or in the AC of a restaurant on the ground floor. Witnesses said they heard a blast just before the blaze spread around 8 am. Fed by combustible material, the flames spread rapidly and thick plumes of smoke spalled up a single, narrow central stairway.

Delhi police filed an FIR for culpable homicide and arrested the facility owner Lav-

kesh Bajaj, a resident of Saket, hours after a look-out circular was issued against him and his wife.

Scores of sleeping guests on upper floors and in the basement were instantly trapped in a suffocating nightmare. Many jumped from upper-story windows to escape being burned alive. Locals dragged heavy bedding, large mattresses, and thick blankets to break their fall but many sustained head injuries

► **DEATH TRAP**

► Owners illegally modified building structure to pack in 25 rooms for which they had permission for only 6 rooms

► Fire started in ground floor restaurant, blocked the only exit route for guests — a narrow, internal staircase. Sealed windows also cut off guests' escape path

► Building had no external fire escape

► There were no functioning smoke detectors, fire alarms, or sprinkler systems

► Several heavy commercial LPG cylinders were stored on ground floor without fire isolation barriers

► Masked firefighters, cops and local residents managed to pull out around 50 people and rushed them to three hospitals. Of the 21 who died, police have managed to identify nine foreigners and the nine Indian nationals, of which eight were from one family.

Three people suspected to be foreigners are yet to be verified.

► **Foreign victims, P 8**

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HC flags delay caused by SC in '16 TN poll case

Nadra HC flagged a delay caused by SC in election case, while declaring an assembly election as void.

Madras High Court (HC) on Tuesday declared an assembly election as void, citing a delay caused by the Supreme Court (SC) in a related case.

The HC, in a judgment, said that the SC's delay in deciding a case related to the election process had caused significant harm to the democratic process.

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