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**New Delhi to host next AI summit**

New Delhi will host the next Global Artificial Intelligence (AI) Summit. The announcement was made by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, which emphasized India's growing role as a hub for technological innovation and its commitment to shaping the global AI landscape.

**OpenAI CEO's no to Musk offer:**

A group led by Elon Musk has offered about \$97.4 billion to buy OpenAI, escalating a legal dispute with the artificial intelligence company that Musk helped found. OpenAI CEO Sam Altman quickly rejected the deal on Musk's social platform X, saying, "no thank you but we will buy Twitter for \$9.74 billion, if you want." Musk bought Twitter, now called X, for \$44 billion in 2022. He and Altman together helped start OpenAI in 2015 and later competed over who should lead it.

PARIS MEET | Lays down ground rules for global collaboration

PM WANTS AI OPEN HOUSE

FPJ News Service

MUMBAI

In a compelling address at the AI Action Summit in Paris on Tuesday, Prime Minister Narendra Modi stressed the importance of pooling global resources and talent to drive innovation, while advocating an open-source AI system that fosters trust and transparency.

Emphasizing the need for high-quality, unbiased data sets as the foundation for effective AI models, Modi outlined a five-point agenda for the responsible development of artificial intelligence (AI). He called for the democratization of AI to ensure it benefits all people. He also highlighted cyber security challenges such as disinformation and deep fakes, urging efforts to secure the digital future.

JOB LOSS: Co-chairing the summit with French President Emmanuel

Macron, Modi acknowledged the potential of AI to reshape job roles. However, he also emphasized that it opens up new opportunities, provided there is significant investment in skill development.

"Job loss is the most feared disruption caused by AI, but history has shown that work does not disappear due to technology. It evolves, and new types of jobs are created," Modi said. He stressed the importance of skilling and re-skilling people to prepare for an AI-driven future, a message that resonated globally amid concerns about technological unemployment.

AI V/S HUMAN INTELLIGENCE: Addressing fears about AI surpassing human intelligence, Modi reassured that no machine can determine humanity's future without human guidance.

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US & UK not on the same page

FPJ News Service

PARIS



US Vice President JD Vance struck a confrontational tone on Tuesday at a global summit on artificial intelligence (AI) in Paris, cautioning European allies against over-regulating the US-dominated AI sector

and warning China against using the technology to consolidate its authoritarian grip on power. His remarks marred the spirit of unity that host nation France had sought to foster during the two-day gathering of world leaders and tech industry chiefs.

The summit, attended by

representatives from 60 nations, including China, France, Germany, and India, culminated in a joint statement emphasizing the need for AI to be "open, inclusive, transparent, ethical, safe, secure, and trustworthy" under international frameworks. Notably, the United States and the

United Kingdom, which is no longer an EU member, did not sign the communiqué. Vance, addressing the audience at Paris's Grand Palais, argued that excessive regulation could stifle innovation in the AI sector just as it begins to flourish.

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Major fire at Oshiwara furniture market



Devashri Bhujbal

MUMBAI

A massive fire broke out in the Oshiwara furniture market on Tuesday morning, engulfing at least 100 furniture units containing wooden items and damaging 350 to 400 units. Cylinder blasts further fuelled the fire and a thick black smog shrouded the entire locality, causing panic among residents and passersby. The fire was declared Level II (major) at 11.46pm.

At least eight fire engines and 10 water tankers were rushed to the spot. It was 6pm by the time the flames were doused. According to the Mumbai Fire Brigade, at least 12 to 15 residents were rescued from the spot. No injuries were reported in the incident; however, authorities are ascertaining if there are people who may have been trapped in the fire or whether any injury has gone unreported.

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Preserve EVM data, orders SC

Online Report

NEW DELHI

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The Supreme Court has sought the reply of the Election Commission to an application filed by the Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR) seeking directions to the ECI to allow verification of the burnt memory and Symbol Loading Units of the Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs).

The court on Tuesday also told the ECI to not erase or reload the data in the EVMs while carrying out the verification. Live Law reports.

ADR had filed the application contending that the Standard Operating Procedure framed by the ECI for verifi-

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Road rage case: ACCUSED NABBED

Rajna Assainar

NAVI MUMBAI

cation of the EVMs was not in accordance with the April 2024 judgment in the EVM-VVPAT case.

A bench comprising Chief Justice of India Sanjiv Khanna and Justice Dipankar Datta heard the matter. CJI Khanna told Senior Advocate Maninder Singh, ECI's counsel, that the directions in the April 2024 judgment did not intend to erase or reload the polling

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Outrage, legal action

A bad joke has a life of its own

FPJ News Service

MUMBAI

YouTuber Ranveer Allahbadia found himself at the centre of a national uproar on Tuesday following his controversial remarks on the show India's Got Latent.

Little did he anticipate that his comments would reverberate within the hallowed halls of Parliament; yet, they did. During the Zero Hour, Shiv Sena MP Naresh Mhaske raised the issue, calling for stricter regulations on social

Maharashtra cyber cell unit has filed a case against not just Ranveer Allahbadia but all the people involved from Episode 1 to 6 of "India's Got Latent" - including guests. Sources said altogether, action has been taken against 40-odd people

media. He emphasised the need for legislation to curb influencers who exploit freedom of speech to post "all kinds of nonsense."

The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, ever eager to assert its authority,

swiftly directed YouTube to remove the offending episode, which it did.

Kanchan Gupta, the ministry's senior adviser, announced the directive on social media with the solemnity of a judge pronouncing a

life sentence. However, the internet, true to its nature, had already preserved and redistributed the clip countless times.

The backlash was immediate and unrelenting. The Mumbai Police, acting on a complaint, visited Ranveer's residence to investigate. Not to be outdone, the Maharashtra Cyber Department filed a case under the IT Act and demanded the removal of all 18 episodes of India's Got Latent.

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IAF CHIEF IS MIFFED WITH HAL

FPJ News Service

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A leaked on-camera exchange of Indian Air Force (IAF) Chief Air Chief Marshal Amar Preet Singh criticizing Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) has caused a stir at the ongoing Aero India show at Bengaluru's Yelahanka IAF base.

In a video posted by the defence news portal National Defence, the IAF chief is heard reprimanding HAL officials.

"I can only tell you our requirements and concerns. You need to address those and instill confidence. At the moment, I am just not confident in HAL, which is a very wrong thing to happen."

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Trump pauses law, big relief for Adani

FPJ News Service

MUMBAI

ment guidelines, reports The Independent.

Trump complained that the anti-corruption measure, which was signed into law by then-president Jimmy Carter in 1978, nearly 48 years ago, was a "disaster" for this country" because "it made it very, very hard, from a practical standpoint, to make deals" overseas without violating the law, implying that bribes are expected to be a routine part of business, including for American companies.

Trump signed the document on Monday directing Attorney General Pam Bondi to stop enforcing the 1934 law until she issues new enforce-

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It hurts the country. And many, many deals are unable to be made because of it.

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Hubby liable for wife's stock debit balance

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The Supreme Court on Monday ruled that a husband can be held jointly and severally liable for the debit balance in his wife's stock trading account if an oral agreement and their financial dealings establish shared responsibility.

The ruling came in the case of AC Choksi Share Broker vs. Jatin Pratap Desai, with a Bench of Justices PS Narasimha and Sandeep Mehta holding that an arbitral tribunal has jurisdiction over the husband under the

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HC nod to Adani to cut 209 mangroves

Urvi Mahajan

MUMBAI

The Bombay High Court has permitted the Adani Group to axe 209 mangroves near Vasai Creek for the construction of a high-voltage transmission line proposed for increasing electricity supply to the city and its suburbs. The court noted that the project was of public importance.

A bench of Chief Justice Alok Adarsh and Justice Bha-

rati Dangre, said on February 6, the project for the construction of the electricity transmission line is critical for Mumbai as the existing capacity of the transmission corridor was not sufficient to carry further power to the city.

The HC allowed the petition by Adani Electricity Mumbai Infra Ltd seeking permission to cut 209 mangroves for the setting up of a high-voltage

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Trump drops the penny

FPJ News Service

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Former President Donald Trump has announced that he has ordered the US Mint to halt penny production, citing the coin's high manufacturing cost. "For far too long, the United States has minted pennies that literally cost us more than 2 cents. This is so wasteful!" Trump wrote on his Truth Social platform.

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The Free Press Journal

We cover the following states in our E-paper

64-yr-old killed during robbery at Bandra flat

Megha Kuchik

MUMBAI

A 64-year-old woman's decomposed body, with her hands tied, was found in her flat in Bandra West on Monday. Within two hours, the police nabbed one of her acquaintances, Sharif Ali Damsher Sheikh, 27, for allegedly killing her during the robbery.

The quantity of the stolen booty is yet to be determined as the victim lived alone and only her daughter, who lives separately in Malad, can quantify the theft. Sheikh has confessed to the crime, said the cops, adding

that the court has remanded him to police custody until February 17.

The murder took place in the afternoon February 5 and came to light five days later after the neighbours complained of foul smell. The accused, who lives in the adjacent building, frequented the house of the victim, no 22, second floor, Kanchan cooperative housing society, HIG Colony, near Lilavati Hospital. Her daughter, who works in a private firm, didn't pay a visit for the last two months due to some dispute.

According to the police,

CHILLING DETAILS

■ Victim lived alone and accused took advantage of it, says probe

■ He frequented her house on pretext of helping her

■ He allegedly brutally killed her using several household objects

■ He allegedly murdered her, fearing she would spill beans on him

Sheikh took advantage of the same and started frequenting Khonde's house on the pretext of helping her. He even acted as an intermediary between the mother-daughter duo, the probe found. A private firm employee, the accused lives with his parents and a brother, who works in Qatar Airlines.

After the neighbours complained of foul smell to Khonde's daughter, she came and opened the flat with a duplicate key. The victim bore injuries on her head and torso, inflicted with a sharp object. According to the police, Sheikh tied Khonde's hands before

attacking her and rendering her unconscious. He then stole gold jewellery and cash, they said.

"He used several household objects to kill her. The other flat on Khonde's floor has been sealed due to some legal reason. Hence, no one realised when the murder occurred," said a cop. During the probe, the accused assisted the police, which brought him under the scanner.

The cops then recorded statements from neighbours and relatives, and took Sheikh in custody after gathering evidence based on technical surveillance. He killed Khonde as

she would have spilled the beans on him after the robbery, said the police, adding that the medical report shows nothing apart from murder.

The victim was living on her late husband's pension and never used online banking, which was known to Sheikh. The building's watchman said that Khonde never misbehaved with anyone.

A case has been filed against the accused under sections 103(1) (murder), 311 (robbery or dacoity with an attempt to cause death or grievous hurt), among other charges of Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita.

JAI BHIM NAGAR DEMOLITION

Second FIR filed, complainant's version included



Poonam Apraj

MUMBAI

tant commissioners of police (crime). The SIT submitted a report confirming that the demolition was "unlawful".

In October 2024, the HC ordered the Powai police to register an FIR against those responsible for the demolition, as per the report.

However, when the police filed an FIR without considering Limbole's

Meenabai Limbole, 37, who has been hit by the action, alleged first FIR didn't had her version, prompting her to move HC

complaint, she again filed another petition demanding to register a case on the basis of her Statement. On February 7, 2025, the court directed the police to record her statement and register an FIR accordingly.

A case has been filed against Sanjay Pandey and Arjun, the employees of Hiranandani builders, and BMC officials and staff, including Kasgikar, Pankaj, Amish Bangde, Biradar, Ashatai Chaware and Shilbodhi Bhanteji. Inspector Sonawane and other officers from the Powai police assaulted them during the June 6, 2024, demolition drive.

One of the displaced residents later approached the HC, which directed the formation of a special investigation team (SIT), led by the joint and assis-

Ganpati visarjan: BMC widens artificial lakes

FJP News Service

MUMBAI

The BMC has taken measures to ensure the proper immersion of Lord Ganesh idols, made from plaster of Paris (PoP), by deepening artificial immersion sites where necessary. The move comes after the civic authorities denied permission to several Ganpati mandals to immerse PoP idols in the natural water bodies.



Mehul Choksi, the absconding diamond trader in the multi-crore Punjab National Bank (PNB) fraud, is currently in Belgium, taking medical treatment for suspected cancer, his lawyer informed the special court on Tuesday.

The submission was made during a hearing on

the Enforcement Directorate's (ED) 2018

plea to declare Choksi as a fugitive economic offender (FEO).

Once he is tagged as a FEO, the agency could confiscate his assets located overseas. During the hearing, Choksi's lawyer informed that his client wants to bring on record his health issues as well as the treatment. It was also argued that he had even filed various applications soon after the ED moved court with its FEO petition in July 2018.

However, the prosecution took objection, pointing out that those pleas were rejected way back in 2018-19. Later, the lawyers were asked to make their arguments on the ED's main plea. Choksi's lawyer sought time to bring on record the latest development. The next hearing has been scheduled for February 27.

Along with Choksi, the ED had also sought to declare Choksi's nephew Nirav Modi as a FEO in 2018. The latter was tagged as a fugitive, however, the outcome in his uncle's case is pending for more than six years.

Accordingly, the BMC has taken steps to deepen the artificial lakes at the Sanjay Gandhi National Park, Dahisar Sports Foundation, Maharashtra Pratap Udayan in Kandivali, Kadawadi Ground. While the first and last lakes can accommodate idols towering 15 and 19 feet, respectively, statues up to six feet can fit into the remaining two. In addition, an artificial lake of 30x30 feet has been set up at Bangur Nagar in Goregaon.

Mahakumbh 2025 Prayagraj

Maghi Purnima Holy Dip

Message of Mahakumbh
One Nation, Stronger Together

Upcoming Snan Date Maha Shivaratri - 26th February, 2025

13 January - 26 February

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