Israeli airstrikes kill 38 Palestinians in Gaza

STATE TIMES NEWS

DEIR AL-BALAH: Israeli airstrikes killed at least 38 Palestinians in Gaza, hospital officials said on Sunday, as Israel's military said it has struck over 100 targets in the embattled enclave in the past

The strikes came as Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu was preparing to fly to Washington for talks at the White House aimed at pushing forward ceasefire

Separately, an Israeli official said the Israeli security Cabinet on Saturday night approved sending aid into the northern part of Gaza, where civilians are suffering from acute food shortages.

The official declined to offer more details. The official spoke on condition of anonymity because they were

Mumbai: 1993 riots case accused on the run for 32 vears held from Wadala STATE TIMES NEWS

MUMBAI: An accused in the 1993 Mumbai communal riots case on the run for the past 32 years has been held from Wadala area of the metropolis, a police official said on Sunday. The Wadala police station official identified him as Arif Ali Hashmulla Khan (54). "After the communal riots of 1993, a case was registered at Wadala police station under Indian Penal Code sections pertaining to attempt to murder, unlawful assembly and other offences against Khan, who was later declared an absconder by a local court," the official said. "A police team went to Uttar Pradesh, from where he hails. On the leads we got there as well as a specific tip off, we nabbed Khan from Deen Bandhu Nagar in Wadala East on Saturday. A court has remanded him in judicial cus-

not authorised to discuss the decision with the media.

In Yemen, a spokesperson for the Houthi rebel group announced in a prerecorded message that the group had launched ballistic missiles targeting Ben Gurion airport overnight. The Israeli military said these had been intercepted.

President Donald Trump has floated a plan for an initial 60-day ceasefire that would include a partial release of hostages held by Hamas in exchange for an increase in humanitarian supplies allowed into Gaza The proposed truce calls for talks on ending the 21-month war altogether.

Israel strikes dozens of tar-

Twenty people were killed and 25 wounded after Israeli strikes hit two houses in Gaza

according Mohammed Abu Selmia, the director of Shifa Hospital that services the area.

In southern Gaza, 18 Palestinians were killed by strikes in Muwasi, an area on Gaza's Mediterranean where many displaced people live in tents, officials at Nasser Hospital in the nearby city of Khan Younis, told The Associated Press. Two families were among the dead according to the hospital.

The Israeli military had no immediate comment on the individual strikes, but said it struck 130 targets across the Gaza Strip in the last 24

It said the strikes targeted Hamas command and control structures, storage facilities, weapons and launchers, and that they killed a number of militants in northern Gaza.

The war began when Hamas attacked Israel on Oct 7, 2023, killing some posal. 1,200 people and taking 251 others hostage.

Israel responded with an offensive that has killed over 57,000 Palestinians, more than half of them women and children, according to Gaza's Health Ministry. The ministry, which is

under Gaza's Hamas government, does not differentiate between civilians and combatants. The UN and other international organisations see its figures as the most reliable statistics on war casualties.

The strikes occur as efforts to reach a ceasefire deal appeared to gain momentum. Netanyahu's office said his government will send a negotiating team to talks in Qatar on Sunday to conduct indirect talks, adding that Hamas was seeking "unacceptable" changes to the pro-

The planned talks in Qatar comes ahead of Netanyahu's planned visit on Monday to Washington to meet US President Donald Trump to discuss the deal. It is unclear if a deal will be reached ahead of Netanyahu's White House meeting.

Hamas has sought guarantees that the initial truce would lead to a total end to the war and withdrawal of Israeli troops from Gaza Previous negotiations have stalled over Hamas demands of guarantees that further negotiations would lead to war's end, while Netanyahu has insisted Israel would resume fighting to ensure the militant group's

13 districts in Mahanadi downstream on alert

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SAMBALPUR/CUT-TACK: The authorities of Hirakud Dam in Odisha's Sambalpur district on Sunday released the season's first floodwater after sounding an alert to the districts in downstream of river Mahanadi, officials

The season's first flood water was released after a traditional puja. The sluice gate number 7 was first opened as done every year, chief engineer S K Behera told reporters.

He said that at least 20 such gates were opened by 6 pm on Sunday.

The chief engineer said the decision to release floodwater was taken to manage the rising water the opening of 46 gates of

Congress won't return to power in 20 years if relief

level in the reservoir following incessant rain and increased inflow from upstream areas Chhattisgarh.

Season's first floodwater from Hiradud dam released,

Though the authorities opened eight gates in the first phase by 12 noon, later it was decided to open more such gates to discharge flood water. While the inflow into the reservoir was about 2.50 lakh cusec, the outflow stands at 3.36 lakh cusec, an official release said.

The full reservoir level (FRL) of Hirakud Dam was 630 feet and the present water level stands at 610.04 feet, the official said. The rising water level in the Mahanadi river system was also attributed to the Kalma Barrage in Chhattisgarh on Thursday, the official said.

Meanwhile, 13 districts in downstream Mahanadi including Cuttack were alerted and advised to caution people not to go near the river when the flood water is passing through the river. The people in riverside areas were cautioned through loud speaker prohibiting them from entering the river, an official said.

Cuttack Collector Bhausaheb Dattatreva Shinde said that the district administration has taken all possible measures to receive the season's first floodwaters from the Hirakud reservoir which is likely to reach the Mundali barrage on

STATE TIMES NEWS SAHARANPUR (UP): One on Sunday. District Magistrate

> One person who was referred to a higher centre for treatment died on the way, the DM said, adding condition of others is nor-

The deceased has been

One dies, 70 fall ill after consuming biryani during Muharram procession

person died and nearly 70 others fell ill allegedly after consuming 'sharbat' and biryani during a Muharram procession in Nanauta area of this district, police said

The incident took place on Saturday night, they said.

Manish Bansal said about 70 people complained of vomiting after having biryani and 'sharbat' (sweetened drink) who were immediately admitted to the primary health centre, district hospital, and a private hos-

identified as Shabi Haider

It is being investigated whether the food and drinks caused the illness of the people, the Saharanpur Chief Medical Officer (CMO) Dr Praveen Kumar said, adding some people were sent back home after treatment.

Sheikhjadgan locality in

Nanauta police station area.

District Magistrate Bansal said samples of food and drinks have been sent for testing.

"People of a community consumed birvani and sharbat in a locality of Nanauta town, after which about 70 people complained of vomiting and food poisoning.

"Currently, 54 people are hospitalised while 15 have been discharged after treatment. Condition of all patients is normal," Bansal

work goes on like this: Kangana in Mandi STATE TIMES NEWS SHIMLA: BJP Lok Sabha MP from Mandi, Kangana Ranaut, on Sunday visited her rain-ravaged constituency and asserted that the wav relief work is being undertaken, the Congress will not return to power in the state in even 20 years. She also said that as an

cloudburst Tuesday.

Fourteen people have died, and a search is on for 31 missing, as cloudbursts, flash floods, and landslides caused massive destruction. More than 150 houses, 106 cattle sheds, 31 vehicles, 14 bridges, and several roads have suffered damage

in the disaster. A total of 164 cattle have perished. About 200 roads have

bounds for traffic, while 236 transformers and 278 supply schemes have been disrupted in Mandi district as of Sunday morning, according to the state emergency operation centre.

"The relief and restoration works have to be done by the state government, and as an MP, I can only apprise the prime minister and the home minister about the situation and seek liberal assistance," Ranaut told reporters.

'We are the link between the state and the central government, instrumental in getting projects from the centre to the state and raising issues and grievances of our constituencies with the

centre," she said. "How the state governcome to power in the state for next 20 years," she added.

Her visit comes in the wake of jibes from the Congress on her absence from her Lok Sabha constituency.

Earlier, when he was asked about her absence, her party colleague and Leader of the Opposition Jairam Thakur said, "We are concerned about the locals, we live and die for them. Cannot comment on

Ranaut parried Congress's charge by saying that an MP doesn't have permission to allocate funds from the MP Local Area Development Fund in case of a disaster and that restoration of roads and

Himachal CM urges Centre to explore feasibility of

remit of the state govern-

ment. The actor-politician earlier wrote on X, "It is heartbreaking to see massive flood devastation in Himachal almost every year now. I tried reaching the flood-affected areas in Seraj and other areas in Mandi, but was advised by the respected Leader of Opposition Jai Ram Thakur to wait until the connectivity to the affected areas is restored."

She added, "Red alert is issued in Mandi. Awaiting authorities' approval on the same; will be there as soonest possible, reached Mandi on Sunday - the day of red warning.'

Seraj is the assembly constituency of Thakur, a former Himachal Pradesh

Dalai Lama's life a beacon of peace and compassion: Arunachal leaders

STATE TIMES NEWS

ITANAGAR: Arunachal Pradesh Governor Lt Gen K T Parnaik (Retd), Chief Minister Pema Khandu and DvCM Chowna Mein on Sunday extended greetings to Tibetan Spiritual leader the Dalai Lama on his 90the birthday.

Parnaik in a message described the Dalai Lama as a "living embodiment of compassion, peace, and timeless

The governor said the Dalai Lama's teachings have inspired millions across the offering guidance on the path of righteousness, inner strength, and harmony.

"The people of Arunachal Pradesh hold His Holiness in deep reverence and remain forever grateful for his enduring love, spiritual presand inspiration."



Parnaik added.

Khandu, who attended the official celebration at the main Tibetan temple in Dharamshala, called it a "truly humbling experience".

In a series of social media

posts, Khandu offered collective prayers on behalf of the people of Arunachal Pradesh for the Dalai Lama's long life and continued guidance.

"His journey is an inspiration to humanity. Through every trial, he has remained a

their religion (by terrorists)

before shooting them. Here,

people are being attacked based

on their language, which is dis-

The state is watching how

these leaders are enjoying other

Hindus being beaten up,"

Shelar told reporters when

asked about attacks on Hindi-

speaking people allegedly by

Armed terrorists shot dead

26 persons, most of them

tourists, near Pahalgam in

Jammu and Kashmir on April

22, 2025, leading to the launch

of Operation Sindoor by India

against terrorist bases in

Being the largest party in

Maharashtra, the BJP would

safeguard the pride of Marathi

people and also protect non-

Marathi residents, Shelar said.

"Marathi is not a political

appointing.

MNS workers.

Pakistan and PoK.

steady voice of wisdom, teaching us that true strength lies in forgiveness,"

He emphasised that the Dalai Lama's message transcends borders and beliefs, continuing to illuminate the path for future generations.

Deputy Chief Minister Chowna Mein joined the local celebration at Dhargyeling Tibetan Settlement at Tezu in Lohit district, where he offered prayers along with Dzogchen Ganor Rinpoche and Tibetan monks.

Describing the Dalai Lama as "a beacon of peace and compassion for the entire world", Mein hailed his recent decision to continue the institution of the Dalai Lama, calling it "a historic reaffirmation of Tibetan spiritual and cultural identi-

The DyCM also praised the Tibetan community for their resilience and cultural pride.

MP, she could only apprise

the prime minister of the

"I am deeply pained to see

the plight of the people.

They have lost family mem-

bers, houses have been

washed away, several people

are still missing, but we can

only console the families

who have lost their kin, and

now it is time to provide

relief," the Hindi film actor

said in Thunag panchayat,

which was among several

places in Mandi struck by a

situation.

"I deeply admire how they have preserved their language, attire, and spiritual traditions. Their strength is both moving and inspiring," he said.

Reflecting on the importance of indigenous identity, Mein reiterated that when a language dies, a culture is lost, urging local communities to learn from Tibetan efforts in preserving ancient scripts and wisdom.

In a remarkable gesture of commemoration. shared details 'Freedom Trail', a trekking expedition along the escape route taken by the Dalai Lama during his 1959 journey from Tibet to India.

Organised earlier this year by the Tawang district

administration with support from monks, locals, and ITBP personnel, the trail is now being developed into an adventure and pilgrimage tourism circuit.

Plans are also underway to organise a cultural festival along the route to honour this extraordinary journey.

Highlighting technological innovations in cultural preservation, Mein mentioned the use of artificial intelligence in rediscovering ancient indigenous texts, including the Ramayana and Mahabharata in the Tai Khamti script.

The celebration at Tezu was also attended by state ministers Wangki Lowang and Pasang Dorjee Sona, MLAs Mohesh Chai, Chau Zingnu Namchoom, Mutchu Mithi, senior police and civil officers, among others.

opening Shipki-La route for Kailash Mansarovar Yatra ■ STATE TIMES NEWS Himachal Pradesh being

SHIMLA: Pradesh Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu on Sunday urged the Centre to explore the feasibility of opening the Shipki-La route in the state for the Kailash

Mansarovar Yatra. In a letter to Prime Minister Narendra Modi. the chief minister mentioned that Shipki-La region has served as a vital Indo-Tibetan trade route, predating modern harders

He said that it has also been a cultural corridor for Tibetan Buddhism and ancient pilorimage paths reflecting India's enduring civilizational ties Kailash and Mansarovar.

"Kinnaur region of

As farmers complain of seeds not germinating,

Prevailing laws will be

amended to give them more

teeth to tackle the sale of

spurious seeds and pesti-

cides." Chouhan told farmers

in Ganjbasoda, some 40 kilo-

metres from the district

"Many farmers complained

to me they had sown soy-

headquarters.

semi-arid and situated in a rain shadow zone like Spiti, is less prone to monsoon disruptions which keeps the route accessible for most of the year.

"The path from Shipki-La Gartok towards Darchen and Mansarovar is comparatively shorter on the Tibetan side. Shipki-La also offers a more stable and unambiguous corridor, making it well suited as a long-term, dependable corridor for pilorimage and cross-border connectivity,

The chief minister also noted that Himachal Pradesh already has road connectivity up to Shipki-La via Rampur and Pooh. "With focused develop-

were ruined. This is a

Local farmers blamed the

problem on spurious seeds

being given by local suppli-

ers. "In many places in MP,

the germination of seeds

has not taken place. It is my

duty to see the condition in

betrayal of our

providers," he said.

ment of base camps and supporting infrastructure, this route can be seamlessly integrated into the Kailash Mansarovar Yatra framework.

"The opening of this route would significantly contribute to the socio-economic upliftment of the tribal people of Kinnaur, aligning with the government's vision for border development and tourism promotion under the Village Vibrant Programme

The CM said that the state government would extend all logistical and administrative coordinato the Central tionGovernment if the Shipki-La route is opened for Kailash Mansarovar Yatra.

Maharashtra minister condemns assault on Hindi-speaking people, draws parallel with Pahalgam attack

STATE TIMES NEWS

MUMBAI: Amid violence against Hindi-speaking people, Maharashtra minister and BJP leader Ashish Shelar on Sunday drew parallels between the Pahalgam terror attack and the beating of "Hindus" in Mumbai, which he said is condoned by some leaders In a veiled attack on Uddhav

Thackeray and his cousin Raj Thackeray who reunited on Saturday at a joint rally for the cause of Marathi people, Shelar said the state is watching how some leaders are "enjoying other Hindus being beaten up" The senior BJP leader's remarks come amid an outrage

caused by Maharashtra (MNS) Navnirman Sena activists thrashing a sweet shop owner in the Mumbai Metropolitan Region for not speaking Marathi

On Saturday, MNS workers damaged the glass door of Mumbai-based share market investor Sushil Kedia's office in Worli after he declared he would not speak Marathi and dared

the party chief Raj Thackeray. The row over speaking Marathi is escalating into a major political flashpoint ahead of the civic polls.

"In the Pahalgam terror attack, people were asked about

issue for us," he added.

The Hindi language row erupted after the BJP-led Maharashtra government issued Government Resolution (GR) making the learning of the language compulsory in primary schools.

Amid the growing backlash from MNS and Shiv Sena (UBT), the government amended the GR to make Hindi the "generally" third language before finally withdrawing both orders on June 29.

The issue of Marathi identity and the "imposition" of Hindi is believed to be a catalyst for reuniting Uddhav and Raj Thackeray after almost 20 years on Saturday at a joint "victory" rally to celebrate the government's decision to scrap the GRs under the three-language policy.

With elections to the highprofile Mumbai civic body and other municipal corporations approaching, the BJP waded into the language row, with Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis asserting that those resorting to violence over the Hindi language will face legal action.

Addressing the joint rally, Shiv Sena (UBT) chief Uddhav Thackeray defended the Marathi pride, saying, We are goons if we have to do hooliganism for justice.

On his part, Raj Thackeray asked the MNS cadres not to attack anyone over the language without provocation.

BJP leader and Maharashtra minister Nitesh Rane had objected to "Hindus" being targeted for not speaking in Marathi, while his cabinet colleague and Shiv Sena MLA Pratap Sarnaik said the MNS doesn't have monopoly over

STATE TIMES NEWS

During an outreach programme here, which is his home turf. Chouhan visited a farm and dug out seeds to check first hand about complaints of low germination rates, leading to failed crops. "I will get a probe done into the quality of these seeds.

Four killed, one injured as car falls into gorge near Manali

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

MANALI: Four people were killed on the spot and one person critically injured when their car skidded off the road and fell into a gorge near Rani nallah between Manali and Rohtang pass in Himachal Pradesh's Kullu district on Sunday, police

The Alto car, bearing registration number HP01K-7850 and a valid Rohtang permit, had five people onboard at the time of the accident, they said

The administration grants permit only to limited vehicles on the route everyday, ever since the National Green Tribunal imposed a ban on commercial activities in Rohtang.

Police said they are in the process of verifying the identifica-

tion details of the deceased and the injured. Meanwhile, Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu on Sunday expressed grief over the accident. He expressed condolences to the bereaved families, prayed for eternal peace of the departed souls and wished speedy recovery of the injured, according to a statement issued here.

Union minister Chouhan orders probe sowing efforts have been The persons, firms, societies Union involved in supplying such wasted due to substandard seeds. In a nutshell, crops seeds will face strict action.

VIDISHA:

Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan on Sunday ordered a probe into seeds supplied to farmers following complaints of these not germinating.

bean seeds, which did not other parts of the country germinate. The farmer's as well," Chouhan added. Doing business by hiding identity is wrong: Ramdev on Kanwar Yatra's directive

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

HARIDWAR: Supporting the Uttar Pradesh government's move to ask the owners of eateries along the Kanwar Yatra route to display their information, Yoga Guru Baba Swami Ramdev on Sunday said that doing business by hiding one's

Ramdev said here that he is proud of being a Hindu and 'Sanatani' and, in the same way, Muslims should also be proud of being Muslims, claiming that their ancestors were also Hindus. Asserting that it is up to the customer to decide whose shop they want to eat at, he asked, "What is the reason that Muslims are doing business in Kanwar Yatra by hiding their names? Hiding one's identity is wrong in every moral and religious sense." On the Marathi language row, the yoga guru called the assault on Hindi speakers in Maharashtra unfortunate. He said that all languages should be equally respected, but Hindus should not fight among themselves based on different languages, castes, classes, sects and genders. "This harms Sanatan, national integrity and unity. We all should live together,' Ramdev said on the sidelines of a Patanjali function here.

CJI Gavai to be feted by Maharashtra legislature on Tuesday STATE TIMES NEWS

MUMBAI: Chief Justice of India (CJI) Bhushan Gavai will be felicitated at the Maharashtra legislature complex here on July 8 after he took charge of the highest judicial office in May.

The event will also feature an address by the CJI on the topic "The Constitution of India", the legislature secretariat stated in an official release on Sunday. The felicitation ceremony will be organised in the Central Hall of the Vidhan Bhavan.

The programme is being organised in honour of Justice Gavai's appointment to the highest judicial post, an achievement celebrated across Maharashtra, the statement said.

Born on November 24. 1960, at Amravati in Maharashtra, Justice Gavai was elevated as an additional judge of the Bombay High Court on November 14, 2003. He became a permanent judge of the High Court on November 12, 2005.

He was sworn in as the 52nd Chief Justice of India (CJI) in May, succeeding Justice Saniiy Chief Khanna, who demitted office on May 13. He will hold office till November 23, 2025.