

absolute india

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MIDDLE EAST BOYCOTTS INDIAN PRODUCTS AFTER OBJECTIONABLE REMARKS AGAINST PROPHET MUHAMMAD

REPUTATIONAL DAMAGE

SEVERAL STORES HAVE REPORTEDLY REMOVED INDIAN PRODUCTS AFTER THE ROW. AT THE SUPERMARKET JUST OUTSIDE KUWAIT CITY, SACKS OF RICE AND SHELVES OF SPICES AND CHILIES WERE COVERED WITH PLASTIC SHEETS. PRINTED SIGNS IN ARABIC READ: "WE HAVE REMOVED INDIAN PRODUCTS".

Team Absolute | New Delhi

Several middle eastern countries including Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, and Bahrain have called for a boycott of Indian products from their superstores on social media.

The outrage comes after Bharatiya Janta Pary (BJP) spokesperson Nupur Sharma allegedly made some objectionable remarks against Prophet Mohammed during a panel discussion on an Indian news channel.

A large number of Twitter users in these countries including the Grand Mufti of Oman called out for a mass boycott of Indian products in the middle eastern countries.

Many of the users further went on for a searing attack against Prime Minister Narendra Modi in the matter. "We, as a Kuwaiti Muslim people, do not accept insulting the



NOW, UAE CONDEMNS STATEMENTS INSULTING PROPHET

New Delhi/UAE: After Qatar, Iran and Kuwait, now the United Arab Emirates has condemned statements by former BJP spokespersons on Prophet Muhammad. The UAE foreign office expressed denunciation and rejection of insults to the founder of Islam. In a statement, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (MoFAIC) affirmed the UAE's firm rejection of all practices and behaviours that contradict moral and human values and principles.

Prophet," Nasser Al-Mutairi, CEO of the store, told AFP. An official at the chain said a company-wide boycott was being considered.

Comments by Bharatiya Janata Party spokeswoman Nupur Sharma have sparked furore among

RaGa slams BJP over row

"Divided internally, India becomes weak externally. BJP's shameful bigotry has not only isolated us, but also damaged India's standing globally."

NUPUR SHARMA STEPS BACK

Nupur Sharma said on Twitter that her comments had been in response to "insults" made against the Hindu god Shiva. "If my words have caused discomfort or hurt religious feelings of anyone whatsoever, I hereby unconditionally withdraw my statement," she said.

Muslims. Anger spread overseas to Muslim countries about the

'UNWARRANTED AND NARROW-MINDED', INDIA REFUTES OIC COMMENTS

New Delhi: India on Monday slammed the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) for making comments on the internal affairs of the country, terming them 'unwarranted and narrow-minded'.

The Ministry of External Affairs Spokesperson Arindam Bagchi in a statement said, "We have seen the statement on India from the General Secretariat of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC). Government of India categorically rejects OIC Secretariat's unwarranted and narrow-minded comments."

"The Government of India accords the highest respect to

all religions. The offensive tweets and comments denigrating a religious personality were made by certain individuals. They do not, in any manner, reflect the views of the Government of India. Strong action has already been taken against these individuals by relevant bodies," the statement added.

It said that it is regrettable that the OIC Secretariat has yet again chosen to make "motivated, misleading and mischievous comments". This only exposes its divisive agenda being pursued at the behest of vested interests, it said.

New Delhi: A day after expelling Naveen Kumar Jindal from the party, the Delhi BJP has advised its spokespersons to only speak about achievements of eight years of the Narendra Modi government.

SPEAK ONLY ABOUT MODI GOVT'S ACHIEVEMENTS: DELHI BJP TO SPOKESPERSONS

The Delhi BJP also advised its spokespersons to think before speaking and not cross the line while participating in TV debates. A senior Delhi BJP leader told reporter that spokespersons are asked only to speak about works of the Modi government and nothing else. "A clear directive has been issued to our spokespersons to speak only about 'Seva, Sushasan and Garib Kalyan', the theme of eight years of celebration of the Modi government. They are clearly asked only to speak about Modi government works," a senior Delhi BJP leader said.

remarks. After the major criticism, BJP came into a deferentive mode and claed its stand on the matter,

while also suspending Nupur Sharma and leader Naveen Jindal from party's primary membership.

VARANASI COURT RESERVES ORDER ON PLEA FOR SHIVLING WORSHIP



Team Absolute | Varanasi

Varanasi court on Monday reserved its order on a plea moved by Sri Vidya Mutt head Swami Avimuktেশ्वरानंद, who has been on an indefinite fast seeking permission to pray to a purported Shivling-like structure recovered from inside the Gyanvapi mosque during a videography survey in May. District judge in-charge, Anutosh Sharma, a special judge of the Pocco court and filling in for District Judge Ajay Krishna Vishvesha, who is on leave, reserved his order after hearing the submissions of Avimuktेश्वरानंद's counsel Ramesh Upadhyaya.

In his application, the Hindu monastery head requested that his plea should be heard on urgency as the 'Lord is hungry'.

Upadhyaya, on behalf of his client, argued that along with Adi Visheshwara, the Shivling-like structure found in the Gyanvapi mosque complex, Nandi too, was sitting without any 'Raag or Bhog'.

Citing religious texts, he claimed that Nandi is the incarnation of Lord Vishnu, and hence he too was observing fast along with Adi Visheshwara (the shivling). Upadhyaya also cited Bhavishya Purana and Garuda Purana and said even if his client is not granted permission to offer worship and bhog, then it should be arranged by the court.

The Uttar Pradesh government and the local police administration have been made party in the case. Upadhyaya also argued that considering the deity as a minor, the Hindu seer, who is the major, was being prevented from feeding the child.

No replacement of Mahatma Gandhi's photo on Bank Notes: RBI

Team Absolute | New Delhi

The Reserve Bank of India on Monday rejected reports claiming that it was considering changes to the existing bank notes and would replace the face of Mahatma Gandhi with that of Rabindranath Tagore and APJ Abdul Kalam and issue a new series of currency notes. The central bank said that there was no such proposal, thus dismissing the report.

"There are reports in certain sections of the media that the Reserve Bank of India is considering changes to the existing currency and banknotes by replacing the face of Mahatma Gandhi with that of others. It may be noted that there is no such proposal in the Reserve Bank," the central bank said



in a statement on the day, which it also posted on Twitter.

The statements from RBI come after a day various publications reports citing an article that the central bank and the finance ministry were mulling to add the images of Bengal's cultural icon and Nobel laureate Rabindranath Tagore, and India's late president Dr APJ Abdul Kalam on the bank and currency notes

thereby replacing current images of Mahatma Gandhi, an icon of India's freedom struggle.

This was the first time that it was reported that the RBI was considering using the images of famous personalities other than Mahatma Gandhi on the banknotes. However, the report turned out to be untrue, as per the RBI which dismissed all such claims regarding the changes.

Intermediate range ballistic missile Agni-4 successfully tested

Team Absolute | New Delhi

New Delhi: A nuclear-capable Agni-IV ballistic missile, which can strike targets 4,000 km away, was successfully test-fired off the Odisha coast today, marking a significant boost to the country's military capabilities. The test was a part of routine user training launches carried out under the aegis of the Strategic Forces Command, said the Defence Ministry.

"The successful test reaffirms India's policy of having a credible minimum deterrence capability," it said in a statement. The missile was test-fired off APJ Abdul Kalam Island in Odisha at 7.30 pm this evening. The government said the launch validated all operational parameters as also reliability of system. Agni-IV is the fourth in the Agni series of missiles - earlier known as Agni II prime - developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation or DRDO.



Heat wave conditions in NW India, Vidarbha to continue

Team Absolute | New Delhi

Heat wave conditions prevailed over some parts of Delhi, at isolated pockets of Punjab, Uttarakhand, west Rajasthan, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, east Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra's Vidarbha, and Jharkhand on Monday.

Even when Delhi's base station - Safdarjung - registered the maximum temperature of 43.5 degrees Celsius, Jafarpur in southwest Delhi, Najafgarh and Pitampura in west Delhi and Sports Complex near Akshardham in east Delhi registered temperatures beyond 45 degrees Celsius.

Including those mentioned above, 16 places across Rajasthan, Haryana, Jharkhand, Vidarbha, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar



Pradesh recorded maximum temperatures above 45 degrees Celsius, India Meteorological Department (IMD) data showed. At 46.8 degrees Celsius, Uttar Pradesh's Banda recorded the highest maximum temperature across India.

In Uttarakhand, places in the Himalayan foothills - Dehradun, Pantnagar, Jolly Grant, and Khatima - registered maximum temperature

more than 39 degrees Celsius.

IMD's heat wave warning said that heat wave conditions in isolated places very likely over Jammu Division, Himachal Pradesh, west Rajasthan, north Jharkhand and Vidarbha on Tuesday, Odisha, Uttar Pradesh, and Madhya Pradesh till June 8, and over Punjab, Haryana-Delhi, and Uttarakhand till June 9.

INDIA LOGS 4,518 FRESH COVID CASES, 9 DEATHS IN 24 HRS

Team Absolute | New Delhi

India saw a marginal uptick in Covid-19 cases with 4,518 infections being reported in last 24 hours, against previous day's 4,270 count, the Union Health Ministry said on Monday.

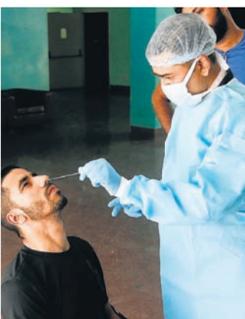
In the same period, nine Covid-related fatalities were registered taking the nationwide toll to 5,24,701.

Meanwhile, the active caseload has also risen to 25,782, accounting for 0.06 per cent of the country's total positive cases.

The recovery of 2,779 patients in the last 24 hours took the cumulative tally to 4,26,30,852. Now, the recovery rate stands at 98.73 per cent.

Meanwhile, the country's Daily Positivity rate has risen to 1.62 per cent, while the Weekly Positivity Rate currently is being pegged at 0.91 per cent.

Also in the same period, a total of 2,78,059 tests were conducted



across the country, increasing the overall tally to over 85.29 crore.

As of Monday morning, the total vaccination coverage exceeded 194.12 crore, achieved via 2,47,70,416 sessions.

Over 3.44 crore adolescents have been administered with a first dose of the jab since the beginning of vaccination drive for this age bracket.

GLACIAL ADVANCE IN CENTRAL HIMALAYAS

Study to assess role of Indian summer monsoon vs westerlies

Team Absolute | New Delhi

Scientists have for the first time reported the oldest glacial advance from eons ago from Uttarakhand in central Himalayas with its geomorphological mapping revealing four events of glaciation with decreasing magnitude synchronising with climate variability.

This study by the scientists from Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology has found that moisture-deficient valleys of semi-arid Himalayan regions respond sensitively to enhance precipitation.

The research published in the journal Quaternary Science Reviews provides a robust chronology and climatic evidence indicating significant ice volume depicted by the height of



glacial material (moraine) during MIS 3.

The MIS 3 is well represented by the prominent lateral

moraine.

"Last glacial maximum (LGM) glaciation was associated with temperature decline and

enhanced westerlies and glacial advances in Yankti Kuti valley synchronises with climate variability," it said.

LGM refers to the maximum in global ice volume during the last glacial cycle.

Many researchers have provided information on the nature of glaciation in the central Himalayas by employing various modern dating methods.

However, the chronological data for glacial landforms in the central Himalayas is still limited due to the lack of dating material in the study areas because of the inaccessibility of these areas.

Thus, a correlation between two major climatic systems -- the Indian summer monsoon and the mid-latitude westerlies and glacier advance remained speculative.



NON-PAYMENT OF SALARIES PROMPTS 'NO ADVISORY TO FARMERS' AGITATION

Nivedita Khandekar | New Delhi

Scientists and observers manning the District Agro-Met Units (DAMU) - that sends advisories to over 43 lakh farmers across 27 states - on Monday declared a "no advisory to farmers" agitation on Tuesday to protest non-receipt of their salaries for over a year.

This is an extreme step they have decided after multiple meetings - successful and unsuccessful - in Delhi on May 25 yielded no results for them.

Weather advisories are increasingly important due to the growing uncertainties in the weather and climate in recent years that pose a major threat to food productivity and food security of the country. An early warning makes the risk management easier.

Along with the bi-weekly bulletins, daily weather forecast and now cast information are also disseminated to the farmers by regional and state meteorological centres of the IMD.

The DAMU personnel shot off a warning letter to the Indian Council for Agricultural Research, Secretary, Ministry of Earth Sciences, Director General (Meteorology), IMD, and other related officials. "We the DAMU employees across India would like to humbly intimate you that in spite of several representations and intimations from our end regarding the ongoing pending salary issues since 12-14 months and non-release of fund during FY 21-22 and FY 22-23 no assurance has been given from your good end," the letter read.



As part of the joint project by the IACR and the IMD, these DAMU are situated within the Krishi Vikas Kendra premises and send out detailed agromet advisories to 43.6 lakh farmers across 27 states every Tuesdays and Thursdays. Two people each are managing the 200-odd DAMUs have been facing a pay crunch for almost a year now, a problem the Ministry of Earth Sciences had in March said would be resolved from April.

The scientists and observers upload information from their respective districts to a designated portal by the IMD after which the advisory is generated in a standard pro-forma in multiple languages according to the states. That is downloaded as a PDF document and sent to these lakhs of farmers, each associated with one of the 200-odd DAMUs. "We don't want to harm the farmers' interest due to our protest agitation. Therefore, what we have decid-

ed is that we will not upload the information from our end on to the IMD portal but instead, send a gist of the advisory directly as a text to the farmers," said one of the many scientists that IANS spoke with.

Almost 50 per cent of the DAMU scientists and observers have agreed to not send the regular advisory, another of the protestors said.

Earlier on May 25, 12 persons from eight states had gathered in Delhi and jointly met ICAR ADG, Extension, A.K. Singh, and OSD to Agriculture Minister, Arun Kumar but could not meet the IMD DG or Earth Sciences Secretary.

Talking to IANS, an observer had said, "The Ministry also aims to establish 530 more DAMUs, if they don't have funds for us, how are they going to pay others?"

Calls and text messages to senior officials in the Ministry and IMD DG went unanswered.

BAG STUFFED WITH HUMAN BODY PARTS FOUND IN DELHI'S KALYANPURI

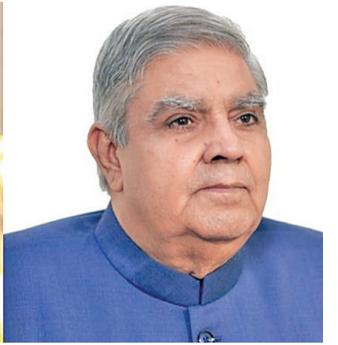
New Delhi: A bag containing severed human body parts was found at Ramlila Ground in east Delhi's Kalyanpuri area, police said on Monday.

According to an official, the police personnel while patrolling in the area noticed foul smell coming from near the bushes in the Ramlila Ground, in front of 20 Block, Kalyanpuri in east Delhi.

"The information was immediately passed to the Pandav Nagar police station," Deputy Commissioner of Police Priyanka Kashyap said. As soon as the information was received, the Station House Officer along with staff reached the spot and found a bag containing severed human parts stuffed in the bag.

Accordingly, the police registered a case under section 302 (punishment for murder) and 201 of the Indian Penal Code at the Pandav Nagar police station. The crime team of Delhi Police inspected the spot from where the bag was recovered. The body parts that were found inside the bag have been preserved at the LBS mortuary. The body parts are yet to be identified.

Bengal CM to replace Guv as Chancellor of all state universities



Kolkata | Agencies

West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee will replace Governor Jagdeep Thakur as Chancellor of all the state-run health, agricultural, and animal & fishery sciences universities.

A formal decision was taken by the state cabinet on Monday afternoon to replace the Governor with the Chief Minister as the visitor of private universities operating in the state.

At a previous meeting on May 26, it was decided to replace Thakur as the Chancellor of state universities. Monday's decision was

an extension of that decision.

"The monsoon session of the West Bengal assembly is scheduled to start from June 13. The amendment bills on this account will likely be tabled in the monsoon session for clearance. Once the bills are cleared, they will be sent to the Governor for his consent," said a member of the Cabinet.

However, realising that the Governor will likely withhold his consent, the state government is prepared to bring in an ordinance.

The monsoon session of the assembly is expected to be quite stormy over two

issues: The bills for replacing the Governor with the Chief Minister as university Chancellor or visitor, and the ongoing West Bengal School Service Commission recruitment scam.

The Trinamool Congress leadership has already instructed its legislators to maintain their cool while countering the jibes of the BJP legislators and avoid any kind of untoward scene as had happened in the previous session of the assembly where the ruling and opposition MLAs got into scuffles. A number of BJP legislators including the Leader of Opposition were suspended by the Speaker.

Pak terrorist killed in encounter at J&K's Sopore

SRINAGAR | Agencies

A Pakistani LeT terrorist was killed in an ongoing encounter between terrorists and security forces at Sopore area in Jammu and Kashmir's Baramulla district on Monday, police said.

"One Pakistani terrorist affiliated with proscribed terror outfit LeT killed. Incriminating materials including arms and ammunition recovered. Two foreign terrorists and one local terrorist escaped from cordon. Search going on. Further details shall follow," Jammu and Kashmir Police tweeted, quoting Inspector General Police, Kashmir,



Vijay Kumar: The encounter comes two days after Hizbul Mujahideen terrorist commander Nisar Khanday was killed in an encounter at Rishipora area in Jammu and Kashmir's Anantnag district. There have been a series of anti-terror opera-

tions in Kashmir over the last few months in which many terrorists and their commanders have been eliminated. Most of the operations have been jointly conducted by the police and the army on the basis of specific intelligence inputs.

DOUBLE MURDER IN KOLKATA NEAR CM'S RESIDENCE

Kolkata: The bodies of a Gujrati couple with sharp weapon and bullet wounds were found late on Monday evening from their residence in Harish Mukherjee Road in south Kolkata, a stone's throw away from the residence of West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee. The place of occurrence also comes under the Chief Minister's Assembly constituency, Bhawanipur. The two persons killed have been identified as Ashoke Shah (56) and his wife Rashmita Shah (52), both hailing from a Gujrati business family based out of Kolkata. The deceased couple's daughter could not reach them over phone since Monday morning, following which she reached their residence in the evening and found the main door open. On entering the house, she found the bodies of her parents in a pool of blood.

She immediately informed the local police station. Soon the sleuths of the homicide division under the Detective Department (DD) reached the spot along with sniffer dogs. Kolkata Police Commissioner Vineet Kumar Goyal also rushed to the spot considering that the scene of crime was close to the CM's residence.

Hyderabad gang rape: YouTubers booked for uploading video clip

Hyderabad | Agencies

Hyderabad police on Monday filed two cases against a couple of YouTubers for allegedly uploading a video clip of Jubilee Hills gang rape victim and thus revealing her identity in violation of Supreme Court guidelines.

Cybercrime wing registered the cases and took up investigation. Police found that the a couple of YouTube channels not only uploaded the video clip but organised a debate by inviting panelists and repeatedly played it.

Police have issued a notice to one of the YouTubers asking him to appear before them. The action came two days



after the video clip went viral on social media after it was released by BJP MLA M. Raghunandan Rao at a news conference. The clip purportedly shows the son of an MLA in an intimate act with the victim in a car. Rao, however, denied that he revealed the name or identity of the victim. He said he wanted to make

public the evidence about the alleged involvement of a MIM lawmaker's son in the incident.

The BJP leader alleged that since police were derailing the investigation by giving a clean chit to the MLA's son, he released the video clip. Amid reports that police were mulling action against him, Rao told reporters on Monday that he was ready to face the case. Rao, who is also a lawyer, claimed that he would submit to court all the evidence he has at an appropriate time.

Meanwhile, the Telangana State Women's Commission took suo moto note of the gang rape and directed police to submit a report on the incident.

CM among 24 candidates in fray for Tripura bypolls

Agartala | Agencies

As many as 24 candidates including Tripura Chief Minister Manik Saha filed their nomination papers for the June 23 bypolls for four Assembly seats in Tripura. Saha, currently a Rajya Sabha member and state BJP President, in his around three-decade-long political career will for the first time contest a direct election in the bypolls from the Town Bordowali assembly constituency.

Saha, who assumed office on May 15, a day after Biplab Kumar Deb's resignation from the top post, has to become a member of the Assembly within six months. Accompanied by Deb and senior state party leaders he submitted his nomination papers on Monday, the last day of filing of candidature.

The 69-year-old Congress-turned-BJP leader will contest against six other candidates including Ashish



Kumar Saha (Congress), Raghunath Sarkar (Forward Bloc) and Sanhita Bhattacharya (Banerjee) of the Trinamool Congress. Of the total of 24 candidates contesting in the four assembly seats, eight women candi-

dates are trying their electoral fortunes. The BJP and the Trinamool Congress fielded two women candidates each while the CPI-M led Left parties and the Congress nominated one woman candidate each. Multi-cornered contests would be witnessed in all the four assembly seats -- Town Bordowali, Agartala, Jubarajnar and Surma (SC) -- between the nominees of the BJP, the CPI-M led Left Front, Congress, Trinamool Congress (TMC) and other smaller parties.

The Congress has forged a tacit alliance with the leading tribal based party -- Tripura Indigenous Progressive Regional Alliance headed by Tripura's former royal scion, Pradyot Bikram Manikya Deb Barman in Surma seat, reserved for the Scheduled Castes.

The bypolls were necessitated after the resignation of three BJP MLAs and the death of CPI-M legislator Ramendra Chandra Debnath.

THERE IS NO NATIONAL PARTY EXCEPT BJP: NADDA

Vijayawada | Agencies

Vijayawada: BJP president J.P. Nadda on Monday claimed that there is no national party left in the country except BJP.

He told party workers at a meeting here that BJP's fight is no longer with any national party in the country. "If there is a national party, it is the BJP. We are fighting against family rule," he said listing out the parties in various states. Addressing heads of shakti kendras and workers here, Nadda described Shiv Sena as a party of father and son. He said Jagan Mohan Reddy led YSR Congress Party (YSRCP) and Telugu Desam Party (TDP) both are dynastic parties. He also remarked that the Indian National Congress has been reduced to a brother-sister party. Nadda claimed that Narendra Modi has changed polity and political culture of the country by eliminating family centric, caste and community based politics, appeasement and corruption.

KEJRIWAL HOLDS TIRANGA YATRA IN MEHSANA, SAYS GUJARAT WANTS CHANGE

Mehsana | Agencies

Am Aadmi Party (AAP) convener and Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal received a good response in the Tiranga Yatra in the Mehsana town on Monday. During the two and half km long yatra, Bharatiya Tribal Party's leader Mahesh Vasava also accompanied him.

Addressing the gathering, Kejriwal said, "People of Gujarat want change, that change will come within six months," and he appealed to people that they should not be afraid of the BJP. People have got fed up with the BJP, it has got fed up with Congress also.

Everyone in Gujarat knows how the development has taken place in Delhi under the AAP regime. The Delhi govern-



ment is giving electricity free of cost, and in reply to Kejriwal's question, people of Mehsana said they want free electricity. Entire Gujarat is demanding free electricity, he said.

He also claimed that in Delhi, his government supplies electricity 24x7, and promised that if AAP comes to power in the state, it will supply power without power cuts. If AAP comes to power, conditions of government schools and hospitals will

improve. Like Delhi, in Gujarat, AAP will start 'Mohalla clinic', he said.

He said he is making the statement based on the response the Tiranga yatra, which covered the entire state in the last 20 days, received. Six tiranga yatras traveled through all assembly constituencies and people have shared their views and opinions to AAP leaders, their frustration says they are looking for change.

Defence Acquisition Council clears proposals worth Rs 76,390 crore

Team Absolute | New Delhi

The Defence Acquisition Council (DAC), in a meeting on Monday chaired by Defense Minister Rajnath Singh, accorded acceptance of necessity for capital acquisition proposals of the armed forces amounting to Rs 76,390 crore under 'Buy (Indian)', 'Buy & Make (Indian)' and 'Buy (Indian-IDDMM)' categories.

The DAC accorded fresh AoNs for procurement of rough terrain forklift trucks (RTFLTs), bridge laying tanks (BLTs), wheeled armoured fighting vehicles (Wh AFVs) with anti-tank guided missiles (ATGMs) and weapon-locating radars (WLRs), through domestic sources with emphasis on indigenous design and development for the Indian Army. A Defence Ministry statement said that it will provide substantial boost



to the Indian defence industry and reduce foreign spending significantly. For the Indian Navy, the DAC accorded AoN for procurement of next-generation corvettes (NGC) at an estimated cost of approx Rs 36,000 crore. These NGCs will be versatile platforms for variety of roles like surveillance missions, escort operations, deterrence, surface action group (SAG) operations, search and attack, and coastal defence. The NGCs would be constructed

based on new in-house design of the Indian Navy using latest technology of ship building and would contribute to further the government's initiative of SAGAR (Security and Growth for all in the Region). The DAC also accorded AoNs for manufacture of Dornier Aircrafts and Su-30 MKI aero-engines by the Navratna CPSE Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd with focus on enhancing indigenisation particularly in indigenising aero-engine material.

"In pursuance of the government's vision for digital transformation in defence, 'Digital Coast Guard' project under Buy (Indian) Category has been approved by the DAC. Under this project, a pan India secure network for digitising of various surface and aviation operations, logistics, finance and HR processes in Coast Guard will be established," the statement said.

Gujarat ATS seizes heroin worth Rs 250 crore

Ahmedabad | Agencies

The Anti-Terrorism Squad (ATS) in Gujarat had received information that a large quantity of narcotics would be loaded in a Pakistani boat -- Al Noman -- from the Gwadar port which would land in Jakhau, Gujarat.

Based on this information, teams of ATS and Coast Guard searched the Pakistani boat but found no drugs in it. After that the ATS filed a complaint against the sailors of this boat following which all the seven Pakistani nationals onboard the boat were arrested under the

Foreigners Act for illegally entering India.

During preliminary interrogation, it was learnt that the sailors of the boat had thrown a large cache of drugs into the sea after they saw a large boat approaching them.

The Coast Guard and the Marine Police were then told to search for these bags. The teams of Marine Police found two suspicious bags at the Shiyal Creek on the shores of Jakhau.

The bags contained about 50 kg of heroin with a market value of Rs 250 crore. The consignment was reportedly sent by Pakistani drug mafias Raheed and Shahab.

CHANGE OF NAME I SHASHIREKHA BHUE is legally wedded spouse of No. 4578105X SUDAM BHUE presently residing at Nagara Bhue Chhamunda Sambalpur Odisha Pin: 768105 have changed my name from SHASHIREKHA BHUE to SHASHIREKHA BHUE vide affidavit No. BC 401475.	CHANGE OF NAME I AMITA KARKETTA is legally wedded spouse of No. 572339M Nb/Sub NELSON BECK presently residing at Vill Khajurtala Post Aksi PS Mahuwadanr Aksi Latehar Jharkhand Pin: 822119 have changed my name from AMITA BECK to AMITA KARKETTA vide affidavit No. BC 401466.
CHANGE OF NAME I No. 572339M Nb/Sub NELSON BECK s/o FLIP BECK presently residing at Vill Khajurtala Post Aksi PS Mahuwadanr Aksi Latehar Jharkhand Pin: 822119 have changed my daughter's name from XSEREYA AKANCHA BECK to SHREYA AKANCHA BECK vide affidavit No. BC 401468.	CHANGE OF NAME I PUSHPA DEVI is legally wedded spouse of No. JC387416K Sub J.K SHARMA presently residing at 21 CSR (A) c/o-56 APO Pin: 916921 have changed my name from PUSHPA KUMARI to PUSHPA DEVI and changed my DOB from 05/10/1983 to 07/04/1984 vide affidavit No. BC 568719.



Madhya Pradesh Is a Family, How Can I Sleep Peacefully When Some Family Members Are Lying In a Gorge: CM

Team Absolute | Bhopal

Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan has said that Madhya Pradesh is one family. As the Chief Minister, I cannot sleep peacefully when some family members are lying in the gorge. The last 17 hours were catastrophic, full of anguish and suffering. There were 25 bodies in front of me together. It was unbearable and very sad. I felt that the Chief Minister's own visit would speed up the relief and rescue operations and we would save some people's life. As soon as I came to know about the accident, I immediately left for Uttarakhand. Chouhan, after returning from Dehradun, was discussing with the media representatives at the state airport.

It is worth mentioning that Chief Minister Chouhan left for Dehradun late on 5th June after receiving the news of the death of pilgrims of Panna district in a heart-rending road accident near Damta in Puroloa of Uttarakshi in Uttarakhand.

Giving information about the incident to the media, Chouhan said that the bus had fallen into a very deep gorge. It was the hard work of the local administration that all the bodies were taken out in the night. Teams of District Administration, SDRF and NDRF completed the arduous task of extricating the bodies from the deep gorge in a short time.



The arrangements for the post-mortem of the deceased were made in the night itself. Chouhan expressed his gratitude to the Chief Minister of Uttarakhand Pushkar Singh Dhami and the administration. Dhami has ordered a magisterial inquiry into the incident. Prime Minister Modi was informed about the incident. Union Home Minister Amit Shah also kept taking information about the rescue work.

Chouhan informed that Prime Minister Narendra Modi has announced an assistance of Rs. 2 lakh each to the next of kin of the deceased. An assistance of Rs. 5 lakh each will be provided by the MP government to the families of the deceased. Rs. 50,000 will be given to the seriously injured. Chief Minister has prayed to God to give strength to the families of the deceased to bear this loss and to give place to the departed souls at His lotus feet. Chouhan informed that the pilgrims of

Panna were in two buses, these buses belonged to Uttarakhand, in which 9 couples died in the bus accident. A couple Udai Singh and his wife are injured. Udai Singh had informed about this accident over the phone. Udai Singh, his wife and Ramkunwar Bai are admitted in the hospital. They are undergoing treatment. They will get well soon by the grace of God. Referring to the courage of the pilgrims travelling in the second bus, Chief Minister Chouhan said that they are determined to undertake the Yamunotri pilgrimage. According to their faith, they will return to Panna with the water of Yamunotri. Chouhan said that Khajuraho MP VD Sharma, Mineral Resources Minister Brajendra Pratap Singh, Additional Chief Secretary Home Rajesh Rajora and other officers are looking after the arrangements in Dehradun. It would have taken more time to bring the bodies to Panna from Dehradun by road. Therefore, the Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh was requested to provide special aircraft. The Indian Air Force aircraft will reach Khajuraho with the mortal remains, from where separate vehicles will leave for the respective villages of Panna district carrying the mortal remains of the departed pilgrims. In view of the summer season, efforts are being made to perform the last rites of all the pilgrims who died in the accident today.

UTTARAKHAND BUS ACCIDENT



Bodies to be air-lifted to Khajuraho

Mortal remains of the tourists who died in a bus accident in Uttarakhand will be air-lifted to Madhya Pradesh by an Indian Air Force (IAF) aircraft on Monday, Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan said.

Team Absolute | Bhopal

Mortal remains of the tourists who died in a bus accident in Uttarakhand will be air-lifted to Madhya Pradesh by an Indian Air Force (IAF) aircraft on Monday, Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan said. All the bodies have been extricated and sent to Dehradun airport. By 2 p.m., a special aircraft will fly them to Khajuraho, the CM said, adding that he has requested Defence Minister Rajnath Singh to provide an IAF plane for the same.

"The bodies will be taken to Khajuraho airport and thereafter sent to their homes via buses. Since all the victims belonged to Panna, the bodies will reach their families in an hour or two from Khajuraho," he stated. Chief Minister Chouhan, along with few senior officials, had left for Uttarakhand late on Sunday and stayed in Dehradun rescue monitoring room. On Monday morning, he, accompanied by Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami, visited the accident spot. "I met the bus driver who is undergoing treatment at Max hospital in Dehradun. He said the acci-

dent occurred due to failure of steering. He tried to control the bus by hitting it against a rock, but it fell into the deep gorge," Chouhan said.

The bus was carrying a total of 30 people, including the driver and helper. The chief minister also expressed his gratitude to the Uttarakhand government and rescue teams for their immediate action. "I would also like to thank the local people who joined the rescue operation and the bodies of all tourists were recovered by late Sunday," he said.

A total of 25 bodies have been recovered. Five injured people were rushed to a nearby hospital. The passengers were on their way to Yamunotri Dham in Uttarakshi. The accident occurred on Sunday evening when the bus fell into a 150-metre-deep gorge. On getting the information, SDRF teams reached the spot and launched a rescue operation.

Meanwhile, minister Chouhan also announced an ex-gratia of Rs 5 lakh each for the next of kin of the deceased and Rs 50,000 for the injured. The government will also bear all medical expenses of the injured.

CM PLANTED ALMOND, NEEM AND BANYAN SAPPLINGS

Bhopal: Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan planted almond, neem and banyan trees along with members of Kala Kunj Foundation, Pooja, Choukse, Neetu Naide, Aniket Pandey and Poonam Chokse at Smart Udyan, Shyamala Hills on Monday. Chouhan also performed Shramdaan. Chief Minister received information about the activities of the Foundation. The foundation is working towards making a difference in the lives of the underprivileged, providing quality education for needy children, creating livelihood opportunities for small vendors and SHG groups, along with tree plantation, health and cleanliness awareness.



Consumption of almonds among the plants planted today is considered useful in high blood pressure, constipation disease and heart disease. It is rich in potassium, magnesium, calcium and vitamin E. Banyan has religious significance, as well as according to Ayurveda, it is possible to cure many diseases from the banyan tree. Similarly, neem rich in antidiabetic elements is known as the supreme medicine.

Three-tier Panchayat and Urban Bodies General Election-2022

MCMC WILL BE CONSTITUTED TO CONTROL PAID NEWS

Team Absolute | Bhopal

Media Certification and Monitoring Committee (MCMC) will be constituted at all districts and state level to control paid news during the election of urban bodies. Necessary instructions in this regard have been issued by the State Election Commission to the Collectors and the District Election Officers. The election expenditure limit has been fixed for the candidates for the post of mayor and corporator. Secretary State Election Commission Rakesh Singh has informed that the District Election Officers will regularly send information about the cases being received daily related to paid news in the districts and the decision taken by the MCMC on them in the prescribed format to the State Election Commission. Chairman of the State level MCMC

will be Secretary State Election Commission and Member Secretary will be Additional/Joint Director Public Relations. The committee will comprise of an observer appointed by the State Election Commission for the general election, unbiased eminent citizen nominated by the State Election Commission, unbiased senior journalist nominated by the State Election Commission, an expert member co-opted by the committee.

District level MCMC's Chairman will be the Collector or the Additional Collector/Chief Executive Officer of the District Panchayat nominated by him. The member secretary will be the district public relations officer. In the committee, the Assistant Returning Officer of the urban body of the District Headquarters, an impartial, distinguished citizen nominated by the Collector (not affiliated with any political party) and an impartial sen-

ior journalist nominated by the Collector will be the members. If any political party or candidate wants to publish/broadcast any advertisement on print or electronic media (TV, cable network, cinema hall, radio) then he/she will have to apply in the prescribed form (Appendix "A"). Only the advertisement approved/as amended by the committee can be published and broadcast. It may be noted that no provisions of the Model Code of Conduct should be violated by such advertisement/broadcast. Registered political parties and candidates will have to apply 3 days before the proposed publication/broadcast and the unregistered political parties and other applicants will have to apply before 7 days. Such applications submitted by the committee will be disposed of within two working days and the applicant will be informed of the committee's decision in the prescribed format.

Congress worker shoots dead wife in Gwalior

A 32-year-old woman was shot dead by her husband after a feud erupted between the couple in Madhya Pradesh's Gwalior district early on Monday. The accused husband, Rishabh Singh Bhadoria, is a former spokesperson of Madhya Pradesh Congress Committee.

Team Absolute | Bhopal

A 32-year-old woman was shot dead by her husband after a feud erupted between the couple in Madhya Pradesh's Gwalior district early on Monday. The accused husband, Rishabh Singh Bhadoria, is a former spokesperson of Madhya Pradesh Congress Committee.

As per the police, Bhadoria, a resident of Thatipur area in Gwalior, was living with his family and preliminary investigation revealed that the couple had heated arguments on Sunday evening, which continued the next morning also.

Police said that during the argument, Bhadoria took out his gun and pointed it at his wife who tried to run away, but her husband opened fire. Bhadoria's father heard a gunshot and rushed inside the room and found his daughter-in-law (Bhavna Bhadoria) lying in a pool of blood on the ground. Subsequently, he informed the local police station. The couple have two children who were sleeping when the incident took place. Before the police could reach the spot, Bhadoria ran away with his gun. He was also allegedly involved in the violence that took place in Gwalior and Chambal on April 2. There are

some other criminal cases registered against him. The district administration had in 2020 also initiated proceedings against him to expel him from the city limits.

Police said there are around 16 cases pending against him which include murder, attempt to murder, criminal intimidation, assault, and possession of illegal weapons. "A case has been registered and the body has been sent for the post-mortem. Family persons are being interrogated to find out the reason behind the scuffle. A search operation to nab the accused has been launched," said a senior police official.

CASE REGISTERED FOR GIVING TRIPLE TALAQ

Team Absolute | Indore

A case has been registered against a man here after he allegedly gave instant 'triple talaq' to his wife, police said on Monday. A 23-year-old woman had approached Khajrana police in Indore district accusing her husband of abusing and beating her after she gave birth to a girl, said a local police official. On Sunday, Altaf Patel, the husband, said the word 'talaq' thrice to end their marital relations, she alleged. A First Information Report (FIR) was registered against Patel under the Muslim Women (Protection of Rights on Marriage) Act, 2019, the official said. Further probe is on, he added. The Muslim Women (Protection of Rights on Marriage) Act bans the practice of instant triple talaq. An offense under the Act can attract three years' imprisonment.

EX-ARMYMAN FOUND DEAD UNDER MYSTERIOUS CIRCUMSTANCES IN MP

Ex-armyman Braj Mohan Sharma, who had fought in the Kargil war in 1999, was found dead under mysterious circumstances in his home town in Madhya Pradesh's Shivpuri district, the police said on Monday.

Team Absolute | Bhopal

Ex-armyman Braj Mohan Sharma, who had fought in the Kargil war in 1999, was found dead under mysterious circumstances in his home town in Madhya Pradesh's Shivpuri district, the police said on Monday. Police recovered the retired soldier's body tied with stones and a rope from a well. In its preliminary investigation, the police suspect that Sharma was killed due to electoral rivalry as he was contesting the Zilla Panchayat elections. Sharma was missing since June 1 and

the family had filed a missing person complaint with the police. Police said that an unidentified corpse was found in a well built in Bhaiya Saheb Yadav's field in Rijodi village under Bamor Kala police station. "When relatives were called to identify the body, it came out that he was a former soldier, Braj Mohan Sharma. The deceased was tied with stones and thrown into the well," Puneet Bajpai, Bamor Kala police station in-charge, said.

After lodging a case, the postmortem was done and the body was handed over to the relatives, Bajpai said adding that Sharma was preparing to fight the Zilla Panchayat elections. Murari Lal Sharma, brother of the deceased, said that Braj Mohan Sharma was in the army for 27 years. "After retirement from the service, he returned to his village. He was living his life according to the rules of the army. He used to do everything according to the rules and the law," he added. He said that Braj Mohan had contested the Sarpanch election last time also, but lost by 17 votes. This time he was contesting for the Zilla Panchayat.

Railway TC arrested for raping ticketless passenger

Team Absolute | Bhopal

Madhya Pradesh GRP arrested a railway ticket collector (TC) for raping a 32-year-old woman passenger in Sagar district.

Police said that he raped the woman passenger when he found her travelling without a ticket in the general coach of the train. The incident happened on Saturday night. Survivor reached Sagar's Cantt police station with her husband on Sunday and lodged a complaint against the TC. After registering her complaint, police arrested the accused and handed him over to GRP. According to the police, the

woman and her husband had left Guna for Sagar on Saturday to meet in-laws in Makronia. They reached Guna station at 4.30 pm where husband asked her to board Bhagalpur Express and went to buy tickets. Train departed before his arrival. The woman reached Sagar at 8.15pm.

TC Rajulal Meena, who was on duty on platform number-1, asked her to produce a ticket. She tried to convince him that tickets were with her husband who left behind at Guna station due to early departure of the train. TC refused to give up and said that action will be taken. He asked her to accompany

her to his senior's office while threatening her with an FIR. She got scared and followed TC's instructions. He took her to the railway quarters and raped her. She was allowed to go at 9.30pm, said sources.

The victim, on reaching home, complained to her husband about the rape. Next day they reported the matter. Police arrested the accused, referred the case to GRP. They produced him before a local court. He was sent to jail under

judicial custody. (The victim's identity has not been revealed to protect her privacy as per Supreme court directives on cases related to sexual assault)

Mercy petitions should be resolved in fast track: Governor Patel

ARRANGEMENTS SHOULD BE SUCH THAT THE DESERVING GET IMMEDIATE RELIEF. GOVERNOR DISCUSSES PENDING MERCY PETITIONS WITH SENIOR OFFICERS

Team Absolute | Bhopal

Governor Mangubhai Patel has said that pending mercy petitions should be disposed of in fast track. On completion of 14 years of imprisonment, the relief provisions should be implemented expeditiously and with sensitivity. Expecting the officers as the first citizen, he said that the system should be such that a person deserving of relief does not have



to remain in additional imprisonment even for a day. Governor Patel was discussing pending mercy petitions with senior officials of Home, Legal Affairs and Jail Department at Raj Bhavan. Patel said that those eligible for

relief petition should not be kept pending in view of the arrangements for the fixed date of release etc. The intention and spirit of the work should be to provide quick relief. Initiative should be taken to provide necessary legal aid to those eligible

for mercy petition to take advantage of the relief provisions. He said that the work of reconsideration of minor crimes against the tribal society should be done in a time-limit. He said that government job is a work of service. For effective action in the Act, it is necessary to have sympathy and sensitivity for the victim in heart and mind. Actions done with sensitivity always yield good results.

Raj Bhavan Tribal Cell President Deepak Khandekar, Principal Secretary to Governor DP Ahuja, Principal Secretary Law and Legislative Affairs BK Dwivedi, Director General Prisons and Correctional Services Arvind Kumar, Additional Director General Police Rajesh Gupta, Director Public Prosecution Anvesh Mangalam and Home Secretary Gaurav Rajput, Tribal Cell Member Secretary BS Jamod, members and officers were present.



EDITOR'S SPECS

TOUGH TIME FOR VIJAYAN!

The crushing defeat that the CPI-M candidate suffered in the Thrikkakara bypoll held last week has spoilt the peace within the party and the million dollar question now is -- will heads roll? Uma Thomas, the widow of two-time Thrikkakara's Congress legislator P.T. Thomas beat the CPI-M candidate with the highest ever margin of 25,016 votes recorded in the constituency. The campaign for the CPI-M was led by none other than Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan. Unlike the faction-ridden Congress in the Kerala unit of the CPI-M, it's Vijayan who is the last word not just in the government that he heads but also in the CPI-M. There has been no reaction from the party to pin the blame on anyone. The only positive for Vijayan is till now, not a single leader from his party has come out against him. All those who spoke, including state party secretary Kodiyaeri Balakrishnan, politburo member M.A. Baby and top brass like S. Ramachandran Pillai and even two-time former Finance Minister Thomas Issac, were vying with one another to protect Vijayan. But in social media, Vijayan is being slammed and held responsible for the defeat. It has now become clear that State Industries Minister P. Rajeev had the final word when it came to selecting interventional cardiologist Joe Joseph as their candidate. Now all eyes are on the upcoming state committee meeting of the party to be held sometime this week, when it will be clear if any sort of fireworks will take place. Given the iron grip that Vijayan continues to have, it is a remote possibility, but the million dollar question is -- who will be made the scapegoat for this crushing defeat.

'Vazul Vaav': Pakistan rejigs its Kashmir gameplan

Deepika Bhan

Some time back, intelligence agencies intercepted a coded message 'Vazul Vaav' from Pakistan to its supporters in Kashmir. It could have meant anything, but the spate of terror attacks proved the intent.

'Vazul Vaav' are two Kashmiri words that mean 'red wave', which the intelligence agencies say is about bloodshed to create a scare similar to that of the late 1980s and 1990s.

It was after 1987, when terrorism established its presence in Kashmir, that the minorities, Kashmiri Pandits in particular, were targeted. The message for them was clear, either convert or die or flee. Frequent kidnappings, assaults, harassment on the roads and in offices, killings and gang-rapes had become the order of the day. Even the local media was publishing open and clear threats directed at the minorities.

If Pakistan succeeded in unleashing its designs three decades ago, it is attempting a similar 'exercise' through 'Vazul Vaav' this time. The modus operandi has changed and new terror tactics are being developed and enacted almost every day.

From attacking security establishments to targeted killings, from categorised terrorists to hybrid terrorists, and shifting from big guns to small arms, the new sinister design of Pakistan and its pawns in Kashmir is to unleash a new reign of terror. The tactic is to challenge and frustrate the security system and rattle the political establishment of the country.

Targeted Killings

The number of targeted killings has spiked after February 2021, when the son of the proprietor of Krishna Dhaba in Srinagar was shot in his restaurant. He died two days later. Makhan Lal Bindroo, a 70-year-old Kashmiri Pandit, who remained in the valley even at the peak of terrorism in the 1990s, was



gunned down in his shop in broad daylight on October 5, 2021. He was a popular chemist and philanthropist. His killing had shocked the valley. On the same day, a 'non-local' vendor and a local Kashmiri were killed at separate places in the valley.

Two days later, Supinder Kaur, principal of the Government Boys' Higher Secondary School, Srinagar, and teacher Deepak Chand were gunned down inside the school after attackers checked their identity cards.

And this year, since January, 16 civilians have been killed. Of these, 10 were killed in the past 26 days. These include policemen, teachers and sarpanches.

The recent killing of government employee Rahul Bhat inside the office increased the fear factor, after which Kashmiri Pandit employees took to the streets seeking relocation.

Even as the government was assuring them, teacher Rajni Bala and a 'non-local' bank manager were shot dead.

As most of the attacks were carried out against Hindus, panic has struck the minorities. Employees from the minority community have been demanding relocation. Many Kashmiri Pandits, who had gone back to the valley, have started leaving once again.

Yatras Next?

As 'Vazul Vaav' is being seen as

the call for more bloodshed, the annual Amarnath Yatra and Khir Bhawani Mela can also come under attack. Security agencies have neutralised several terrorists and confiscated arms and ammunition from them in the past few weeks, but the killings continue.

Lakhs of pilgrims are expected to visit the holy Amarnath Cave this year and apprehensions are that attempts may be made to create disturbance.

The Khir Bhawani Mela is an important festival for Kashmiri Pandits, who visit the temple in Ganderbal every year. The mela attracts thousands of displaced Kashmiri Pandits. Since the terrorists have been attacking the community members this year, fears are that this mela may also be targeted.

In a meeting at the Union Home Ministry, additional measures, including the deployment of additional Army units, central forces, drones, and positioning snipers along the route, were planned.

Pistols Replace Stones

In all the targeted killings that have taken place so far, mainly small arms have been used. And the attackers have mostly been local Kashmiris.

Before August 5, 2019, when the abrogation of Article 370 happened, stone pelting was a daily occurrence. Young boys in the valley were paid for this and pelting

stones as well as raising Pakistan and IS flags were a daily routine.

When Mehbooba Mufti resigned as J&K Chief Minister after the BJP withdrew support from the coalition on June 19, 2018, she said that her government had withdrawn cases against 11,000 youngsters, most of whom were stone pelters.

After demonetisation in November 2016 and the abrogation of Article 370 on August 5, 2019, the valley had seen a drastic reduction in stone pelting incidents and other forms of violence.

But now, the spell of peace is once again being shattered. Stones have been replaced by pistols. The use of small arms is the new modus operandi of terror groups.

This change of tactic has happened after the terrorists failed to hit any big security establishment. The method is clear -- select a target, carry a pistol, use a bike and mingle with people after executing the crime. Small weapons such as pistols are easy to carry for terrorists and after carrying out the target attack they slip into the public, who help them escape.

The killers of Rahul Bhat or Amreen Bhat or others could have been caught, had the people, including colleagues or neighbours, shouted out and alerted the security pickets nearby.

Along with the strategy to go for targeted killings and use small arms, now it is the hybrid terrorist who is carrying out the 'missions'. Intelligence agencies say this is a new plot hatched in the neighbouring country.

Hybrid terrorists are those who have no prior history of having committed a crime, but have been radicalised. They are all local residents with valid identity cards, who have a support system around them, which makes it that much harder for the security agencies to track them down.

There is no exact number for these hybrid terrorists, who strike at will and then go back to routine activities.

Pakistan's Gameplan

As intercepts from Pakistan have pointed, the new designs of the neighbouring country are being enacted with precision to create mayhem in the valley.

Kashmir has been seeing record tourist traffic, big investment proposals and a declining support to the Hurriyat Conference and similar organisations. This has unnerved the establishment in Pakistan and hence the change in the proxy war tactics that it has been pursuing for decades.

For the past few years, Pakistan has been regularly using drones for supplying weapons and drugs. For instance, on May 29, a Pakistani drone, carrying seven magnetic bombs and as many Under Barrel Grenade Launchers (UBGL) was shot down in Jammu and Kashmir's Kathua district shortly after it crossed into the Indian side from across the International Border.

The security forces have been able to unearth large quantities of arms and ammunition in Kashmir from time to time. And the nature of weapons is changing -- from big guns to pistols that are easy to carry and hide.

On May 23, security forces recovered 15 pistols, 30 pistol magazines and 300 rounds, along with one silencer, in Srinagar's Chanapora neighbourhood. Earlier, on April 19, security forces recovered a huge cache of pistols and grenades in Kupwara. The haul included 10 pistols, 17 pistol magazines, 54 pistol rounds and five grenades.

With the rise in the number of terror killings, the Centre is mulling a change in the security setup in Kashmir, but the stark reality is that the terror mechanism has been updating itself from time to time. Pakistan's 'Vazul Vaav' has created its desired effect and this time too it seems to be leading to a sense of despondency among the people of Kashmir as seen three decades ago.

international

Pak summons Indian envoy, issues demarche over derogatory remarks

Islamabad | Agencies

The Pakistan Ministry of Foreign Affairs on Monday summoned the Indian Charge d' Affaires and conveyed the Islamabad government's "categorical rejection and strong condemnation" of the derogatory remarks made by two former spokespersons of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP).

The Indian envoy was told that these remarks were totally unacceptable and had not only deeply hurt the sentiments of the people of Pakistan but of Muslims across the world, Dunya News quoted the Ministry as saying. He was further told that Pakistan "deplores the belated and perfunctory disciplinary actions taken by the BJP government against the said officials, which cannot assuage the pain caused to the Muslims".

"Pakistan is deeply concerned at the alarming rise in communal violence and hatred against the Muslims in India. Muslims are being systematically stigmatized, marginalised and subjected to a well-orchestrated onslaught from radical Hindu mobs with full connivance and support of the security apparatus across various states in India," the Ministry said in a statement.

Pakistan's Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif,



President Arif Alvi, Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto-Zardari and former premier Imran Khan have all condemned the remarks made by the former BJP spokespersons Nupur Sharma and Naveen Kumar Jindal.

On Sunday, the BJP suspended Sharma and Jindal for their comments on Prophet Muhammad and said that party's view is to respect all religions.

Pakistan has joined Afghanistan, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Kuwait and Iran to condemn the remarks.

India's ambassadors to Kuwait and Qatar were summoned on Sunday to receive official notes of protest over the comments.

Doha has also demanded the Indian government issue a public apology.

2ND ROUND OF TALKS TO OPEN BLOCKADED ROADS IN YEMEN BEGINS

Sanaa: Yemen's internationally-recognised government and the Houthi militia have started their second round of talks over the opening of blocked roads in Taiz city, an official said. "Delegations representing the Yemeni government and the Houthi group began a new round of face-to-face negotiations under the auspices of the UN in Jordan's capital Amman," the diplomat told Xinhua news agency late Sunday. With the supervision of UN Special Envoy for Yemen Hans Grundberg, the warring sides were actively involved in negotiations over lifting the years-long siege imposed by the Houthis on the strategic city, he added.

There are no official comments yet from the UN, the Yemen government or the Houthis. The first round of talks on Taiz concluded on May 29 in Amman without reaching any agreement. Yemen's warring parties entered a two-month UN-brokered truce on April 2, which includes allowing commercial flights to and from the Houthi-held capital Sanaa and the entry of fuel ships into the Houthi-held port Hodeidah and lifting the siege of the government-held Taiz city. The warring parties have largely held the truce, but have yet to reach a final agreement on lifting the siege of Taiz. On May 31, the warring parties renewed the truce for another two months, allowing more time for them to sort out persisting disagreements. Yemen fell into a civil war in late 2014 when the Iran-backed Houthi militia seized control of several northern provinces and forced the Saudi-backed Yemeni government out of Sanaa. The war has killed tens of thousands of people, displaced 4 million, and pushed the country to the brink of starvation.

Bushra Bibi's friend involved in 'Asia's largest money-laundering scandal'

Islamabad | Agencies

The ruling Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) has claimed that Farah Khan, a friend of former First Lady Bushra Bibi, was involved in perhaps "Asia's largest money-laundering scandal."

At a presser on Sunday, PML-N leaders played an audio clip involving a property tycoon as purported evidence of the "corruption being done by Imran Khan's wife Bushra Bibi and Farah Khan" when the Pakistan Tehreek-i-Insaf (PTI) was in power, reports Dawn news.

Ataullah Tarar, the Punjab government's spokesperson, and PML-N provincial information secretary Azma Bukhari alleged that Farah Khan "ruled over the entire country from her office in Punjab" and accumulated "assets worth billions of rupees".

Calling her 'Farah Gogi', Tarar alleged that she used to



"approve transfers and appointments" of government officials in Punjab against hefty payments and the wealth was spent on purchasing diamonds worth billions of rupees.

The diamonds were sent to Dubai, where they were sold off. He alleged that "the matter is not confined to diamond dealings as information about the selling of expensive paintings and watches will come to the fore soon", Dawn news reported.

He said proceeds from the sale in Dubai were transferred to Pakistan through hawala and hundi.

He called upon the PTI Chairman to ask 'Farah Gogi' to return home and join investigations.

The audio clip allegedly featuring top realtor Malik Riaz and his daughter was played during the presser.

The duo was talking about demands made by Farah Khan in return for some "government favours".

Johnson prepares fightback as confidence vote now likely

London: UK Prime Minister Boris Johnson's allies will switch their focus to winning a vote of no confidence, after conceding that they now have little chance of stopping one being triggered. Johnson will this week launch a health and housing policy fightback in a last-ditch attempt to win over his critics, the Guardian reported.

He is widely expected to face a vote on his leadership as soon as this week, with some MPs predicting that the threshold of 54 letters asking for one has already been exceeded. In a remarkable shift in tone, UK Business Minister Paul Scully acknowledged on Sunday night that a vote of no confidence "might well happen", but insisted Johnson would "face it down".

"Whatever happens, we've got to get back to governing, to tackle the things that people want us to do on a day-to-day basis." Hours earlier, Transport Secretary Grant Shapps had said he did not think there would be a vote this week.

A No 10 source said Johnson would demonstrate over the coming days that he was "getting on with the job" and acknowledged it was also aimed at showing his determination not to be fatally weakened by a confidence vote, which the Prime Minister expects to win narrowly, the Guardian reported.

Death toll in B'desh container depot blaze rises to 49

Dhaka | Agencies

The death toll due to a devastating blaze at a container depot in Bangladesh's Chittagong district has increased to 49, with the blaze still continuing to rage on Monday despite efforts to douse it even after 38 hours, authorities said.

Currently, 10 fire service units are working along with a military rescue and chemical expert team comprising 200 members.

The devastating blaze broke out at about 10.30 p.m. on Saturday at the private BM Container Depot Ltd, a Netherlands-Bangladesh joint venture company, in Sitakunda.

Authorities said that within 40 minutes of the raging fire, there was a massive explosion and the blaze spread from one container to the other due to the presence of explosive chemicals.

Of the 49 victims, nine were fire fighting personnel. So far 23 victims have been identified.

More than 160 people were injured, including 10 policemen and 15 fire fighters. Sitakunda Circle Additional



Superintendent of Police, Ashrafal Karim told IANS on Monday that the Chittagong district administration has formed a nine-member body to probe the origin of the raging inferno and so far, no case has been registered in connection to the incident.

He added there was no water left in the ponds surrounding the depot to put out the fire. However, the containers will now be removed with an excavator, and a path will be formed for fire service personnel to supply water to all the spots, Karim told IANS.

The BM Container Depot did not have proper authorisation to store chemical agents in the facility, claims Tofazzal Hossain, an explosives inspector in the port city.

This directly contradicts with the depot officials' earlier claim that they did have paperwork for storing such materials, he said.

Tofazzal said hydrogen peroxide, the chemical agent that many are assuming stoked the fire, may not be behind the explosion at all.

"Hydrogen peroxide is an accelerant agent, it can help spread the fire, but it never causes it," he said.

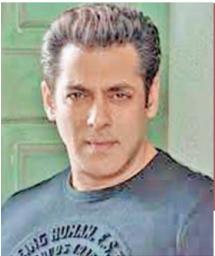
Since the fire is yet to be contained, an inspection team led by Tofazzal could not get close to the area still on fire.

"We could not get to the bottom of it. But I'm certain there were other chemical agents or materials which explode under the right circumstances, such as they come into contact with fire or any other materials."

Meanwhile, Fire Service Director General Brigadier Md Main Uddin confirmed to IANS that the Fire Service and Civil Defence has formed a five-member body to look into the incident and will submit an inquiry report within three working days.



AFTER 'DEATH THREATS' MUMBAI POLICE TIGHTEN SECURITY FOR SALMAN KHAN, FAMILY



A day after Bollywood megastar Salman Khan and his father, writer Salim Khan received death threats, a Mumbai Police team landed at their Bandra west home to carry out investigations and increased security there, on Monday.

Team Absolute | Mumbai A day after Bollywood megastar Salman Khan and his father, writer Salim Khan received death threats, a Mumbai Police team landed at their Bandra west home to carry out investigations and increased security there, on Monday.

Sunday, threatening to do a 'Moosewala' with the celeb father-son duo. "I will comment only after getting all the preliminary information in the case," said Nangre-Patil, even as extra security personnel were deployed at the Khans' residence. Taking serious cognizance, the Bandra Police have lodged an FIR against unknown persons for issuing the death threats and launched their probe even as the Mumbai Police Crime Branch also started its own investigations.

the unsigned, hand-written threat letter on Sunday morning around 7.30 a.m. by an unknown person on a bench where he normally rests after jogging at the Bandra Bandstand promenade, and it was addressed to him and his son Salman. The letter is signed off with some initials which the police are probing and also attempting to unravel if they are linked to any past incidents targeting Salman Khan. The police are also scouring CCTV footage of the area for clues and questioning locals for further leads on the threat letter.

PRE MONSOON RAINS COMING UP FOR PARTS OF MAHARASHTRA

Mumbai: The state of Maharashtra is expected to see some Pre Monsoon showers in the coming days. Usually, Monsoon makes an appearance over Konkan and other parts of Maharashtra between June 5 and 15, but there could be a slight delay in the onset of Monsoon 2022 this time, despite Monsoon already having advanced to Karwar in Karnataka Coast.

From Tuesday, parts of south Konkan and South Madhya Maharashtra can see some rainfall activities. Cities of Sangli, Satara and adjoining areas could even see some moderate spells of rain. Around June 8, rain spread and intensity will increase, and South Marathwada will also see some rainfall activities. Konkan will remain light and no rains will be seen over Vidarbha. There could be some heavy spells in isolated pockets as well. On June 9, rains will be seen over parts of Vidarbha, but they will remain scattered and light to moderate in intensity. Rains will see a reduction in activities. One should not commensurate these rainfall activities with Monsoon rains, as these showers are Pre Monsoon rains lasting for three days.

NCP's Big Claim On Next Maharashtra Chief Minister

The Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) is the key constituent in the Uddhav Thackeray-led dispensation, which completed two-and-a-half years in power only last month.

have a CM from our own party," he told a gathering. NCP MP Supriya Sule had made a similar statement a few days ago. When Munde followed suit on Saturday, colleagues in and Congress were quick to slam the party for laying claim to the CM's chair even while being part of a coalition government that is still months away from completing three years. Raj Thackeray's Maharashtra Navnirman Sena and BJP latched on to the controversy and questioned whether the coalition was in shape. State home minister Dilip Walse-Patil was quick to stymie talk of a rift, saying the government was functioning quite well under Uddhav's leadership. Earlier on Saturday too, speaking at a public meeting in Parbhani city on Munde had said the social justice department in the incumbent Shiv Sena-led Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) government became prestigious because of his efforts. "If a question arises tomorrow

regarding whom to hand over the social justice portfolio.....whoever would be the next chief minister....and the CM will be ours (NCP's) only. The CM will say that let the social justice portfolio remain with us (NCP). This department has earned so much reputation," Dhananjay Munde said. The Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) is the key constituent in the Uddhav Thackeray-led dispensation, which completed two-and-a-half years in power only last month. Dhananjay Munde said he had worked efficiently as the Leader of Opposition in the Maharashtra Legislative Council in the past. The NCP holds the important portfolios of finance, led by Deputy Chief Minister Ajit Pawar, and home in the state government. "Earlier, NCP chief Sharad Pawar had appointed me as the opposition leader (in the Maharashtra Legislative Council). No matter how stable and powerful, I had shaken the then government," he added

Maharashtra to open schools from June 15: Gaikwad

MAHARASHTRA WILL OPEN SCHOOLS ON JUNE 15 WITH COVID-19 APPROPRIATE MEASURES, MAHARASHTRA SCHOOL EDUCATION MINISTER VARSHA GAIKWAD SAID



Team Absolute | Mumbai Maharashtra school education minister Varsha Gaikwad said on Monday that the government is taking stock of the Covid-19 situation within the state and will open schools on June 15th. Further decision on school opening will be taken in accordance with the situation, she added. "We're taking stock of Covid situation, cases rising, but we'll open schools on June 15 with Covid appropriate measures. Masks not mandatory. New SOPs to be issued to schools. Further decision to be taken in accordance with situation," Gaikwad said about the Maharashtra Covid-19 situation. Additionally, amid spike in Covid-19 cases, Maharashtra environment and tourism minister Aadiya Thackeray on Sunday alerted that masks

may be made mandatory to curb the spread of the highly contagious coronavirus. The Maharashtra minister Aadiya Thackeray said, "we are asking everyone to wear masks when stepping outdoors. We have not made wearing masks mandatory but will make it soon. I also appeal to the public to receive the booster dose of the vaccine on time." This development comes just as Maharashtra

reported 1,494 new Covid-19 cases on Sunday, including 961 in Mumbai, and one fatality due to the infection, taking the tally of infections to 78,93,197 and the toll to 1,47,866, the state health department said. The state had recorded 1,357 new coronavirus infections and one pandemic-related death the day before. Sunday is the fourth consecutive day when the state reported more than 1,000 cases. The state has 6,767 active cases now, the department said in a statement. A total of 25,994 samples were tested on Sunday, taking the cumulative number of tests conducted so far in Maharashtra to 8,10,61,270. With the discharge of 614 patients after Covid-19 treatment, the state's count of recoveries mounted to 77,38,564. Mumbai saw 961 fresh cases and one Covid-19 fatality, raising the tally to 10,68,936 and the death toll to 19,569. The Mumbai division reported 1,362 new infections, taking the total number of cases to 22,46,796. The overall Covid-19 death toll in the Mumbai region is 39,840. The Nashik division reported 13 new cases, Pune division 99, Kolhapur division 2, Aurangabad division eight, Latur division one, Akola division four, and Nagpur division reported five cases. Covid-19 figures in Maharashtra are as follows: Positive cases 78,93,197, deaths 1,47,866, recoveries 77,38,564, active cases 6,767, total tests 8,10,61,270, tests today 25,994.

Aadiya Thackeray to perform Saryu aarti on Ayodhya trip

Maharashtra Tourism Minister Aadiya Thackeray will perform the Saryu aarti during his forthcoming trip to Ayodhya on June 15, a top leader said on Monday.



Ayodhya/Mumbai | Agencies Maharashtra Tourism Minister Aadiya Thackeray will perform the Saryu aarti during his forthcoming trip to Ayodhya on June 15, a top leader said on Monday. PWD Minister Eknath Shinde and Shiv Sena Chief Spokesperson Sanjay Raut reached Ayodhya on Monday to make the preparations for

agenda, offer prayers at the temple of Ram Lalla, perform the Saryu aarti and also interact with the local media. "Shiv Sena has a long association with Ayodhya, since the struggle for the temple started and even later. We have immense faith in Lord Ram and our leaders or workers regularly come here... Praying at the Ram Lalla temple fills us with a divine energy," said Raut. Earlier, he said that Uddhav Thackeray had come here when he was not holding any office, and later paid a visit even after becoming the Chief Minister. The visit by Shinde and Raut will be followed by another trip on June 12 to finalise the programme of Aadiya Thackeray's visit which would take place on June 15.

Jailed Maharashtra Minister Seeks 1-Day Bail To Cast Vote In Rajya Sabha Polls

The NCP leader in his application sought to be released on bail for a day on June 10.



Team Absolute | Mumbai Maharashtra minister Nawab Malik, currently in jail following arrest in a money laundering case, on Monday approached a special court here seeking bail for one day to cast vote in the upcoming Rajya Sabha elections to six seats from the state. Last week, Maharashtra's former home minister Anil Deshmukh, who is also in jail on money laundering charges, had filed a similar application. On Monday, a special court in Mumbai, designated to hear cases related to the Prevention of Money Laundering Act, directed the Enforcement Directorate (ED) to file its affidavit to both the applications (Malik and Deshmukh) and posted them for further

hearing on June 8. The Rajya Sabha polls are scheduled on June 10. Malik was arrested by the ED on February 23 this year in connection with a money laundering probe linked to the activities of fugitive gangster Dawood Ibrahim and his aides. The NCP leader in his application sought to be released on bail for a day on June 10. Malik in his plea claimed that he is an elected MLA and hence, is duty bound to represent the residents of his constituency in electing a representative to the Rajya Sabha, and is also desirous to cast his vote in the aforesaid biennial elections. The 288-member Maharashtra Assembly forms the electoral college for the Rajya Sabha polls. While the two NCP MLAs - Deshmukh and Malik - are currently in jail, one seat is lying vacant. Apart from the four main parties Shiv Sena, NCP, Congress and BJP, the Assembly has 25 MLAs from smaller parties and Independents. The effective election quota per candidate is 42. The BJP, which has 106 members in the House, has nominated Union minister Piyush Goyal, Anil Bonde and Dhananjay Mahadik. These are: two in Dhule district at

Maharashtra gets 12 new wildlife reserves, 3 sanctuaries

In a significant move, Maharashtra on Monday announced 12 new wildlife conservation areas spread across 693 square km and three new sanctuaries including an expanded Lonar Sanctuary in Buldhana.

Team Absolute | Mumbai In a significant move, Maharashtra on Monday announced 12 new wildlife conservation areas spread across 693 square km and three new sanctuaries including an expanded Lonar Sanctuary in Buldhana. The decisions were taken at the State Wildlife Board's 18th meeting, presided over by Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray, and it also approved setting up the Jayakwadi Bird Sanctuary in Aurangabad for which a proposal will be submitted to the National Wildlife Board. The state has notified 15 conservation reserve areas, out of which 8 areas have been approved in the last two years alone and Thackeray expressed satisfaction over the addition of the 12 new conservation areas today. These are: two in Dhule district at

Chivatibawri (66.04 square km), Aladari (100.56 square km), four in Nashik district at Kalvan (84.12 square km), Muragad (42.87 square km), Trimbakeshwar (96.97 square km), Igatpuri (88.499 square km), two in Raigad district at Raigad (47.62 square km) and Roha (27.30 square km), Pune district's Bhore (28.44 square km), Satara district's Dare-Khurd for butterflies (1.07 square km), Kolhapur district's Masai Plateau (5.34 square km) and Nagpur district's Mogarkasa (103.92 square km). The SWB also approved the proposal to declare Kalamarka, Muktai Bhavani and extended Lonar as wildlife sanctuaries in the state. Besides, 10 spots have been designated as 'endangered wildlife habitats' in different parts of Maharashtra. They include: Mayureshwar-Supe (5.15 square km), Bor (62 square

km), Navin Bor (61 square km), extended Bor (16 square km), Narnala (12 square km), Lonar (3.65 square km), Gugamal National Park (361 square km), Yedshi Ramalingaghat Wildlife Sanctuary (22.37 square km), Naigaon-Mayur Wildlife Sanctuary (30 square km) and the tiniest one, Deulgaon-Rehekuri Antelope Sanctuary (2.17 square km). On the occasion, the CM directed the officials concerned to conduct a study and find out a permanent solution to the problems of wild elephants rampaging in Dodamarg region of Sindhudurg district within two months. The plans include closing the entry of elephants at Ajra, Chandgad and Tilari areas and providing enhanced compensation to the villagers affected due to the damage caused to their farms and properties due to the elephants

herds. Discuss the rehabilitation of villagers in the forest area and the compensation to be given to them with confidence, he said. Urging for priority to wildlife conservation efforts, Thackeray urged the officials to take the people affected by including the rehabilitation of the forest dwellers into confidence for its success. He also asked them to consider all aspects before proposing development works in forests and clear all levels including the SWB before implementing them. Environment Minister Aadiya Thackeray said that care should be taken not to disturb wildlife paths, particularly in sensitive areas with tigers, while granting approval to road development works through jungles, and holding discussions with all stakeholders, experts and local NGOs.

Drowning leopard rescued using a 'Cot'

PEOPLE OF BELHE VILLAGE WERE STARTLED BY THE PANICKED ROARS, ECHOING FROM DEEP WITHIN AN OPEN WELL ON SATURDAY

Team Absolute | Pune

In a life-threatening situation, a male leopard fell into a 45-ft deep well in Belhe village in Junnar tehsil of Pune district. The village is situated in Maharashtra's Otur Forest Range. The distressed feline was saved from drowning with the help of a 'charpai' in a joint operation by Wildlife SOS and the Maharashtra Forest Department. People of Belhe village were startled by the panicked roars, echoing from deep within an open well on Saturday. It turned out that a leopard was struggling to stay afloat in waist-deep water and appeared exhausted from the ordeal. Fearing for the leopard's safety, the villagers immediately alerted the MFD and Wildlife SOS which operates out of the Manikdoh Leopard Rescue Centre in Junnar. As a result of the quick thinking of the villagers and

forest officers, a 'charpai' (a woven bed or cot) was lowered into the well so the leopard could climb onto it for support until the Wildlife SOS team reached the location. Once the Wildlife SOS team arrived at the scene, the distressed leopard was rescued. The rescue operation was set in motion and a trap cage was lowered into the well to safely extricate the leopard.



Almost grateful for a dry spot to move onto, the big cat jumped into the cage and was carefully lifted out. The leopard was then transferred to the Manikdoh Leopard Rescue Centre for medical observation, which is run jointly by Wildlife SOS and the MFD. On being declared fit by the veterinary team, the leopard was released back into its natural habitat.

Dr Nikhil Bangar, Veterinary Officer, Wildlife SOS informed, "The leopard was a male, approximately 1.5 years old. We kept the leopard under close observation while he recuperated from this stressful ordeal. Fortunately, he had not sustained any severe injuries and was safely released back into the wild. We are grateful to the forest department and villagers for making this rescue a success." Kartick Satyanarayan, Co-founder and CEO, of Wildlife SOS said, "Wildlife SOS has saved over 50 leopards from open wells. But to solve this problem of open wells and prevent them from claiming more lives, Wildlife SOS has initiated a participatory community project that is both impactful and effective to cover open wells. Filling or sealing them is not an option because most of them still serve the local communities as valuable drinking water resources. Therefore, covering them is a workable solution that allows access to water while removing the risk of anyone falling in." Vaibhav Kakade, Range Forest Officer (Otur) said, "The leopard got exhausted while swimming continuously to stay afloat. That is why we lowered the charpai so that the animal could get some rest."



MTV MOVIE, TV AWARDS WINNERS:

ZENDAYA, TOM HOLLAND BAG TOP HONOURS

Los Angeles | Agencies

Hollywood stars Zendaya and Tom Holland took home top honours at the MTV Movie and TV Awards. Actress Vanessa Hudgens hosted the ceremony live on MTV. Tayshia Adams took over the hosting duties for the second part of the show, honouring the best in

unscripted television, reports 'Variety'.

Zendaya and Holland won big, with each scoring a performance nod for their respective roles in 'Euphoria' and 'Spider-Man: No Way Home', which also won best show and best movie awards.

Actress Scarlett Johansson won best hero for her turn as 'Black Widow', while Daniel Radcliffe

took home the best villain award for his performance in 'The Lost City'. 'Spider-Man: No Way Home' took home The Best Movie honour. It was competing against films such as 'Dune', 'Scream', 'Shang-Chi' and the 'Legend of the Ten Rings', 'The Adam Project' and 'The Batman'.



Sadie Sink

'doesn't know how to apply make-up'

London | Agencies

'Stranger Things' star Sadie Sink has shared that she's got no idea how to apply make-up and simply smears on eyeliner and then rubs it off. Sink said make-up leaves her baffled and she has come up with a bizarre way to apply it herself: "I don't know how to do makeup. My version of doing make-up, if I ever have to wear it and do it by myself, is that I'll just literally take eyeliner and rub it everywhere and then try to get it all off." However, she does take her skincare seriously and opened up about her favourite products, saying: "I would say The Blue Cocoon facial oil from May Lindstrom Skin. I've used it for, like, maybe three years now and I love it. So, I'd have that, some sunscreen and a brow brush. Those are the things I use on a daily basis." The actress, who plays Maxine 'Max' Mayfield in the Netflix show, said she doesn't really go overboard with beauty treatments, but has tried out some strange facials, reports femalefirst.co.uk.

She added: "I don't really do anything too outlandish when it comes to beauty. I've gotten weird facials before, where you sit in one of those light machines and you feel like you're in a spaceship. That's probably as bizarre as it gets for me, but there's definitely some weird beauty stuff out there." However, there's one vice she wants to quit - biting her nails. Sink went on: "I bite my nails a lot! The ones I'm wearing right now are not real and I want to take them off really badly. But I guess that's probably my worst habit - I'm pretty good with everything else."

'Top Gun: Maverick' makes \$548 mn globally over two weeks

Los Angeles | Agencies



Tom Cruise's all-American action film collected a sensational \$86 million from 4,751 North American theatres in the second weekend after its blazing May 27 release. Those returns, according to 'Variety', rank among the top 10 highest-grossing second weekends in North American box office history. The second-weekend earnings also pushed 'Top Gun: Maverick' to \$291 million in North America, enough to overtake 2005's 'War of the Worlds' (\$243 million) as Cruise's highest-grossing film ever at the domestic box office. At the international box office, the Paramount and Skydance release has eclipsed \$257 million, bringing its global tally to \$548 million, substantially more than its production budget of \$170 million. Even by pre-pandemic standards, notes 'Variety', 'Maverick' is flying high at the box office. In India, however, according to trade reports, it has managed only Rs 21.7 crore, despite releasing in more than 1,500 screens. By comparison, recent big-budget tentpoles 'Spider-Man: No Way Home' and Marvel's 'Doctor Strange in the Multiverse of Madness', whose Hindi version, incidentally, is firmly ensconced at No. 2, after 'RRR', in the Indian market.



Disney faces heat for ruining couple's marriage proposal moment

Los Angeles | Agencies

Problems don't seem to cease for entertainment giant Disney. After being stripped off of its self-governing status in Florida, the corporation is under fire once again a video showing a Disneyland Paris theme park marriage proposal being interrupted, went viral. The video is drawing fierce online criticism for ruining a couple's special moment, reports 'Deadline'. According to 'Newsweek', the video, which was initially posted to Reddit and now gone viral, has been upvoted 85,000 times. The man proposing marriage to his girlfriend reportedly asked permission from a park employee before mounting a platform in front of Cinderella's Castle to pop the question. As he dropped to his knee holding a ring box, a male employee runs into the scene, darts between the couple, and grabs the ring box.

He then gets off the platform and gestures to the couple to complete their ceremony off the platform. A Disney spokesperson told 'Newsweek': "We regret how this was handled. We have apologised to the couple involved and offered to make it right." In 2018, a man sued the company for interrupting his proposal at Orlando's Disney World. The lawsuit also accused an employee of physical harassment.



Los Angeles | Agencies

Actress Cynthia Nixon was given a choice with regards to the sexual orientation of her character Miranda Hobbes from the 'Sex and the City' revival to be a queer. 'And Just Like That' showrunner Michael Patrick King approached the actress to discuss what her character Miranda Hobbes' trajectory would look like in the revival, reports 'Variety'.

Nixon, who herself came out in 2004 and has been married to Christine Marinoni since 2012, recalled saying: "I was like, 'Sure, why not!' If we're trying to do different stuff, and show different worlds, and show different aspects of these characters, why not do that?" According to 'Variety', for King's part, in order to activate Nixon's character,

Cynthia was asked if she wanted her 'Sex and the City' character to be queer

he wanted to "get Miranda out of her marriage". So in the show's earliest planning stages, Miranda was possibly going to have an affair with her professor, having gone back to school after quitting her job at her corporate law firm.

But Nixon said no to that idea, she said in an interview for 'Variety' about Sara Ramirez, the actor who would eventually be cast to play Miranda's new love interest, Che Diaz. "I know we're crossing a lot of boundaries here that people have a lot of opinions about, but for me a boundary that I don't want to see Miranda cross is dating her professor, you know? That's not OK with me."

When Miranda meets Che, though, she falls so head-over-heels in love with them that she leaves her husband, Steve (played by David Eigenberg). To say that the romance caused an explosive reaction from viewers would be an understatement. "My friend Gregg Araki, he's a filmmaker, said to me, 'How does it feel to have created the most polarising character in all 5,000 shows that are on TV?'" When King asked him to clarify, Araki cited outrageous characters currently on television such as "Vikings who are drinking children's blood" and so on. "And what everybody's concerned about," King says, "is a nonbinary stand-up comic in the present day".

MGK's new movie based on rocky time in Megan Fox relationship

Los Angeles | Agencies

Rapper Machine Gun Kelly's directorial debut is inspired by a point during his relationship with actress Megan Fox when he thought she was going to dump him. The musician makes his directorial debut with the film, and his co-writer and co-director Mod Sun has revealed the movie was inspired by texts between MGK and Megan which left the star worried she was about to dump him, reports femalefirst.co.uk.

During a chat with Us Weekly, Mod explained: "It's inspired by true events. When Kells (MGK) started his relationship with Megan, she left the country to work on a film. "She had terrible (cell phone) service where she was (but) would text whenever she could."

Mod then revealed MGK was left concerned by the messages and went to all his friends to ask their opinion on whether she was about to break their romance off.

He added: "He'd misread these cryptic texts, assumed the worst and asked (me) and our friends if we thought she was breaking up with him. We started the script to keep his mind off the relationship."

The movie takes place over the course of a day in Los Angeles and follows a fictional actor named London Clash who is offered the role of a lifetime in a new 'Batman' movie.

However, his good news is soured by a text from his girlfriend which suggests they are about to split.

Mod added of the plot: "It deals with the human condition of how we create the worst-case scenarios in our heads because we don't have all the information."

'Good Mourning' stars Pete Davidson and Dove Cameron as well as MGK and Megan themselves.

MGK and Megan started dating in 2020, and they announced their engagement in January 2022.



ABSOLUTE PIC OF THE DAY



Cara Delevingne



Khelo India Youth Games 2021

GRAPPLERS CARRY HARYANA PAST MAHARASHTRA IN OVERALL STANDINGS

Panchkula | Agencies

Haryana embarked on a gold collection spree, winning four gold in wrestling, to sprint past Maharashtra in the Khelo India Youth Games here on Monday.

Underlining their ascendancy on the wrestling mat, their grapplers added four more gold to fatten their medal count to an impressive 16 gold, 8 silver, and 16 bronze. This included a couple of crucial gold in weightlifting and one each in shooting, yoga, cycling, and gaska.

Defending champions Maharashtra, who had taken the lead on Day 1, are in second place with 13 gold, 6 silver and 7 bronze at the time of writing this report. Manipur, who collected six gold in thang-ta over two days, were third after picking an additional gold in cycling.

Jammu and Kashmir created a stir by winning their first gold in the traditional martial art discipline, with Sumit getting the better of Madhya Pradesh's Ashish in the Phunaba Anishuba 60kg category.

Wrestlers from Haryana have



expectedly been in devastating form on home turf. They had bagged all

five gold on the opening day of the competition and seemed set for another clean sweep on Day 2, especially with two of the five final bouts being all-Haryana affairs.

But Chandigarh's Yashveer Malik had other plans. Displaying strong defensive skills, he defeated Nishant 6-2 in the Greco Roman 65kg final.

It all began with Suraj defeating Maharashtra's Vishwajit More by technical superiority. Ravinder too came up against a tough opponent in Maharashtra's Ajay Kapade in the freestyle 60kg final. But he kept his cool under pressure for an 11-8 victory. In the weightlifting arena, Bengali Tani opened Arunachal Pradesh's gold medal account with a total lift of 264 kg in the boys' 67 kg weight category. Tamil Nadu's T. Madhavan (boys' 61 kg) and Haryana's Usha (girls' 55kg) were among the podium toppers in their respective weight categories. Haryana also finished 1-2 in the 10m Air Pistol event at the Karni Singh Shooting Range in New Delhi, with Shiva Narwal bagging the gold, Samrat Rana winning silver and Uttar Pradesh's Sahil clinching the bronze.

Foot injury spells further trouble as Nadal takes Grand Slam No.22

Paris | Agencies

As Rafael Nadal enhanced his reputation as the greatest clay-court player ever by winning his 14th singles title at Roland Garros, not many knew that the Spaniard was playing the final against Casper Ruud virtually on one foot.

He was playing with his troublesome left foot "asleep" and with no feeling. He said he had to take multiple injections to last the tournament.

At 36, Nadal became the oldest men's singles champion in French Open history, as he stormed past Norwegian Casper Ruud 6-3, 6-3, 6-0 on Sunday.

Sealing the victory with a down-the-line backhand against the world No.8, the Spaniard threw his racket to the red clay and tightly covered his face with both hands, of which four fingers were bandaged up.

The result marked Nadal's 14th Roland Garros and a record-extending 22nd



DOUBTS OVER WIMBLEDON

While on the court, people always see Nadal full of vigour and fighting spirit, the Spanish tennis ace has clenched his teeth to endure pains and injuries, and whether he could continue to compete at Wimbledon later in June remains a question.

Grand Slam title.

"For me personally, it is very difficult to describe the feelings that I have. It is something that I have never believed. To be here at 36, being competitive again on the most important court of my career," said Nadal in his post-match comments on

Sunday. Ruud, Nadal's rival as well as his student, conceded the defeat from the bottom of his heart. "I am not the first victim, I know there have been many before," said the clay major final maiden, who has trained at Nadal's academy in Mallorca since September 2018.

Getting out of bio-bubble is really very satisfying: Rishabh Pant

Team Absolute | New Delhi

Star Indian cricketer Rishabh Pant is feeling relaxed after the Board of Control for Cricket in India decided to remove restrictions imposed on players and decided to conduct the upcoming series between India and South Africa without bio-bubbles.

This move came after a drastic reduction in cases all over the country.

The wicketkeeper-batter is currently in Delhi with Team India as the five-match T20I series against South Africa begins on June 9 at the Arun Jaitley Stadium here.

"Getting out of the bio-bubble is really very satisfying. And hopefully, there are no more bio-bubble things,



so I'm enjoying the time out now we have gone through

so much.

"When you keep on playing throughout the year, especially with the kind of pressure it is important to relax your mind. If you can't refresh your mind, you won't be giving your hundred per cent. We need to keep working on our mind and keep refreshing," Pant told SG Cricket Podcast.

Further asked about his strength, the young cricketer said he wanted to be called wicketkeeper-batter.

"I always try to give my hundred per cent whenever I come on field but I was always a wicket-keeper-batsman. Because as a kid I started keeping, as my father was also a wicket-keeper. That's how I started doing wicket-keeping," he added.

European GT4 Series

Team Absolute | Bengaluru

Bengaluru born 25-year-old Akhil Rabindra ended his round two of the European GT4 Series with a P5 & P7 finish at Circuit Paul Ricard in Paris.

Akhil, representing Racing Spirit of Lemman, based his Top 10 finishing Round 1 & 2 is now placed third in the overall drivers' standings in the silver category with a total of 46 points to his kitty while Racing Spirit of Lemman is leading the overall team standings with a total of 81 points.

Akhil, driving the Aston Martin Vantage GT4, began his campaign for the weekend on a positive note as he along with his team mate T Canning had a P2 & P7 finish in qualifications 1 & 2 in the Silver Category.

Akhil Rabindra grabs third position in drivers' standings

With a total time of 1:01:37.686 from 25 laps, Akhil and his team mate finished P5 in Race 1. Race 2 saw the duo finish P7 in the SILVER category taking a total time of 1:02:38.381 from 27 laps.

"It was a tough day for us today, but we gave our best and I think while we aren't happy with our results today but I am happy that the car is responding well and that gives me a lot of confidence for around 3 at Misano next month," said Akhil Rabindra after the race.

Both the races at the Circuit Paul Ricard were won by ProSport Racing duo of M Ortmann and H Sasse.

Akhil now will be seen in action during Round 3 of the European GT4 Championship at Misano, Italy from 1-3 July 2022.



I always want to see India playing in Asian Cup: Sunil Chhetri

Team Absolute | Kolkata

Indian national team captain Sunil Chhetri is thrilled at the prospect of qualifying for the 2023 Asian Cup in front of the fans at the Salt Lake Stadium here, which he described as the best in India.

India take on Cambodia in their first Group D match of the 2023 AFC Asian Cup third-round qualifiers on Wednesday, followed by Afghanistan and Hong Kong.

The national team is set to play for the first time on home soil in almost three years. Incidentally, the last time they played in the country was in Kolkata as well, in October 2019.

"It will be massive, otherwise why do teams enjoy having the home advantage? And what better place to have it than Kolkata. Wherever we have played, even in Gujarat (Intercontinental Cup) last time we had tremendous

support despite us not usually playing there," Chhetri said. "There are a few pockets which are very famous for fans giving us everything they have got in numbers -- Kerala, Guwahati, Bengaluru but none probably better than the Salt Lake Stadium, I think along with Kochi. We enjoy tremendous support here. The memories are still fresh from the last time we played here three years ago as far as fan support is concerned. We are really happy and I just hope everyone comes in numbers and we can enjoy the atmosphere," the talismanic striker said.

India have featured in four Asian Cup tournament finals, finishing runners-up in 1964. In the latest edition in 2019, India bowed out in the group stage but had impressed in a dominating 4-1 win against Thailand in their opening match. Chhetri believes qualifying for Asia's showcase football event should be a non-negotiable benchmark.

Inaugural edition of UAE's International League T20 to be held in January-February 2023

Abu Dhabi | Agencies

The Emirates Cricket Board (ECB) on Monday announced that the inaugural edition of their T20 league, named as International League T20 (ILT20) will be played from January 6 to February 12 in 2023. The six-team franchise-style league will be played over a 34-match schedule at venues in Abu Dhabi, Dubai and Sharjah.

"As we begin this long journey I am confident that together we will achieve new heights and in the process provide entertainment and excitement to the millions of fans around the globe who are waiting for the first ball of the UAE T20 League to be bowled. On behalf of ECB let me assure everyone that whilst being entertained on field with cricket, you will also be entertained by our traditional UAE hospitality off



the field," said Sheikh Nahayan Mubarak Al Nahayan, Chairman of the ECB, who is also the Minister of Tolerance and Coexistence, in a statement.

The tournament will also provide a platform for Emirates Cricket to take developing their local talent to a higher level, where UAE-based players currently integrated in the Board's programme, as well as those identified by the High Performance Coaching and Selection Committee teams, will be given the opportunity

to train and play alongside some of the world's best minds.

The franchise owners in the ILT20 are Knight Riders' Group (owners of Kolkata Knight Riders), who will be owners of the Abu Dhabi team, followed by Adani Group, Capri Global, Lancer Capital, Reliance Industries Limited, through its subsidiary Reliance Strategic Business Ventures Limited (owners of Mumbai Indians) and GMR Group (co-owners of Delhi Capitals).

Sable sets 3000m steeplechase national record at Rabat Diamond League meet

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Indian long-distance runner Avinash Sable broke the national record in the men's 3000m steeplechase for the eighth time as he finished fifth in the Diamond League 2022 event at Rabat in Morocco on Sunday.

The 27-year-old Sable was participating in his maiden Diamond League meet and clocked 8 minutes 12.48 seconds, bettering his own national mark by over three seconds. His previous best was 8:16:21 and came at the Indian Grand Prix 2 in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala in March this year.

The Diamond League is an annual elite athletics event that has been running since 2010 and Sable is the second Indian after Olympic gold medalist javelin thrower Neeraj Chopra to participate in it in recent times. Athletes can compete only by invita-



(7:59.24). Ethiopia's Hailemariam Tegegn bagged the bronze medal. Rio 2016 Olympic gold medalist and reigning world champion Conselus Kipruto of Kenya finished fourth, just 0.01 seconds ahead of Sable.

The 27-year-old Sable is currently preparing for this year's World Championship to be held in Oregon, USA next month, and the Commonwealth Games (8:19.89), to be held in July-August in Birmingham, UK.

Sable, a silver medalist in the Asian Athletics Championship in 2019, has already achieved the qualifying standards for the world athletics championships (8:22.00) and the Commonwealth Games (8:19.89). The runner from Beed, Maharashtra also broke the long-standing 5000m national record in the USA last month in only his second attempt.

Senior players need to decide their roles in the team: Kapil Dev

Team Absolute | New Delhi

Legendary Kapil Dev has said that the current India players need to change their approach in the shortest format of the game and get ready for the T20 World Cup, starting in October-November in Australia.

The 1983 world cup-winning captain said that players like Virat Kohli, Rohit Sharma and K.L.Rahul need to decide whether they want to play the role of an anchor or striker.

"Reputation is quite big and maybe, the pressure is too much but that shouldn't be the case. You have to play fearless cricket. All these players (Virat Kohli, Rohit Sharma and K.L.Rahul) can play at a 150-160 strike rate. They are such big players, but when the time comes to score runs, they all get out.

"We say that you can take your time in the starting 8-10-12 balls, but you get out after playing 25 balls. When the time



comes to take off, you get out and hence the pressure starts building on you. Either you become the anchor or the

striker. That needs to be decided by the players or the team," Kapil Dev said on the Uncut YouTube channel.

"If you talk about K.L.Rahul, you need to talk to him about playing 20 overs and if he scores 80-90, then it is good enough. But if you play 20 overs, and you are coming back 60 not out then you are not doing justice to the team," he added.

Kapil Dev said that the Indian team needs to change its approach in T20Is.

"I think the approach needs to change, if it doesn't, then you would have to change the players. If they are big players, then they need to have a big impact on the team. You are not big just because of the name, but need to be big on performance. If you are a big name, then you should play cricket like that. Otherwise, we are here to talk about it," he said. India will play South Africa in a five-match T20I series under the leadership of K.L.Rahul starting from June 9 in Delhi.

Helicopter cricket shot expert MS Dhoni now takes a drone shot

Chennai: Helicopter cricket shot expert and former India team captain Mahendra Singh Dhoni has now taken an investment shot in drone-as-a-service (DaaS) player Garuda Aerospace.

Dhoni plays a dual role in Garuda Aerospace -- as a shareholder and as a brand ambassador. Further, Garuda Aerospace is the first drone start-up to rope in a celebrity brand ambassador.

Details about the investment by Dhoni in Garuda Aerospace and the brand endorsement deals have not been disclosed.

Equipped with 300 drones and 500 pilots operating in 26 cities, Garuda Aerospace drone-manufacturing facilities were recently launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Speaking to reporter,



Agnishwar Jayaprakash, founder CEO of Garuda Aerospace said, "The company is in the process of raising USD 30 million and it will close this July." "I'm happy to be a part of Garuda Aerospace and look forward to witness their growth story with the unique drone solutions they have to offer," Dhoni was quoted as saying in a statement issued by the drone company on Monday.



RAVEENA TANDON LENDERS HER VOICE TO A FILM BASED ON GIRL CHILD SAFETY

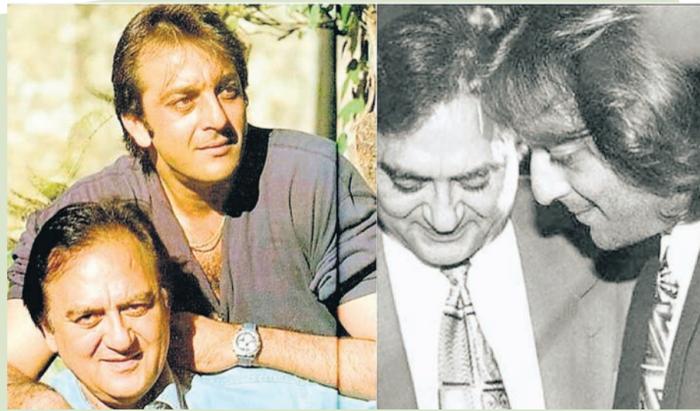
Team Absolute | Mumbai

Raveena Tandon has always been interested in the humanitarian activity, from PETA to UNICEF. The actress, who appeared in the film 'Maatr,' which dealt with crimes against women, has also been outspoken about social concerns and causes.

Raveena Tandon, a national award-winning actress, believes, "Without sensationalizing, Saif firmly puts his point across which will create awareness in our society."

Yes, Papa by Saif discusses the protection of children in our society, which is a democratic and basic right. "Playwright and theatre director turned filmmaker Saif Hyder wanted to tell this story in a different manner. "I was certain that conventional storytelling would not do justice, so I created a world that would disturb my audience and they would feel the undercurrent," Hasan, the filmmaker, states.

Mainstream performers such as Shradha Kapoor, Jackie Shroff, and Sonali Kulkarni, as well as veterans like Zeenat Aman, director Akash Khurana, and directors Abhishek Chaubey and Bharat Dabholkar, have all spoken out in support of Saif's film. Ananth Narayan Mahadevan, Geetika Tyagi, Tesjaswini Kolhapure, and Nandita Puri play major parts in this film.



SANJAY DUTT REMEMBERS HIS FATHER SUNIL DUTT ON HIS BIRTHDAY

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Actor Sanjay Dutt leaves no chance to express his love for his late parents- Sunil Dutt and Nargis. Be it their birth or death anniversary, or any other special occasion, the actor takes to his social media handle and pens heartfelt note.

On the occasion of his father Sunil Dutt's 96th birth anniversary (June 6), the actor shared a collage reminiscing his father.

The collage comprised of pictures from Munna Bhai M.B.B.S which was a blockbuster. The father-son duo were seen sharing screen space in the flick.

Sharing the pictures the actor wrote a heartfelt caption for his father -

"Your belief and love helped make me who I am today. You were, are, and will always be my hero. Happy birthday, Dad"

For the unversed, Sunil Dutt died following a heart attack on May 25, 2005, at his Bandra residence at the age of 75.

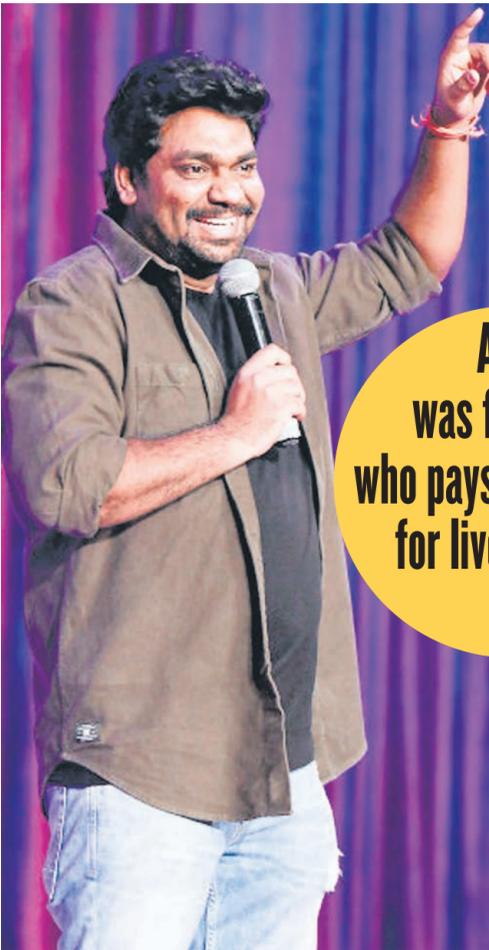
Kangana Ranaut: I see lots of curated negativity

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Kangana Ranaut is grabbing headlines for the past few days after her film Dhaakad tanked severely at the box office.

The film could only mint 4 crore rupees. Reports are doing rounds on the internet that there are no OTT buyers of the film. The diva, who is known for wearing her heart on her sleeve, has reacted to the negative comments around the film.

The actress took to her social media handle and tagged a slew of pictures calling her the Queen of the box office. She also mentioned that the year is not yet over and she has some exciting line-ups ahead. The actress wrote, "2019 I gave Manikarnika 160cr ka super hit film, 2020 was the covid year, 2021 I gave the biggest film of my career Thalaivi which came on OTT and was a huge success, I see lots of curated negativity but 2022 is the year of blockbuster lock up hosting and it's not over yet. I have great hopes with it." Apart from Kangana, Dhaakad also starred Arjun Rampal and Divya Dutta in pivotal roles. On the work front, Kangana will be next seen in a political drama, Emergency. She also has Tejas where she will be playing an Air Force pilot. She had also announced Manikarnika Returns: The Legend of Didda and Sita: The Incarnation as her upcoming projects. The actress also wrapped up the filming of her production, Tiku Weds Sheru. The film features Nawazuddin Siddiqui and Avneet Kaur.



Team Absolute | Mumbai

Comic artist and writer Zakir Khan will be appearing on the special episode of TV show 'Goodnight India' to put up an act in collaboration with show host Amit Tandon.

This would be the first time after a gap of 10 years that the two comics will be sharing the stage together for comedy as Zakir used to perform at Amit's co-owned restaurant based out of Gurugram, back in the day.

Commenting on the development, Amit says, "Zakir is the best storyteller in the country and way ahead of everyone. I still remember watching him for the first time on stage and his hold on language and narration was captivating from day one. He is an immensely talented and loved stand-up comedian of our country and I feel proud of what he has achieved today."

In fact, Amit was the first one to pay Zakir Khan for putting up a comedy act in front of a live audience as he revealed, "I still remember giving him his first ever pay-cheque for live comedy and telling him that his material and content had massive potential. Today, we are all set to collaborate once again for he is going to present a special act in one of the upcoming episodes of Goodnight with me."

"It's amazing how life comes back in a full circle and we're back with the people with whom we started our respective journeys, doing what we absolutely love doing - stand-up comedy. Look forward to bringing aboard many more of such special guests on Goodnight and making sure that these small much-needed reunions keep happening", he further shared.

**Amit
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THE WORLD WILL WITNESS KK FOR ONE LAST TIME WITH PANKAJ TRIPATHI'S UPCOMING

Team Absolute | Mumbai

KK's song "Dhoop Paani Bahne De," written by Gulzar and arranged by Shantanu Moitra, released on 6 June from the upcoming Pankaj Tripathi film "Sherdil: The Pilibhit Saga."

This movie directed by multiple National Award winner Srijit Mukherji, is produced in collaboration with two production houses.

This movie is based on actual events. It provides insight into the negative impacts of urbanisation, man-animal conflicts, and poverty, which led to a peculiar practise in a community on the outskirts of a protected forest.

In addition to Pankaj Tripathi, Neeraj Kabi and Sayani Gupta will be seen in the pivotal roles in the film. It is set to be released on June 24.

KK died on May 31 in Kolkata. He was 53. He was in Joy to play at an event hosted by a local college.



Anand Ahuja calls wife Sonam 'bestest preggers person ever'

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Actress Sonam Kapoor, who is expecting her first bundle of joy with Anand Ahuja, is currently babymooning in Italy. Her husband cannot stop gushing about her and called her 'bestest pregers person ever'.

Anand has shared a post on his Instagram handle, expressing his excitement about entering the next phase. He posted new pictures from their vacation.

Sharing the post, he wrote, "Excited and ready as ever for our next chapter! #EverydayPhenomenal w Sonam Kapoor, bestest pregers person ever".

On the comment section, Sonam dropped heart emoticons, and his sister-in-law Anshula Kapoor dropped evil eye amulet emoticons. It was in March, when Sonam announced that she and her husband Anand announced that they are expecting their first baby.

Sonam made the announcement on Instagram as she wrote: "Four hands. To raise you the very best we can. Two hearts. That will beat in unison with yours, every step of the way. One family. Who will shower you with love and support. We can't wait to welcome you."



INSTAGRAM PIC OF THE DAY



Nushratt Bharuccha