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WELCOME BACK

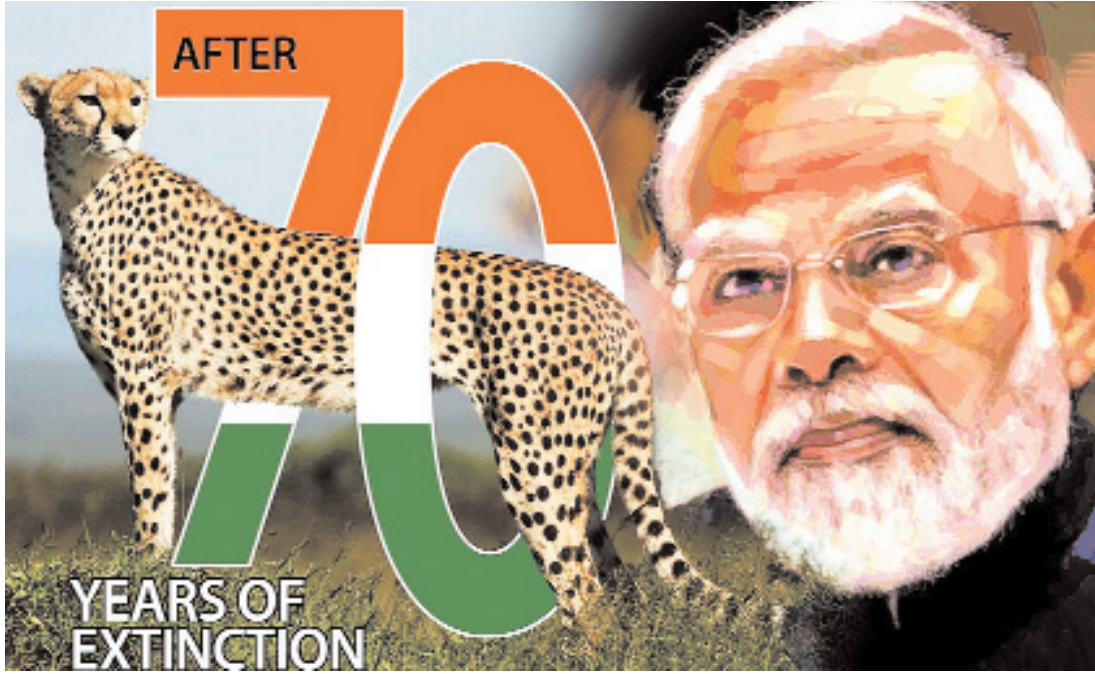
A special Jumbo Jet Boeing 747 carrying eight cheetahs landed at Gwalior airport this morning. Several teams of wildlife doctors/experts will monitor the health condition of cheetahs who arrived in the state after 16 hours of air journey from Namibia, forest officials said.

- Madhya Pradesh houses six tiger reserves and 25 wildlife sanctuaries.
- As per the All-India Tiger Estimation Report 2018, the state was home to 526 tigers, the highest for any state in the country.
- However, with having tag of maximum number of tigers in the state, Madhya Pradesh also has registered maximum number of death of wild animals almost every year.

Team Absolute | Bhopal

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday released eight cheetahs, which had become extinct in India, into special enclosures in Kuno National Park (KNP) in Madhya Pradesh's Sheopur district.

On this occasion, Prime Minister Modi said, "Cheetahs had become extinct from the country in 1952, but for decades, no meaningful effort was made to rehabilitate them. Today, as we celebrate 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav', the country has started rehabilitating cheetahs with a new energy." He said that tourists and wildlife



enthusiasts will have to wait a few months before they can see cheetahs at KNP.

The Prime Minister said cheetahs - brought from Namibia - are being introduced in India under Project Cheetah, which is world's first inter-continental large wild carnivore translocation project.

"Bringing Cheetahs back to India will help in the restoration of open

forest and grassland ecosystems and also lead to enhanced livelihood opportunities for the local community," the Prime Minister added.

He said, "Project Cheetah is our endeavour towards environment and wildlife conservation."

Notably, the special event was scheduled for September 17 to mark Prime Minister Modi's 72nd birthday. Madhya Pradesh Governor

Mangubhai Pate, Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan; Union Ministers -- Narendra Singh Tomar, Bhupender Yadav, Jyotiraditya M Scindia and Ashwini Choubey -- were among those present on the occasion.

The Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister on Friday had said, "We were a tiger state, a leopard state and now becoming a Cheetah state."

NGT slaps Rs 120 cr fine on UP govt for river pollution, waste mismanagement

For Better Environment



Team Absolute | New Delhi

The National Green Tribunal (NGT) has directed Uttar Pradesh government to pay Rs 120 crore as fine for environmental violations, including improper solid waste management and discharge of sewage into rivers in Gorakhpur district.

The principal bench of NGT headed by its chairperson Justice Adarsh Kumar Goel noted the liability of the state for discharge of 55 MLD sewage into rivers at Gorakhpur at Rs 110 crores.

"Applying the scale of compensation followed in the case of Maharashtra, compensation comes to Rs 11.40 crore which is rounded off at Rs 10 crores. Thus, total compensation is determined at

Rs 120 crore," the bench said in the recent order.

The green court was dealing the issue for consideration of the remedial action against contamination of water bodies and ground water, specially Ramgarh Lake, Ami, Rapti and Rohani Rivers in and around District Gorakhpur, Uttar Pradesh.

According to the applicant, contaminated water results in Enterovirus (EV) which is brain fever, similar to Japanese Encephalitis (JE) and Acute Encephalitis Syndrome (AES). Gorakhpur has history of death of hundreds of children at BRD Medical College, Gorakhpur though majority of patients may come from different parts of eastern UP and Bihar outside Gorakhpur.

Considering the matter,

the bench said, there are two issues - control of EV and control of pollution which also to some extent is source of EV, apart from other diseases. While on the issue of control of EV, report of the Committee shows significant reduction in such cases due to sustained efforts in the last five years with recommendations requiring further measures.

"From the data presented by the State itself, apart from past violations, continuing violations of discharge of untreated sewage into the drains, rivers and other water bodies is more than 50 MLD. As against reported generation of sewage in Gorakhpur to the extent of about 100 MLD, treatment is not more than 45 MLD," it further stated.

Bhagavad Gita festival takes off in Canadian Parliament



Team Absolute | Chandigarh

A three-day International Gita Mahotsav took off at the Parliament House in the Canadian capital Ottawa in a grand manner with the message of Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar read out.

On this occasion, the holy book Bhagavad Gita was placed in the library of the Canadian Parliament after Sonya, head of Parliament Library, received its copy

from Gita Manishi Swami Shri Gyananand and India-born Canadian MP Chandra Arya. Later speaking on the occasion, Swami Shri Gyananand said that the relevance of the Bhagavad Gita has become more relevant in the present times. Every person should imbibe its teachings in life.

"We have to spread the message of the Bhagavad Gita to every corner of the world. For this purpose, International Gita Mahotsav

(IGM) programmes are being organised," said Swami Shri Gyananand.

A message from Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, welcoming everyone to Parliament Hill, was also read out at the programme.

The Prime Minister said that such events not only bring Canadians together but also greatly encourage them to celebrate their diversity.

He said that the message of peace, harmony and brotherhood taught in the Bhagavad Gita is universal, and he thanked everyone present there for being a part of this special day.

In this event, cultural programme and Gita shloka recitation were done by children of Chinmaya Mission, followed by a classical dance performance.



A UP village that has no legal sanctity

LONDON | Muzaffarnagar

It is a hamlet that has no legal sanctity. Devastated by floods year after year, a major chunk of the population has moved away to another site and Hajipura, situated on the banks of Solani river on the Uttar Pradesh-Uttarakhand border, remains forlorn and forgotten. "We have been abandoned by the government. There are no schools, no medical facility, no government schemes, no public transport system, nor any gram panchayat. Our children travel 5 km daily to get an education. We are a population of over 1,000 but we have not been granted the official 'village' status to this day," says Sanjeev Kashyap, a local. "We cast votes for the nagar panchayat of Bhokarehdi. The exercise is futile as they

tell us they cannot develop our locality as we live 'outside their jurisdiction'. Despite several requests for basic facilities, we have been abandoned by the administration and the government."

The locals say that in the recent Assembly elections, several leaders came and promised to sort the issue out but to no avail.

"We request chief minister Yogi Adityanath to look into this issue," they plead.

A team led by the Additional District Magistrate (E) recently visited the village and prepared a report. ADM Narender Bahadur Singh said: "Residents will get a ration shop soon. We came to know that a proposal to grant this area a 'village' status was made in 2018. We are working on that too."

ECONOMIC GROWTH TO IMPROVE IN COMING MONTHS: GOVT



Team Absolute | New Delhi

As contact-intensive services have revived and there is growth in private consumption, economic growth is expected to improve in the coming months, the monthly economic review released by Finance Ministry on Saturday said. The review noted that as external pressures will diminish, inflationary pressures are expected to wear down. India's GDP growth was 13.5 per cent in the first quarter of the current fiscal.

"Increase in private consumption and higher capacity utilisation in the current year has further reinvigorated the capex cycle to take the

investment rate in the first quarter of 2022-23 to one of its highest levels in the last decade," it said.

Released by the department of economic services, it further noted that with the economic growth in the first quarter of the current fiscal much ahead of the pre-pandemic period, i.e. the first quarter of 2019-20.

"The real GDP in the first quarter of 2022-23 is now nearly four per cent ahead of its corresponding level of 2019-20, marking a strong beginning to India's growth revival in the post-pandemic phase, the review said.

It further said that sustained growth in government's revenues will also aid capital expenditure during the current fiscal.

Risks to growth and inflation trajectories persist as India is integrated with the rest of the world, the finance ministry said.

Core inflation may also remain sticky in the months ahead as companies pass on higher inputs costs to the consumer sooner than later.

Prudent fiscal management and credible monetary policy will be important to fulfil growth aspirations as they will ensure borrowing costs for the government and private sector decline, facilitating public and private sector capital formation.

During the winter months, heightened international focus on energy security in advanced nations could elevate geopolitical tensions, testing India's astute handling of its energy needs so far. In these uncertain times, it may not be possible to remain satisfied and sit back for long periods, it further noted.

PV Sindhu recalls when Sachin gifted her a car

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Badminton champion PV. Sindhu talked about the legendary batsman Sachin Tendulkar presenting her car after she won a silver medal at the 2016 Summer Olympics (Rio).

She recalled how Sachin called her and congratulated her on the victory: "He called and congratulated me. Last time I remember when I participated in Commonwealth Games, 2014 for the first time, he told me that if I get a medal in the Rio 2016 Olympics then he will come and give me a car again. So after getting the medal, he ensured he came and presented me with the car, and I am really thankful to him as this gesture really made me happy."

She further added praising Tendulkar for the support he gives to sports personalities. "It's very kind of him because along with him many people contributed to it. He supported a lot of sports people and this kind of support needs to be there for sports personalities so that it's like a motivation for them



to go much further and do well. These kinds of awards and rewards will give a lot more confidence to all sportspersons. I really like cars and I'm very thankful to him that he gave me a car." In a conversation with Kapil Sharma, she told him about getting injured during the Commonwealth Games in Birmingham in which she won the gold medal in women's singles.

"Yes, during the quarter-finals there was a little pain. The pain was happening in between the match and I was like I have to complete this match. So after the match, my physio team and my trainer were also there so I told them I don't know what happened but it's a lot. My heart and mind were focused on winning the medal. So, during the semi-final and final, I was only thinking that I have to give my best and I gave my hundred per cent and won the gold," she concluded.

'Mughal-e-Azam: The Musical' returns to Mumbai stage after two years

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Feroz Abbas Khan's 'Mughal-e-Azam: The Musical' is all set to return to the stage in Mumbai after two years due to the pandemic. Fourteen shows of 'Mughal-e-Azam: The Musical' will be staged between October 21 and 30 at Bal Gandharva Rang Mandir, Bandra West, Mumbai.

Director Feroz Abbas Khan said: "Our country and the people have gone through a lot during these two years of the pandemic. The worst is now behind us and all of us can finally come together to celebrate music, poetry, and timeless, magical stories once again. I feel this is the perfect time for 'Mughal-e-Azam: The Musical' to return to Mumbai where we will kick off our 18th season."

Deepesh Salgia, who steers the Creative and Strategic Vision of 'Mughal-e-Azam: The Musical' added: "With Mughal-e-Azam, Shapoorji Pallonji has worked with K Asif in 1950s and now with Feroz Abbas Khan. In



every season, this musical has evolved and built more layers of richness and nuance around the basic core of an epic love story."

He shared that there is a lot more to the "musical in its 18th season than the audience has seen before and I am glad that in the post-pandemic era the show is beginning its new journey from its birthplace, Mumbai"

Celebrity designer Manish Malhotra has designed the regal costumes for the musical and the costume design is by far the most expensive in the history of

Indian theatre.

Choreographer Mayuri Upadhyaya returns with her stirring choreography of the classic songs while award-winning lighting designer David Lander will once again add royal sparkle to the play.

Emmy-nominated John Narun, known worldwide for his projection design for global star Madonna's concerts has lent his expertise to 'Mughal-e-Azam: The Musical.' Obie and Helen Hayes Award winning production designer Neil Patel has successfully brought to life the grandeur of the Mughal era.



AP GOVT MOVES SC CHALLENGING HC ORDER ON AMARAVATI CAPITAL ISSUE

Team Absolute | New Delhi

The Andhra Pradesh government has moved the Supreme Court against the high court verdict declaring Amaravati as the only capital, in a bid to revive its plan to have three capitals.

The Andhra Pradesh government has filed the appeal in the apex court through advocate Mahfooz Nazki. On March 3 this year, the high court had directed that the state government should construct and develop Amaravati capital city and region within six months.

The state government was also directed by the high court to develop the reconstituted plots, which belonged to the farmers who gave away their lands for the capital city. The high court said the state government should provide drinking water, approach roads, elec-



tricity, drainage etc. within three months. The high court is likely to take up the matter in October. The AP government, in its appeal, in the apex court said the issue had become infructuous since the impugned legislations had been repealed. It contended that under the federal structure of the Constitution, every state has an inherent right to determine where it

should carry out its capital functions from. The state government further added that to hold that the state does not have the power to decide on its capital is violative of basic structure of the Constitution. And, the judgment is violative of doctrine of separation of powers since it preempts the legislature from taking up the issue, argued the AP government.

After Assam, Arunachal rocked by recruitment exam paper 'leak'

Itanagar/Guwahati | Agencies

After Assam, neighbouring Arunachal Pradesh has been rocked by a reported leak of recruitment exam papers forcing the Chief Minister Pema Khandu to announce to take stern action against the guilty. The Chief Minister on Saturday said that police are seriously investigating the case and five persons have been arrested so far.

The state government would not tolerate any kind of corruption and anyone found involved in the latest incident, irrespective of his or her position or status, would not be spared, Khandu said in a statement.

"It is indeed frustrating that despite our sincerest efforts to streamline the recruitment process, incidents like this occur out of the blues. I assure the candidates and the people that action will be taken against the guilty and the point of leakage investigated and rectified so that it is not repeated in future," the chief minister said. Many organisations, including the



Anti-Corruption Foundation, have demanded the suspension of the Arunachal Pradesh Public Service Commission's (APPSC) chairperson, secretary and other officials for the reported leak of the question paper ahead of the recent examination for

the post of Assistant Engineer (Civil). They have also demanded a "transparent" probe into the leak.

On August 28, a candidate for the examination lodged an FIR at the Itanagar police station, complaining that the question papers for the

APPSC exam held on August 26 and 27 were leaked.

Assam was also rocked by alleged scam in the recruitment for 26,000 Grade III and Grade IV posts, the exams for which were held in several phases in August amid mobile Internet shutdown and imposition of the prohibitory orders 144 CrPc. The Assam police recently arrested Victor Das, who owned a coaching centre in Guwahati.

Das through the social media platforms alleged about the question paper leak and the involvement of some officials and former MLAs in selling some posts for Rs 3-8 lakh. The Gauhati High Court on Friday granted interim bail to Das, also a vlogger. The opposition parties had criticised the BJP-led government for "suppressing the truth". Assam Pradesh Congress President Bhupen Kumar Borah said that Himanta Biswa Sarma government arrests or takes action against the person who ever points a finger at his government's loopholes.

Chinese mobile firms plan to set up plants elsewhere amid India crackdown

Team Absolute | New Delhi

Amid India's escalating crackdown on Chinese companies, China-based smartphone brands are now planning to set up manufacturing plants in countries like Egypt, Indonesia, Bangladesh, and Nigeria, according to a Global Times report.

The report, citing a Chinese executive based in India, claimed that companies will evaluate bilateral ties, market potential, preferential policies and labour costs to set up manufacturing plants elsewhere.

OPPO is going to set up a \$20 million mobile phone plant in Egypt.

"OPPO's memorandum of understanding with the Egyptian government to set up a \$20 million smartphone facility may be a pacesetter," the Chinese executive told Global Times.

The OPPO plant's production



capacity is scheduled to reach 4.5 million units annually, according to a statement from the Egypt's Council of Ministers this week.

The investment will contribute to creating 900 job opportunities over the next three to five years. "The management in Chinese

smartphone brands in India felt a palpable sense of being squeezed by the Indian government's crackdown and its (protectionist) actions to improve domestic companies' capability to make sophisticated electronics such as smartphones," the executive was quoted as saying.

India has stepped up its crackdown on Chinese firms over the years.

The Indian government is looking into cases of alleged tax evasion by three Chinese mobile companies -- OPPO, Vivo India, and Xiaomi.

The companies were served notices by the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) for duty evasion. India has also banned more than 300 Chinese apps, including Tencent's WeChat and ByteDance's TikTok. The country is now bolstering its domestic smartphone and chip manufacturing sector.

The Gujarat government has partnered Vedanta and Foxconn, aiming an investment of Rs 1.54 lakh crore to achieve self-reliance in the field of semiconductor manufacturing.

Tata Group is also reportedly in talks with Taiwan-based Wistron to ramp up iPhone production capacity by 500 per cent in the country.

CJI inaugurates 34 paperless courts in Odisha

Bhubaneswar | Agencies

As part of the celebrations of 75th year of the Orissa High Court, Chief Justice of India Uday Umesh Lalit on Saturday inaugurated 34 paperless courts in all 30 districts of Odisha.

The concept of paperless court has been successfully implemented in the Supreme Court and different high courts including in Odisha. However, Odisha is the first state in the country to launch paperless courts in all the districts.

The CJI has inaugurated the courts in a function organised at the Odisha Judicial Academy in Cuttack, in the presence of SC judges D.Y. Chandrachud and M.R. Shah and Odisha High Court's Chief Justice S. Muralidhar. The CJI said technological advancement has become essential for the functioning of the judiciary. About the evolution of IT in Indian judiciary, he shared his experience of working as a young lawyer in the pre-IT period and the ease of work that technological advancement has ensured over the years. He also highlighted the positive impacts of paperless courts on the environment, and said he was happy to know that the

judicial officers in Odisha voluntarily came forward for the paperless courts. Lauding the e-initiatives of the Orissa High Court, he said the court has shown the Indian judiciary a new direction, new light.

Chief Justice Muralidhar thanked the e-Committee, SC for the guidance and encouragement to the Orissa High Court in expanding the horizon of digitisation and using information technology for other initiatives like paperless courts, e-payment of court fee, virtual hearing, e-custody certificates, e-traffic challans and voluntary witness deposition centres in all the districts of Odisha.



IIT Guwahati student from Kerala commits suicide

Guwahati | Agencies

A student of the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Guwahati allegedly committed suicide in his hostel room on Friday night, police said.

The student hailed from Kerala and was pursuing a B.Tech course here.

A police officer of Amingaon police station informed that the body was found hanging in the hostel room, and sent for a post-mortem examination.

The reason for the student taking the extreme step is still unknown.

A statement from IIT-G reads: "It is with great sadness that IIT, Guwahati announces the untimely passing away of a final year undergraduate student of



Design Department on campus on 16th September 2022." The parents were informed by the institute and they were heading for Guwahati. "We request everyone to respect the privacy of the family at this time of grief. The institute expresses its heartfelt condolences to the family and friends of the stu-

dent," the IIT-G said in its statement.

Though the institute has not revealed the identity of the student, as per police sources, the deceased was identified as Surya Narayan Premkishore. There have been several suicide cases at IIT Guwahati in the last few years.

WOMAN FOUND DEAD IN DELHI, HUSBAND ABSCONDING

New Delhi: A 22-year-old woman was found dead at her residence in northeast Delhi's Maujpur area on Saturday, an official said.

Deputy Commissioner of Police (Northeast) Sanjay Kumar Sain said a PCR call was received at around 9 a.m. at Jafraabad police station stating that a woman was lying injured in a house located in Maujpur, after which a police team immediately rushed to the spot. The police found that the said woman was lying dead in a pool of blood having sharp injury on her neck. The victim's husband, Rohan Malik, was not found at the said address. During preliminary investigation it was learnt that the couple was residing in the said house on rent. "We have initiated a legal action and police teams have been employed-in to crack the case," the senior official added.

Congress will launch 'Assam Jodo Yatra' on Nov 1: Jairam Ramesh

Guwahati | Agencies

Senior Congress leader Sand Rajya Sabha MP Jairam Ramesh announced here on Friday that the party would launch the 'Assam Jodo Yatra', the Assam version of 'Bharat Jodo Yatra', on November 1.

He also said that Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma will not succeed in derailing the Congress' Bharat Jodo Yatra.

"No matter how much Sarma tries to influence the party MLAs, Congress will not stop. We don't care if any MLA leaves the party like Sarma had done in the past," Ramesh said.



He added that Sarma should stop thinking about the Congress and concentrate on working for the welfare of Assam.

Sarma had earlier criticised Rahul Gandhi and

advised him to launch the Bharat Jodo Yatra from Pakistan, stating that Congress was responsible for the Partition of the country. In this context, Ramesh told mediapersons

that the country has been divided under the BJP rule.

"The country is facing tremendous economic inequality, social polarisation, and centralisation of power, which have created massive divisions among various sections of the society," he said.

"Today, people are divided over religion, culture and even food habits. The powers of the state governments have been snatched by the Prime Minister's Office (PMO)," Ramesh claimed. The senior party leader also dropped a hint about the Congress' plan to launch the second phase of Bharat Jodo Yatra from Arunachal Pradesh to Gujarat next year.

Some parties ashamed to call Sep 17 Hyderabad Liberation Day: Amit Shah

Hyderabad | Agencies

Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Saturday said that some political parties feel ashamed to call September 17 Hyderabad Liberation Day as they still have fear of 'Razakars' in their mind.

Without naming anyone, he asked these parties to remove the fear from their minds, saying Razakars cannot take decisions in this country which became independent 75 years ago.

Shah made the remarks after hoisting the national flag and reviewing a parade at Parade Grounds in Secunderabad to mark erstwhile Hyderabad state's accession to the Indian Union.

The event was organised by the Union Ministry of Culture and was attended by Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde, Karnataka Transport Minister B. Sriramulu and

Union Minister for Tourism and Culture G. Kishan Reddy.

Hyderabad State, which comprised Telangana and parts of the present day Maharashtra and Karnataka, became part of India on September 17, 1948, about 13 months after the country gained independence.

Telangana Chief Minister K. Chandrababhan Rao stayed away from the event but hoisted the Tricolour at a programme organised by the state government, which is celebrating the occasion as National Unity Day.

Shah thanked Prime Minister Narendra Modi for deciding to organise official celebrations of September 17.



remove the fear as a Razakars can't take decisions in this country which became independent 75 years ago," he said.

Razakars were supporters of Hyderabad State's ruler Nizam and wanted the state to remain independent. The Union Home Minister

"I am not surprised. In fact, I am happy that as soon as he took the decision, all other parties announced that they will also celebrate the day. They are celebrating but with a different name. They are not calling it liberation as they still have fear of Razakars in their minds. I want to tell them to

said unfortunately those who were in power for 75 years did not dare to celebrate Liberation Day because of vote bank politics.

"Many people made promises during elections and during movements but after coming to power they went back on their word due to fear of Razakars," he said.

Shah also remarked that those who feel ashamed to call it Liberation day should know that they are enjoying power because of the martyrdom of thousands of people. "If you are not paying them tributes, you are betraying them."

World War II vintage bomb safely detonated in Manipur

Imphal | Agencies

Security forces on Saturday destroyed a World War II vintage bomb, found during digging, in eastern Manipur, defence officials said.

Defence spokesman Lt Col A.S. Walia said that the bomb was recovered by locals during digging work in Kamjong district, bordering Myanmar.

On receipt of the information, security forces, with the assistance of local police, safely shifted the bomb away from populated area for disposal, and a team of the army bomb disposal unit carried out the safe disposal of 250 lbs bomb using the 'Violent Technique'.

This mechanism involved careful and technical placement of pre-calculated explosives and initiating controlled detonation to destroy the



bomb. Before disposing off the powerful bomb, a joint team of Manipur Police and paramilitary forces ensured safe evacuation of 250 residents and their various livestock and domestic animals residing within 2 km radius from the explosion site.

The destruction of bomb was successfully done without any untoward incident due to explosion, the defence PRO said. Northeastern India was the site of several fierce battles in World War II as Japanese forces reached Manipur and Nagaland when they invaded British India.



Frank Sinatra

BCCI TO INTRODUCE 'IMPACT PLAYER' RULE IN SYED MUSHTAQ ALI TROPHY: REPORT

MORE ENTERTAINMENT!

Team Absolute | New Delhi

The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) is set to introduce tactical substitutes, which will be known as 'Impact Player', in the upcoming season of its domestic men's T20 tournament, mainly the Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy, which will begin on October 11.

The idea behind introducing 'Impact Player' is to make the T20 format more attractive, dynamic and interesting. In an email sent to its state associations, the BCCI elaborated on the concept and rule, which will allow teams to use one tactical substitute in each match.

According to an ESPNcricinfo report, the BCCI has been keen to introduce the tactical substitute in the IPL for the past few years. However, the board wants to implement it in the SMAT first. If it works smoothly, the 'Impact Player' substitute will feature in IPL 2023. "With the ever-growing popularity of T20 cricket, it is imperative that we look at introducing new dimensions which will make this format more attractive and interesting not only for our viewers but also the participating teams from a strategic viewpoint," the BCCI's email said.

"The BCCI would like to introduce the concept of 'IMPACT PLAYER' wherein participating teams could replace one member of its playing XI during a T20 match based on the context of the game," it added.



ing a T20 match based on the context of the game," it added.

Other aspects of Impact Player rule

The Impact Player can only be introduced at the end of an over, and not during it, with two exceptions: if a batting team sends in the Impact Player at the fall of a wicket, or if the fielding team replaces an injured fielder with the Impact Player in the middle of an over. The substituted player can take no further part in the game -- not even as a substitute fielder. In a scenario where a bowler is suspended, having bowled two beamers in an over, he can be replaced by the Impact Player, but that player cannot bowl.

Will teams be allowed an Impact Player in shortened games?

Yes, but not if a delayed start reduces the match to fewer than ten overs per side. If the scheduled number of overs per innings is more than ten, the Impact Player can be introduced, with a sliding cut-off point. For example, in a 17-overs-a-side game, the Impact Player can come on before the end of the 13th over of either inning. In an 11-overs-a-side game, he can enter before the end of the ninth over. If the match begins as a full T20 game, and if the side batting first has faced at least ten overs when there is an interruption in play, both teams will be able to use an Impact Player regardless of the extent of reduction of overs. If the match is reduced such that one team has already used its Impact Player, but the second innings is reduced to less than ten overs, the second team can still use its Impact Player -- before the end of the seventh over in a nine-over innings, for example, or before the end of the third over in a five-over innings.

Likely scenarios to use the tactical sub

The rule has the potential to reduce the impact of the toss. For example, if a team loses the toss and has to bowl second when the dew sets in, it has the opportunity to strengthen its bowling attack for that challenge. Similarly, on a pitch that is turning square, the team batting second could boost its batting with an extra batter. The ruling will also help teams offset the impact of a player picking up an injury during the game.

Substitute's role

Along with the starting XI, teams will name four substitutes in their team sheet at the toss, and use one of the four during the match. The player can replace any member of the starting XI at any point before the end of the 14th over of either inning and will be able to bat and bowl his full allotment of overs.

"Tactically, the Impact Player can play any role during the game. For example, the Impact Player can replace a batter who has already been dismissed and still get to bat - as long as the team only uses 11 batters. Or he could replace a bowler who has already sent down a few overs and still get to bowl his full four-over quota," it added.

BREAST MILK BANK SUCCESS TO BE REPLICATED IN 2 MORE KERALA HOSPITALS

Thiruvananthapuram: After a year of successful operation of the Kozhikode Breast milk bank, the Kerala health department on Saturday announced that similar banks will be set up at the Women and Children hospitals at Thiruvananthapuram and Thrissur.



State Health Minister Veena George on Saturday after visiting the Kozhikode breast milk bank said this bank has been a huge succor to many mothers and kids. The whole purpose of this state-of-the-art breast milk bank is to promote breast-feeding and to give all the support to kids and new mothers. The Kozhikode breast milk bank since its opening a year back has so far helped 1,813 kids with 1,397 mothers donating breast milk to the bank. So far 1,26,225 ml of breast milk has been collected and 1,16,315 ml has been distributed," said George. This bank provides collected milk to the needy babies, after all the mandatory tests are conducted at the state of the art laboratory attached to the Kozhikode Medical College hospital. George said similar banks will very soon open at Thiruvananthapuram and Thrissur.

Govt efforts to conserve wildlife lead to rise in protected areas



Team Absolute | New Delhi

The coverage of protected areas, which was 4.90 per cent of the country's geographical area in 2014, has now increased to 5.03 per cent, with the number of such areas rising from 740 with an area of 1,61,081.62 square km in 2014 to present 981 with an area of 1,71,921 square km.

Forest and tree cover has increased by 16,000 square kms in the last four years. India is among few countries in the world where

forest cover is consistently increasing. There has also been an increase in the number of community reserves. From just 43 in 2014, their numbers are more than 100 in 2019.

India is home to 52 Tiger Reserves covering approximately 75,000 square km area in 18 states with approximately 75 per cent population of the wild tiger at global level. India achieved the goal of doubling the tiger numbers in 2018 itself, four years in advance from the targeted year 2022. The tiger population in India has increased from 2,226 in

2014 to 2,967 in 2018.

The budgetary allocation for tiger conservation has increased from Rs 185 crore in 2014 to Rs 300 crore in 2022. The population of Asiatic lions has shown a steady increase with a population of 674 individuals with an increase rate of 28.87 per cent (one of the highest growth rates so far) from the 523 lions in 2015.

India, in 2020, had 12,852 leopards as compared to the previous estimate of 7,910 conducted in 2014, or more than 60 per cent increase in population.

3 SEPARATE FIRs LODGED AFTER ACB RAIDS, AAP MLA AMANATULLAH KHAN'S AIDE ARRESTED

New Delhi: Delhi Police have registered three separate FIRs after Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) sleuths raided four locations linked to Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) MLA Amanatullah Khan while they were probing some alleged irregularities in Delhi Waqf Board recruitment.

Apart from registration of FIRs, the police have arrested the AAP MLA's close aide Hamid Ali (54), a resident of Jamia Nagar in Arms Act case.

Notably, Khan was also arrested on Friday. "One illegal weapon and some live cartridges were recovered from Hamid Ali's house. He was arrested in this case," Deputy Commissioner of Police (southeast) Esha Pandey said.

The second FIR was registered against Kaushar Imam Siddique alias Laddan, a resident of Jogabai Extension, also under the Arms Act.

"A country-made pistol and three live rounds were recovered from his place. He is evading arrest," the senior official informed.

MoRTH makes 58 citizen-centric services to go online

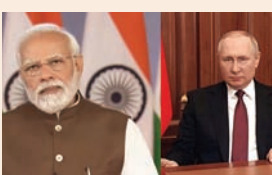


New Delhi: The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH) has issued a notification to make 58 citizen-centric services related to driving license, conductor license, vehicle registration, permit, transfer of ownership among others, online.

Eliminating the need to visit the RTO, these services can be availed with the help of Aadhaar authentication, on a voluntary basis. Providing such services in a contactless and faceless manner would go a long way in saving critical time of citizens while easing their compliance burden. Consequently, the footfall at the RTOs is likely to significantly reduce, which would lead to greater efficiency in their functioning, said the Ministry.

'WE WANT ALL OF THIS TO END': PUTIN TO MODI ON UKRAINE CONFLICT

New Delhi: Russian President Vladimir Putin has told Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi that he is aware of India's concerns over his country's conflict with Ukraine, and wanted the war to end.



During the bilateral meeting between both the leaders on the sidelines of the SCO Summit in Samarkand, Putin was quoted on Friday as saying, "I know about your position on the conflict in Ukraine, and I know about your concerns. We want all of this to end as soon as possible. We will keep you abreast of what is happening there." The Russian President said this after Modi told him that "today's time is not the time for war".

This was the first face-to-face meeting between Modi and Putin after Russia had attacked Ukraine in February this year.

Aiming decriminalisation of offences, CBDT issues revised guidelines for compounding

Team Absolute | New Delhi

Aiming decriminalisation of offences, the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) on Saturday issued revised guidelines for compounding of offences under the Income Tax Act, 1961 with reference to various offences covered under its prosecution provisions.

Some of the major changes made for the benefit of taxpayers include making the offence punishable under Section 276 of the Act as compoundable. Further, the scope of eligibility for compounding of cases has been relaxed whereby the case of an applicant who has been convicted with imprisonment for less than 2 years being previously non-compoundable, has now been made compoundable. The discretion available with the competent authority has also been suitably



restricted. As per the department, the time limit for acceptance of compounding applications has

been relaxed from the earlier limit of 24 months to 36 months now, from the date of filing of the com-

plaint. Besides, procedural complexities have also been reduced and simplified.

6.6-Magnitude Earthquake Hits Taiwan's East Coast

Taipei, Taiwan | Agencies

A 6.6-magnitude earthquake struck off the east coast of Taiwan, the US Geological Survey said.

The quake hit just after 9:30 pm (1330 GMT) about 50 kilometres (30 miles) north of the coastal city of Taitung at 10 kilometres deep, the USGS said.

Local media initially reported no injuries or damage from the quake. Taiwan's Central Weather Bureau put the magnitude slightly lower at 6.4 but said it was shallower at 7.3 kilometres.

Taiwan is regularly hit by earthquakes as the island lies near the junction of two tectonic plates.

The island does not issue tsunami warnings

unless a quake is more powerful than magnitude 7.0.

Some earthquakes of 6.0 or more can prove deadly, although much depends on where the quake strikes and at what depth.

But the USGS estimated there was a low likelihood of casualties today, though said some damage was possible.

Officials said that specific upper limits have been introduced for the compounding fee covering defaults across several provisions of the Act. Additional compounding charges in the nature of penal interest at the rate of 2 per cent per month up to 3 months and 3 per cent per month beyond 3 months have been reduced to 1 per cent and 2 per cent, respectively.



PM ADDRESSES WOMEN SHGS CONFERENCE IN SHEOPUR

Team Absolute | Bhopal

Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Saturday that he could not visit to his mother to seek her blessings on his birthday, but she will be happy to see that thousands of mothers have gathered to bless him on the day.

The Prime Minister made the remarks while addressing the gathering of over one lakh women associated with self-help groups (SHGs) in Madhya Pradesh's Sheopur district.

Prime Minister Modi on his 72nd birthday visited to Madhya Pradesh where he released eight African cheetahs into enclosure at Kuno National Park. Following which, he graced a women SHGs conference being organised in Sheopur district.

"I would have gone to my mother to seek her blessings on my birthday, if today's programmes weren't organised here. But, thousands of mothers have come to bless me here and after seeing all this, my mother would be very happy that I am getting blessings



of thousands of mothers here," Prime Minister Modi said.

He was welcomed with great enthusiasm by artists who performed tribal dance and other cultural programmes organised by the state government. Meanwhile, the Prime Minister recounted several women beneficiary schemes for women

under his government.

On the occasion, Union Minister Narendra Singh Tomar, who is a prominent political face from Gwalior-Chambal region, said that around 60 per cent area of Sheopur district have dense forest zone. "Sheopur is a very small district, however, it is filled with natural resources.

There are several ancient temples of Lord Shiva and that is why this area was named Sheopur."

Notably, Sheopur has two assembly seats - Sheopur and Vijaypur, and the BJP and Congress each has one MLA. However, the fact that, Sheopur, which is the part of Gwalior-Chambal region, is also considered the most remote area in the state and has highest malnutrition cases in the state.

The women SHGs participating in the conference were those who run several initiatives being promoted under the Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana-National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM).

DAY-NRLM aims at mobilising rural poor households into SHGs in a phased manner and provide them long-term support to diversify their livelihoods, improve their incomes and quality of life.

On the day, the Prime Minister also inaugurated four Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTG) skilling centres under PM Kaushal Vikas Yojana.

Madhya Pradesh is now 'Cheetah State': Shivraj



Team Absolute | Bhopal

Madhya Pradesh will now be recognized as a Cheetah State in the country and the world, Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan has expressed such hope. Chouhan has said, Madhya Pradesh (MP) is amazing, most amazing. After 'Tiger State', 'Leopard State', 'Vulture State', 'Gharial State', it will now be 'Cheetah State'. He further said, Madhya Pradesh has the highest number of tigers at 526, the maximum number of leopards at

3421. The forest cover in the state is more than 30 percent. The state has 10 national parks, six tiger reserves and 25 wildlife sanctuaries. Along with this, gharial and vulture are also highest in Madhya Pradesh.

Chouhan says that "cheetahs have come from Namibia. Cheetahs being brought in is an extraordinary event. I am saying this extraordinary because cheetahs ceased to exist in our country around 1952. Now cheetahs from other continents." We are bringing them

and relocating them here. Perhaps this is the biggest event of this century. We will settle here by bringing special wildlife from other continents. We will try to keep the cheetah family growing naturally. "He further said, "The arrival of the cheetah is not only a task to restore an extinct species, but it will also create a balance of the environment. This will enrich the wildlife. Not only this, Sheopur district and its surroundings New employment opportunities will be created."

CM Chouhan plants Moulshree, Kachnar and Karanj saplings

Team Absolute | Bhopal

Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan planted saplings of Moulshree, Kachnar and Karanj along with the members of National Service Scheme Unit of Oriental College of Technology, Bhopal in the Smart City Park in Shyamla Hills. Dr. Shivaji Verma, Dr. Sonia Goswami, Dr. Amita Mahour, Ayush Thakur, Anand Jaiswal, Khushi Aswani, Sumukh Patidar, Rupal Saraswat, Ashi Vishwakarma, Akanksha Singh and Dr. Sonendra Gupta of Service Scheme participated in plantation. The National Service Scheme Unit of Oriental College is active in activities like tree plantation, blood donation camp and old age home services since the year 2016. The unit provides clothes and



food etc. to the needy people from time to time. Also cycle rallies are organised by the unit for the purpose of yoga, education and awareness for cleanliness.

Importance of plants
Moulshree planted is a medicinal tree, it has been used in Ayurveda for cen-

turies. Kachnar is a beautiful flowering tree. Nature has made many plants and trees that abound in medicinal properties, among them Kachnar is one. Karanj plant is considered important in Ayurvedic medicine. Karanj plant is also used in religious works.

ARTISANS PANCHAYAT WILL BE CONVENED SOON

CM Chouhan attends Vishwakarma Jayanti programme

Team Absolute | Bhopal

Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan has said that the development and construction works on earth were started by Lord Vishwakarma. Vishwakarma community is diligently engaged in the works started by Lord Vishwakarma, the creator of the universe. This is a Karmayogi community. Chief Minister Chouhan was addressing a programme organised by Sarv Vishwakarma Samaj Samiti, Bhopal at Imami Gate area on Lord Vishwakarma Jayanti this evening. CM Chouhan greeted the citizens present on Lord Vishwakarma Jayanti.

Chief Minister Chouhan said that in the past, an artisan panchayat was held at the CM residence. A conference of artisans having different skills and abilities associated with Vishwakarma community will be organised again. This will help in



resolving various business problems of the artisans. CM Chouhan congratulated the elected corporators from Vishwakarma society, Rita and Mamta Vishwakarma. Chief Minister Chouhan paid homage by garlanding the picture of the statue of Lord Vishwakarma. The office bearers of the Samiti welcomed CM Chouhan. The programme was attended by

Samiti president Ashok Vishwakarma, State Secretary Govardhan Vishwakarma, Convener Brijesh Vishwakarma, Amar Singh, Harishankar, Jwala Prasad, Vinod, Vishnu Vishwakarma, District Panchayat member Radheshyam, Jeevan, Avadhanarayan, Shyam, Krishna Kumar, Ajay, Motilal Vishwakarma and other office bearers

besides a large number of citizens and public representatives. Apart from Vishwakarma worship, the Samiti organised a grand chal samaroh (procession) that started from Agrasen Square, Imami Gate culminated at Bus Stand Chhola Mandir. The Samiti congratulated the community members present on the birthday of Prime Minister Modi.

Various programmes for service of humanity, resolution held on Prime Ministers birthday

Health check-up, blood donation camps organised at Rajbhawan

Team Absolute | Bhopal

A free health check-up camp was organised at Raj Bhawan on the birthday of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The camp was organised by All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Bhopal on the instructions of Governor Mangubhai Patel. In the camp, health check-up of 165 persons was done by physicians of medicine, gynaecologist, paediatrician, dentist and sickle cell anaemia specialists.

Governor Mangubhai Patel has got various programmes organised on the occasion of Prime Minister's birthday to strengthen and inspire the



resolve of service for the suffering humanity in the society. Blood donation, health camps have been organised at the state, various districts and sub-branches of the

Indian Red Cross Society. Governor Patel provided financial assistance of Rs. 4 lakh 72 thousand to seven patients undergoing treatment at All India Institute of

Medical Sciences. In the same sequence, health checkup was done by All India Institute of Medical Sciences Bhopal gynaecologist Dr. Pushpalata, sickle cell anaemia disease specialist Dr Sachin Bansal, paediatrician Dr Shikha Malik, Dr. Anisha Roslin Abraham, Dr. Rajkumar, dentist Dr. Anshul Rai and medicine specialist Dr Rajneesh Joshi in the health check-up camp organised in Sandipani Auditorium of Raj Bhawan. The beneficiaries of the camp included 100 men and 65 women. Raj Bhawan Medical Officer BK Srivastava made arrangements and coordinated for the health check-up camp.

Inauguration of Naturopathy Treatment Unit & CME on PCOS Organized at AIIMS, Bhopal

Team Absolute | Bhopal

Naturopathy unit was inaugurated by Prof Dr. Ajai Singh, Director & CEO of AIIMS, Bhopal. This event was followed by a CME on PCOS which was organized on the occasion of PCOS Awareness Month. Dr. Santosh Wakode was the Chairperson of the event. The following event was organized by Dr. Ragini Shrivastava, Associate Professor, Physiology. Faculty, students, and other staff members of AIIMS Bhopal registered their presence in the event. Lectures were delivered by faculties of AIIMS, Bhopal. Dr. Ragini delivered lecture on Current health burden & pathophysiology of PCOS. Dr. Shweta Patel and Dr. K. Pushpalatha delivered lectures on symptoms and trends of management of PCOS respectively. Dr. Shweta Mishra explained the role



of yoga and naturopathy in PCOS management.

All experts agreed upon the need of healthy lifestyle modification, yoga and naturopathy in the management of PCOS. AIIMS Bhopal in collaboration with ICMR is currently working on a research project to determine the clinical efficacy of yoga and naturopathy in PCOS management. Dr. Ragini Shrivastava is the principal investigator of the project, Dr. Shweta Patel, Dr. Shweta Mishra, Dr. K. Pushpalatha and Dr. Radha Gupta are co-investigators of the project. Under this project, various awareness campaigns & lectures were organized in the nearby community & educational institutions.

PCOS is a hormonal disorder that affects females of reproductive age. Future complications include cardiovascular risks, diabetes, infertility, and endometrial carcinoma. Early management plays a key role in avoiding future complications.

CM CHOUHAN GREETS PRIME MINISTER MODI ON HIS BIRTHDAY

Bhopal : Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan has extended best wishes to Prime Minister Narendra Modi on his birthday on behalf of all the people of the state. CM Shri Chouhan has said that the country is progressing under the leadership of Prime Minister Modi, Modi is giving direction to the world, he is not only working for the welfare of the people of the country, but also giving his contribution to fulfill the resolve of the welfare of the world. It is the good fortune of Madhya Pradesh that Prime Minister Modi will be on the soil of the state on his birthday. Chief Minister Chouhan said this in a message issued to the media from his residence.

Chief Minister Chouhan said that from the birthday of Prime Minister Modi, camps are being started in every Panchayat and every ward of the urban area to provide the benefits of the schemes to the remaining eligible beneficiaries of various schemes of the Central and State Governments. It is our endeavour that no eligible beneficiary should be deprived of the benefits of the schemes. Along with this, a massive campaign of plantation is being conducted by Yuva Morcha in the state, in which 25 lakh saplings will be planted today. Besides, plantation will also be done by the women self-help groups of the state. CM Chouhan said that along with organising blood donation camps on the occasion of Prime Minister Modi's birthday, equipments would be provided to the differently-abled brothers and sisters as per their needs. Sewa Pakhwada (service fortnight) is also being started in the state.

"Cheetahs Won't Change This": Scant Cheer Among Locals Over Historic Move

Team Absolute | Sheopur

After releasing cheetahs, extinct in India for seven decades, in Madhya Pradesh's Kuno National Park on his 72nd birthday, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said the felines' reintroduction would be a blessing for the region. Residents of the district, however, have little to cheer, as ground realities indicate they will keep struggling after the celebrations die down.

There is acute malnutrition and poverty in the villages around the forest and sanctuary in which these cheetahs brought from Namibia will live. There's also severe lack of employment.

NDTV travelled to Kakra, one such village located between Shivpuri and



Sheopur. What it saw never appeared in national media. It has been claimed that big changes will transform the area now that the big cats have a home there. Even if that is true, wildlife experts estimate it'll take at least 20-25 years for these changes to happen. A large population of cheetahs might pull tourists here, creating new opportunities and affecting social change. However, the near future

remains bleak, when state intervention is required urgently. In Sheopur district, more than 21 thousand children are suffering from malnutrition, the Madhya Pradesh government has admitted in the state assembly. Two weeks ago, a girl child died of malnutrition in the same district. Malnutrition was officially eradicated here, as officials removed the name of starving children from the list as soon

as they turned five.

Kakra village, where NDTV travelled to, also has two-three children suffering from malnutrition. Villagers said there's no job opportunities and extreme poverty there. Children are malnourished. When asked if cheetahs being released would benefit them, they said they have nothing to gain from it. "Their arrival will not make any difference to our situation," they said.

In the area where the Kuno National Park is located, there are about 23 villages that are struggling with poverty and malnutrition. Their total population is about 56,000.

No particular political party has electorally dominated the area, and representatives of both the BJP and Congress have been representing the region for decades.

Rhythmic evening with a mesmerizing

The event filled with Hindustani, Carnatic, folk, indie pop and rock genre dazzling performances

Team Absolute | Bhopal

Bhopalis enjoy an evening full of multi genre songs by Popular playback singer Ranjini Jose at Campion School Auditorium Bhopal. The audience was all pumped up and grooved and sang along to the singer. With lights and interactive music performances, not just the audience, but the singer enjoyed the evening as well. The singer Ranjini Jose said "Bhopal is as cool as the crowd, this is my second visit and I feel amazing to be back in Bhopal. Last two years things were mostly online...there was a span as well when nothing was happening at all. Normalcy is returning, and this is what

makes me happy."

The auditorium was full of a happy crowd, and not just the youngsters, but people of all age groups. The vibe is positive with a lot of oomph throughout the performance. Ranjini Jose with her band 'Eka' of talented musicians played some amazing songs that made the audience enjoy. Ranjini started her career in the year 1999, with the Aadyathe Kuttumon for the movie, American Amaayi. Singer Ranjini Jose has many favourite songs, she is an Indian singer who has sung over 500 songs in various film industries including Hindi, Telugu, Malayalam, Kannada, and Tamil languages. Ranjini Jose is a well known playback singer in the South India film industry.



RBI READY TO BRING CARD TOKENISATION NORMS INTO EFFECT FROM OCT 1

Team Absolute | Mumbai

RBI ready to bring card tokenisation norms into effect from Oct 1

Mumbai: The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) is ready to bring its card-on-file tokenisation norms into effect from October 1 after various complaints were filed regarding the misuse of debit or credit cards.

Several people were cheated in the last few years by cyber frauds because they have stored their card data on the merchants website for future payments.

Lets us understand what these new norms are and why you should tokenise your card.

Firstly, tokenisation means the details of your cards such as 16-digit number, names, expiry dates and codes which you used to save earlier for the future payments will now be replaced by a token. The token is used by the merchant's website for the transaction. The RBI is implementing these norms of tokenisation in order to secure the card details of the customers. Currently, the bank card details are saved by a merchant



during a transaction. If, the merchant's website is hacked, the details of the customers will be exposed.

Post implementation of these norms all the customers data will be with the bank and not with the merchant website. Securing/Tokenisation also helps you save the hassle of

inputting your complete card details each time. Customers need not have to pay any charges for availing this service.

Once the customer tokenised their cards they will be able to recognise their details on the merchants website using the last 4 four digits of the

Post implementation of these norms, customers have to follow below mentioned steps to get their cards tokenised

Step 1: Visit your favourite online application/website to purchase grocery, pay bills or order food and initiate a transaction.

Step 2: In the check-out page, select HDFC Bank Credit/Debit Card and provide CVV

Step 3: Tick mark the check box "Secure your Card" or "Save Card as per RBI guidelines"

Step 4: Enter the OTP received on your registered mobile number

Step 5: Congratulations!!! Your card details are now secured.

cards, which is the only data the merchant will be able to save on their portal.

Further banks will provide a portal to their customers to view or manage their tokenised cards.

We Are Original Shiv Sena: Uddhav Thackeray

Team Absolute | Mumbai

In a veiled swipe at Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde, Shiv Sena president Uddhav Thackeray on Saturday said he heads the "original" Sena which was born out of social work spanning four generations.

Addressing the party functionaries at Shiv Sena Bhavan here, Thackeray said Sena cannot be "snatched away or purchased".

"We are the original party born out of decades of social work spanning four generations," he said.

Thackeray said the attempts made in the past to weaken Shiv Sena by engineering splits and defections had failed and wouldn't succeed even now.

Shiv Sena spokesman and Lok Sabha MP Vinayak Raut told media that Thackeray asked the party functionaries to activate the grassroots cadre and focus on strengthening the party organization.

Mr Thackeray told the party functionaries that the annual Dussehra rally of Shiv Sena will be held at the traditional spot at Shivaji Park in Mumbai and asked them to prepare themselves for the event. As part of the preparations for the rally, Thackeray will meet Sena functionaries on September 21.

The applications filed by the factions led by Thackeray and Shinde seeking a nod for the



rally are pending approval with the Mumbai civic body.

Eknath Shinde's rebellion, along with 40 MLAs, against the Sena leadership, led to the collapse of the Thackeray-led Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) government in June this year.

The Shinde camp calls itself the original Shiv Sena of Bal Thackeray and had also staked the claim to Sena's poll symbol- a "bow and arrow". Both factions are locked in a legal battle in the Supreme Court over a host of issues, including the disqualification of rebel legislators and various appointments made by the rebel camp.

9-time Congress MP and ex-Union Minister Manikrao Gavit dies

Team Absolute | Nashik

Senior Congress tribal leader and former union minister Manikrao Gavit passed away due to age-related illness at a hospital here on Saturday, a party leader said.

Gavit - who served as MoS for Home and later Social Justice under former Prime Minister Dr Manmohan Singh - was 87 and is survived by his son Bharat and his daughter, ex-MLA Nirmala.

Gavit was elected a record nine times from the tribal dominated Nandurbar district from 1981 till 2009, but lost the elections under the Bharatiya Janata Party wave of 2014. In 2019, his son Bharat joined the BJP after he was denied a ticket by the



Congress while two-time MLA from Igatpuri (Nashik) Nirmala joined the Shiv Sena and was defeated.

Maharashtra Congress President Nana Patole expressed grief over his demise and said the state has lost a prominent and far-sighted 'people-oriented

leader' who had a long experience in the social and political arena.

Born in a humble tribal family at Dhulipada village in Nawapur of Nandurbar district, Gavit plunged into social life from his youth days. Starting with the Gram Panchayat in 1965, he was later elected to the Dhule Zilla Parishad and in 1980 bagged the Nawapur Assembly seat.

From 1981 to 2009, he was elected from Nandurbar Lok Sabha constituency a record 9 consecutive times, making it one of the main Congress strongholds in the state.

In the 15th Lok Sabha, Gavit and CPM MP Vasudev Acharya were the only two MPs elected nine times who were the star members of the lower house.

FDA cancels Johnson & Johnson's licence to make baby powder

The Maharashtra FDA has cancelled the baby talcum powder manufacturing licence of Johnson & Johnson (J&J), from its sole plant in the state at Mulund, officials said.

Team Absolute | Mumbai

The FDA said that the licence was cancelled after samples of the fast-moving Johnson's Baby Powder collected from Nashik and Pune have failed quality checks, and has ordered the company to recall all its stocks from the markets.

These samples were declared by the FDA as 'Not Of Standard Quality' after it failed to comply with IS5339:2009 (Second Revision Amendment No. 3) Specification for Skin Powder for infants in the test pH.

The powder samples were collected in November 2019, followed by a show-cause notice issued to the company after the FDA report.

However, J&J challenged the FDA's notice in



the court even as the report of the Central Drugs Laboratory (CDL), Kolkata, was awaited.

The CDL Kolkata confirmed the government analyst's earlier report and issued its final conclusion in the matter after which the FDA swung into action and revoked J&J's licence.

In a statement on its September 15 order, the FDA said: "The product Johnsons Baby Powder is popularly used in new born babies. The sample declared Not of Standard in pH and the use of the product may affect the health of the skin of the new born babies." Experts, activists and pediatricians have expressed concern over the delay in the FDA licence cancellation order after its first notice to J&J as millions of infants may have used the Johnsons Baby Powder in the intervening period.

SANJAY RAUT OPERATED BEHIND CURTAINS: ED TO COURT

Team Absolute | Mumbai

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Friday opposed the bail application of Shiv Sena MP Sanjay Raut, stating that he has played a major role in the money-laundering case related to Patra Chawl scam case and operated behind curtains.

Sanjay Raut had filed an application for bail in the Special PMLA Court in Mumbai, to which the ED filed its reply.

The ED on Friday filed a reply in a special PMLA court and said that Sanjay Raut is accused of money laundering for which ED has sufficient evidence.

The ED has mentioned in its reply that it filed a supplementary prosecution complaint against Sanjay Raut on September 15.

It said that the first prosecution complaint against Sanjay Raut was filed on April 1, 2022.

The Enforcement Directorate while opposing the bail plea of Sanjay Raut has levelled several allegations against him.

"The role of Sanjay Raut's proxy and confidant Praveen Raut has been comprehensively brought out in the supplementary charge sheet filed on



September 15, 2022. In order to avoid trial Sanjay Raut has been operating behind the curtains and Praveen Raut being his frontman," said ED.

The probe agency denied Raut's claim that the action against him was motivated by malice or political vendetta.

"It is humbly submitted that Sanjay Raut is fully involved in the offence of money laundering defined under section 3 and punishable under Section 4 of the PMLA Act 2002," it said.

"Redevelopment of Patra Chawl was to be done by Guru Ashish Construction Private Limited (GACPL) for 672 tenants with Maharashtra Housing and Area Development Authority (MHADA) but even before the construction GACPL sold the FSI to third-party developers for a sum of 1034 crore. This 1,034 crore was an amount from proceeds of crime (POC) by the illegal and unauthorised sale of FSI to developers. Out of POC of 1034 crores, Praveen Raut got 112 crores in his bank account through Housing Development and Infrastructure Ltd (HDIL)," the ED said.

The probe agency further said that the investigations till now have revealed that Sanjay Raut had utilised Rs 3,27,85,475 from this POC for creating assets.

"Apart from this spending, the proceeds of crime were utilised in pleasure trips and other expenses. Details of the same expenses have been brought out in the supplementary prosecution complaint filed by ED on September 15," it added.

Life imprisonment in murder case after six years

A court in Maharashtra's Thane district has sentenced a man to life imprisonment for killing a 50-year-old person in 2016 after failing to rob him.

Team Absolute | Mumbai

District and additional sessions judge S S Gorwade also imposed a fine of Rs 5,000 on Sandeep Joginder Jha alias Batlya.

Additional public prosecutor Sachin Kulkarni said that victim Mahendra Dalvi (50) had come to Dombivali near Thane from Kankavli in Sindhudurg district to attend a marriage function of his relative in November 2016.

During his stay, when he returning to the relative's place in the wee hours of November 7, the accused tried to rob him. In a bid to scare him, he stabbed the victim with a sharp weapon, following which the latter died.

Also Read: Operation Yatri Suraksha: Western Railway nabs habitual offender at Andheri Initially, the police failed to ascertain the identity of the victim. But after they published his photographs,

one of the relatives recognised him, with his son later confirming that the deceased was his father.

The judge relied on the deposition of eight witnesses, including an eye witness who saw the accused stabbing the victim, the prosecutor said.

The accused used to indulge in petty crimes around the Dombivili railway station, and he had been convicted earlier for some offences.

SCHOOL TEACHER GETS STUCK BETWEEN MOVING LIFT DOORS, DIES

Mumbai: A 26-year-old teacher has died after she got stuck in a school lift in Mumbai, said police.

The incident was reported on Friday from St Mary's English High School at Chincholi Bunder in Malad, a suburb located in North Mumbai.

Jenel Fernandes was waiting on the sixth floor to get to the staff room on the second floor at around 1 pm, said police. As the door had not shut, her bag got caught, bringing her down and crushing her head, showed CCTV footage.

The school staff rushed to help her and she was pulled out but was severely injured.

She was rushed to a private hospital where doctors declared her brought dead on arrival.

"During the primary investigation, we registered an accidental death report. Should there be any foul play, we will act accordingly," said Vishal Thakur, deputy commissioner of police, zone 11.

Pardhis beg to differ, but social stigma keeps them poor and hungry

Purnima Sah | Beed

Every time Anandgaon village witnesses a wedding, Pardhis turn both hopeful and distressed. Their mere presence anywhere near the venue is enough to make people throw a fit. But once the guests recede, the real acts of desperation begin.

"We wait until the wedding is over. Before stray dogs could claim their share, we pounce on the dustbins hoping to grab some leftovers," says Sunita Govind Kare, portraying the sense of deprivation that chokes the members of the nomadic tribe, considered the descendants of Maharana Pratap. Sunita belongs to a 200-member-strong Pardhi settlement on the fringes of Anandgaon, around 60 km from Kaij town in Beed district of Maharashtra. It has been over three decades since they occupied the 25-acre-plot, but they still bear the tag of dacoits, thieves, hunters and 'a disease' by the dominant Marathas.

"The villagers want us to leave. False allegations are made against us. But where will we go from here," asks Bhagwat Motiram Kare, a resident of the settlement.

Pardhis are hired neither for harvesting sugar-cane, a major crop in the region, nor for menial



tasks. They grow soybean for personal consumption and try to sell the surplus. "But nobody buys from us. So we have to resort to begging, even for water. Stone-pelting, hurling of fireballs at night, abuse and sexual harassment of our women and children make matters worse," Bhagwat bemoans.

All these are exactly the reasons why Pardhis in Dhakephal, located 180 km from Kaij, settled on a remote patch. Trudging through a winding dirt road crossing agricultural fields and barren stretches will take one to the government land they had 'encroached' upon (atirkaman, as they say) some 25 years ago in a bid to make a home for themselves.

As per the 2011 Census, Pardhi population in Beed district stands at 5,556, while it is 2,23,527 in

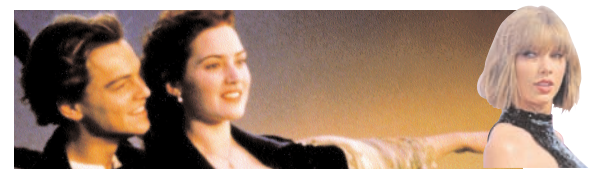
the whole of Maharashtra. Other major tribes in the state are Koli Mahadev, Dongar Koli, Gond, Raj Gond, Arakh and Advichincher.

According to Bhavna Menon, programme manager, Last Wilderness Foundation, the organisation tries to better the lives of Pardhis through education, livelihood and measures to improve social status, the tribe worked for the ruling kings, and later the British, before taking to hunting. "In 1871, the British outlawed them under the Criminal Tribes Act, along with 150 other communities, and stamped them as hereditary criminals. Although this Act was repealed in 1952 to bring Pardhis under the classification of nomadic denotified tribes, the stigma still continues," explains Menon. Social stigma keeps them away from even health

institutions. They neither receive immunisations nor are visited by ASHA workers. Approximately two weeks before childbirth, Pardhi women are isolated in makeshift huts and barred from making social and physical contacts. They have to handle all the chores on their own, besides dealing with the pain and process of birthing. As per a report from the Tribal Development Department of Maharashtra, development plans, housing facility, road access and subsidised vocational training among others, for Pardhis have been in place since 2011. It claims the community has benefited, but the reality is different.

"Under the three-year-old Pardhi Vikas Yojana, development plans are applicable to only those who own land. In areas with tribal concentration, we have provided roads, water, housing and electricity. Unfortunately, this scheme is not active at the moment and we do not know the reasons," says Shripad Mehetre, Assistant Project Officer, Aurangabad Tribal Development Department, while acknowledging the scheme's lapse.

Mehetre could not provide beneficiary data for the livelihood enhancement programmes for Pardhis. Another source from the same department says on condition of anonymity that "there is neither any budget consistency from the state govern-



BEYONCE, BILLIE EILISH

INDUCTED INTO GUINNESS WORLD RECORDS HALL OF FAME

Los Angeles | Agencies

Singers Beyonce and Billie Eilish have been inducted into the Guinness World Records Hall of Fame.

Both Eilish and Beyonce appear multiple times in the 2023 edition of the book, that's been tracking record-breaking achievements since 1955, reports billboard.com.

Eilish lands two new nods, for 'Most consecutive Grammy nominations for Record of the Year (female)' and 'Youngest person to win the Triple Crown of film music awards', taking home an Oscar, Golden Globe and Grammy for her James Bond track, 'No Time to Die' at just aged 20.

Beyonce, meantime, lands more than a dozen entries in this year's Guinness World Records book, including 'First act to debut at number one with their first six studio albums' (now seven albums with the recent release of her album 'Renaissance') and 'Highest annual earnings for a female singer'.

Beyonce also tops Guinness' list of 'Most current Twitter engagements (retweets) for a female musician' and shares the world record with husband Jay-Z for 'Highest earning couple in Hollywood ever'.

The accolades are enough to make Beyonce the latest person inducted into the Guinness World Records Hall of Fame, whose recent inductees also include BTS, Simone Biles and Greta Thunberg.



Los Angeles | Agencies

DiCaprio

advises Timothee Chalamet against starring in superhero movies

Hollywood star Leonardo DiCaprio is apparently not a fan of superhero movies and he has convinced Timothee Chalamet to follow in his footsteps. The Oscar-winning actor has passed his wisdom to the 26-year-old star, which the latter has eagerly accepted as his career rule, reports aceshowbiz.com.

In an interview for an October issue of British Vogue published the 'Bones and All' star revealed the life advice that his 'Don't Look Up' co-star shared with him, which is, "No hard drugs and no superhero movies". According to the publication, Chalamet has had no problem keeping up with the rule so far. In the interview, Chalamet also discussed how his successful acting career didn't come align with adulthood. "I had a delusional dream in my early teenage years to have, in my late teenage years, an acting career," he shared. "When COVID hit, it required me to take a step back and be humbled to the idea that the greatest rock star... No, I don't want to use that word, sorry, sorry. Scratch rock star. But (everyone has to) deal with, like, taxes and the dentist and real adulting, you know?" Timothee said, "I should have been trying to get my adult feet under myself a little bit earlier than I did."

Kim has their kids 80% of the time, says Kanye West

Los Angeles | Agencies

Reality TV star Kim Kardashian looks after her children "80 per cent" of the time. Her ex-husband and rapper Kanye West revealed that the mother of North, Saint, Chicago and Psalm is the one who takes care of the children the majority of the time even though he still gives her advice where he can. Speaking on the 'Mind Full' podcast, the rapper said: "Even to this day, I'll still give Kim advice on things that could help because that's going to go to the kids. She's still gotta, 80 per cent of the time, raise those children."

"So what people saw when I was going back and forth is that I still have to be able to throw my version of what people would throw into the curriculum," reports aceshowbiz.com. However, 'The Kardashians' star, who filed for divorce from the 'Stronger' rapper back in 2020 after six years of marriage, is also said to co-parenting in a "healthy" way with her ex-husband and that being a "good father" has always been of great importance to Kanye as he strives to keep his children happy.



Los Angeles | Agencies

Sony Pictures has announced the "return of the original 'Karate Kid' franchise" to the big screen by dating a new 'Karate Kid' movie for June 7, 2024.

According to 'Variety', while the franchise has lived on thanks to Netflix's 'Cobra Kai' series, which just debuted its fifth season on the streaming platform, this new 'Karate Kid' project will be the franchise's first film offering since a 2010 reboot starring Jaden Smith. The 2024 'Karate Kid' movie does not yet have a synopsis for the studio or a cast and crew attached.

Other new titles added to Sony's release calendar included an untitled horror movie from Screen Gems set for release on January 6, 2023, and 'Missing', the next installment in the 'Searching' franchise. Storm Reid and Nia Long star in 'Missing', which opens February 24, 2023. Sony has also shifted release dates for several upcoming tentpoles. 'Madame Web', a comic book movie set in the Spider-Man universe that stars Dakota Johnson and Sydney Sweeney, is moving from October 6, 2023 to February 16, 2024.

Another Spider-Man universe film, the Aaron Taylor-Johnson 'Kraven the Hunter' movie, is shifting to October 6, 2023 from January 13, 2023. Both films will be released in Imax. An untitled Sony/Marvel Universe movie has been dated for July 12, 2024. Elsewhere, the Chris Pratt-voiced 'Garfield' movie will hit the theatres on May 24, 2024. The Adam Driver-starring thriller '65', from 'A Quiet Place' screenwriters Scott Beck and Bryan Woods, will open on March 10, 2023.



New Karate Kid' movie announced; 'Madame Web', 'Kraven the Hunter' pushed



Demi Moore joins 'Feud' Season 2

Los Angeles | Agencies

Actress Demi Moore will be seen starring alongside Tom Holland in the second season of 'Feud'. The second season of the Ryan Murphy anthology will tell the true story of how Truman Capote was friends with numerous members of New York high society until he published excerpts of his unfinished novel 'Answered Prayers,' with the excerpts serving as a tell-all about the city's elite, reports Variety.

According to sources, Moore would star as socialite Ann Woodward, a former showgirl and radio actress who was infamously accused of murdering her husband in 1955.

Moore joins previously announced cast members Tom Hollander, Diane Lane, Calista Flockhart, Naomi Watts and Chloe Sevigny, with Hollander set to play Capote.

This is the latest TV role Moore has taken on in recent years.

She has previously been on shows like 'Brave New World' at Peacock, 'Empire' at Fox, and lent her voice to 'Animals'.

She also appeared on the soap opera 'General Hospital' early in her career.

She is primarily known for her roles in films such as G.I. Jane, Striptease, Indecent Proposal, Ghost, and A Few Good Men.

Gus Van Sant is onboard to direct the entire eight-episode season of 'Feud'.

Sandra Oh to attend Queen's funeral as part of Canada delegation

Los Angeles | Agencies



'Killing Eve' star Sandra Oh is set to attend the Queen's funeral on Monday (September 19), as part of the delegation from Canada. The 'Grey's Anatomy' actress, 51, will join the group after she was made a member of the Order of Canada in June this year, reports mirror.co.uk.

Fellow Canadians, musician Gregory Charles and Olympian Mark Tewksbury will join Sandra, and the delegation will take part in the procession of national honours during the service this Bank Holiday Monday.

The delegation will be led by Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and his wife Sophie, alongside former prime ministers and governor-generals.

Trudeau announced the details during a special session of Canada's House of Commons yesterday. Sandra starred in medical drama Grey's Anatomy for just under a decade and then award winning spy drama Killing Eve, alongside Jodie Comer, between 2018 and 2022. She has won two Golden Globe Awards and been nominated for 13 Primetime Emmy Awards.

ABSOLUTE PIC OF THE DAY



Lori Harvey



3RD TEST:

Bengaluru | Agencies

Rajat Patidar's impressive century put India A in a strong position against New Zealand A in the third unofficial Test, at the Chinnaswamy Stadium, here on Saturday.

Chasing a target of 416 for victory, New Zealand went into stumps at 20/1 on Day 3.

Continuing his good form, Patidar struck his second three-figure score against New Zealand A in the series. His unbeaten 109, along with Ruturaj Gaikwad's 94, Priyank Panchal's 62 and Sarfaraz Khan's 63, powered India A to 395/7 in their second innings, extending the lead past 400, following which they declared.

India A started the day at 40/1, with Gaikwad and Panchal resuming their partnership. Both registered half-centuries as they extended their stand to 122 for the second wicket before Panchal was caught and bowled off Joe Walker. Two more century partnerships ensued - 102 between Gaikwad and Patidar, and 108 between Patidar and Sarfaraz - as the New Zealand A bowlers were left

PATIDAR'S TON PUTS INDIA A IN STRONG POSITION AGAINST NEW ZEALAND A



deflated. India A's scored at a brisk rate of 4.22, which kept visitors under the pressure throughout the innings, with late strikes from Rachin Ravindra only providing them a small consolation. In reply, Ravindra, who also opened the innings, was trapped leg-before by Saurabh Kumar in the 14-over period that New Zealand A had to bat before stumps.

While the first two four-day games ended in draws, the hosts India A have a good chance of securing a 1-0 series win over New Zealand A.

Brief scores

India A 293 & 359/7 decl (Rajat Patidar 109, Ruturaj Gaikwad 94, Sarfaraz Khan 63, Priyank Panchal 62; Rachin Ravindra 3-65) lead New Zealand A 20/1 (Rachin Ravindra 12; Saurabh Kumar 1-13) by 395 runs.

ATP announces massive upgrades to Challenger Tour; 60 per cent hike in prize money

New York | Agencies

The Association of Tennis Professionals (ATP) has announced significant upgrades to the ATP Challenger Tour, set to deliver a record number of events, multi-million dollar prize money increases and an optimised tournament calendar from the beginning of next year.

The reforms follow an in-depth review and strategy development, conducted by ATP's new senior Challenger Tour team over the past eight months, according to a statement issued by ATP.

Among the key changes which will lead to category simplification, ATP will phase out the Challenger 90 and 110 categories, reducing the number of categories from six to four. Starting in 2023, the core categories will be - Challenger 50, Challenger 75, Challenger 100 and Challenger 125.

In addition, ATP will introduce three new premium Challenger 175 events, during the second week of ATP Masters 1000 tournaments in Indian Wells, Rome and Madrid, with prize money of USD220,000.

The total prize money on the Challenger Tour will rise from USD13.2 million in 2022 to a record \$21.1 million in 2023, an increase of 60 per cent. This includes notable increases at Challenger 100 tournaments (USD106,240 to USD130,000) and Challenger 75 tournaments (USD53,120 to USD80,000).

In addition, round-by-round prize money distributions will improve earnings in the ear-



lier rounds of events. Together, these enhancements will help create a more sustainable player pathway for more players competing on the Challenger Tour, feels ATP.

Also, the 2023 Challenger Tour is set to deliver an all-time record of 195 events, up from 183 in 2022, creating more opportunities for players. Improvements to the calendar will also see it more closely align with the ATP Tour and deliver a better balance of tournaments in terms of both surface types and regions.

In addition, a projected 170 per cent increase in the number of Challenger 100 and 125 events will enhance player flow and mobility, giving players more opportunities to ascend the ATP Rankings.

Shane Bond appointed head coach of MI Emirates

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Former New Zealand express pace bowler Shane Bond has been appointed as head coach of MI Emirates for the inaugural edition of UAE's International League T20. He will continue to be in his current role as bowling coach of Indian Premier League (IPL) side Mumbai Indians.

The MI Emirates coaching team includes current Mumbai Indians talent scouts, Parthiv Patel and Vinay Kumar who will debut as coaches -- Parthiv as batting coach, Vinay as bowling coach and former MI all-rounder James Franklin as fielding coach.

In addition, former India player, Robin Singh, has been appointed general manager, cricket, MI Emirates. "Shane Bond joined Mumbai Indians in 2015 and has since won four titles and in the process built a formidable working style and helping bowlers realise their potential at the global stage. Robin Singh joined the coaching team of Mumbai Indians in 2010 and since then has been part of five IPL and two Champions League campaigns working closely with Shane Bond. Robin's stint with UAE cricket



will also help as MI Emirates expands MI's cricket philosophy in the UAE.

"Parthiv Patel has represented Mumbai Indians in the past and since 2020 been a part of the talent scouting team, and Vinay Kumar, who is also a former MI player joined the scouting team in 2021. Both Parthiv and Vinay were a part of Mumbai Indians' winning campaigns in 2015 and 2017," said Mumbai Indians in a statement on Saturday. Former MI all-rounder and coach James Franklin has also joined MI Emirates as fielding coach. "With a firm grounding in MI, this team will be in a fine position to infuse MI Emirates with all that MI resonates with," the statement added.

Prolific junior hockey forward Mumtaz keen to be a 'regular' in senior women's team

Bengaluru | Agencies

One of the brightest prospects in Indian women's hockey, Mumtaz Khan is looking forward to becoming a regular member of the senior side after her exploits in the 2022 FIH Junior World Cup, where she scored eight goals and emerged as the most prolific forward in the side.

India finished fourth at the tournament.

Mumtaz was recently nominated for the FIH Rising Star of the Year (Women) at the FIH Hockey Star Awards 2021-22, and the forward said, it was a "very big moment" in her career.

"Going forward, I want to be a regular in the Indian women's (senior) team. And for that I have to work very hard and be the best version of myself regularly. I will do my best to



get to my target and help win games and medals for the country.

Hopefully, I can continue to do well in the India jersey," said Mumtaz.

On her nomination for the prestigious award, she said, "I am very happy to have been nominated for the award of the FIH Rising Star of the Year (Women). This is a very big moment for me and that too it is early in my career.

The achievement though is not mine, but a result of the whole team working well together. This sort of recognition is very motivating."

On her learnings from the 2022 FIH Junior World Cup, Mumtaz said, "The 2022 FIH Junior World Cup was a difficult tournament but we played well and I am happy about the fact that I scored so many goals. But I would have been happier if we had finished on the podium."

Never thought I would play for England again after failed drug test: Alex Hales

London | Agencies

England opener Alex Hales has said ahead of the crucial seven-match T20I series against Pakistan, he never thought he would don his country's jersey in an international cricket match after he failed a drugs test in 2019 and was left in the wilderness for three years owing to the misdemeanour.

The 33-year-old has been given a second opportunity after he failed a recreational drug tests and he is keen to make up for lost time under the new set-up of skipper Jos Buttler and coach Matthew Mott.

The then limited-overs skipper Eoin Morgan had claimed Hales had "shown a complete disregard" for team values.

Hales made a return to the white-ball side after he was chosen as a replacement for the injured Jonny Bairstow for the away series against Pakistan ahead of the ICC T20 World Cup in Australia next month.



Hales told the Daily Mail, it was his fault not to disclose he had taken recreational drugs to the team management in 2019 ahead of the World Cup at home. "At the end of the day, it was my fault, wasn't it? I was the one who did

what I did. I have to hold my hands up. You have to look yourself in the mirror and try to improve as a person and learn from mistakes," said Hales.

"It (missing the 2019 World Cup) was extremely painful, for sure. As a cricketer it's your worst nightmare to be involved in a World Cup squad, missing out on the eve of it and then watching your team," said Hales.

"Obviously, it was brilliant to see the team lifting it (the World Cup trophy, defeating New Zealand in the final) but at the same time it eats at you inside that you should have been part of it," he added.

"The worst feeling was probably on the day (I was axed). I still remember the drive back home that morning from the camp we were in, in Wales."

With a second opportunity coming his way three years later following Bairstow's injury, Hales believe after what he has been through, the only direction his career could go was up.

National Games: Chartered Accountant Pragnya Mohan eyes triathlon gold on home turf

Ahmedabad | Agencies

One of India's top triathletes, Gujarat Pragnya Mohan is excited that the 36th National Games are being held in her home state and is hoping to win the highest accolade in her discipline.

A chartered accountant by education, Pragnya Mohan has in less than 10 years since taking up this gruelling sport emerged as one of India's leading triathletes. Having put her chartered accountancy life on the back burner, the 27-year-old hopes to reinforce her status by bagging the brightest coloured medal at the 36th National Games, starting here on September 29.

Like all athletes, Pragnya is excited that the Games are taking place after seven long years. She



is even more thrilled that they are taking place in her home state Gujarat.

"Having competed in a number of events across the country, I can say with pride that Gujarat has some of the best roads for cycling and running events," she was quoted as saying by the organisers in a release on Saturday.

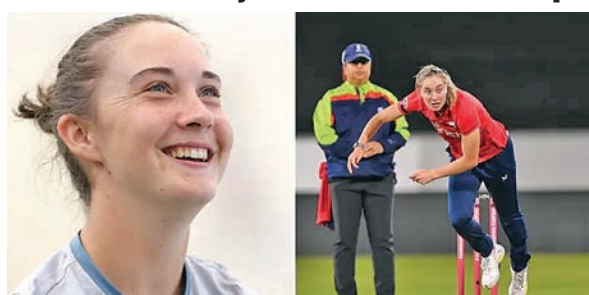
Pragnya, in fact, is one of the few athletes who had taken part in the last edition of the Games in 2015. She had picked up gold in Women's Team and Mixed Team Relay silver too, but she was still an unhappy young lady.

"I had finished 10th in the individual event. I was disappointed since I had won the National Championships in Nashik in January 2014 and was expecting to be on the podium," she said.

Speaking about those Games, she said: "It was the first time that I was competing on cycling and running courses that was not entirely flat.

I had the experience of swimming in a lake but the undulating terrain around the Kerala Agricultural University in Vellayani near the Kovalam beach was a revelation."

England Women name squad for India ODIs; Alice, Freya earn maiden call-ups



London | Agencies

England Women on Friday announced their squad for the three-match ODI series against India, with Alice Capsey and Freya Kemp getting maiden call-ups.

The series will be England's first fixtures in the new ICC Women's Championship cycle, with points leading to qualification for the Women's World Cup in 2025.

In the absence of Heather

Knight and Nat Sciver, who are on a break, Amy Jones continues to lead the team, with Sophie Ecclestone her vice-captain. Jones recently led England to a 2-1 T20I series win over India.

Capsey and Kemp come off the back of impressive performances in T20Is recently. Kemp impressed with a half-century in the second T20I against India while Capsey too was impressive in The Hundred Women's competition and the recent T20Is.

Davis Cup: Yuki, Saketh lose doubles as India go down 0-3 to Norway

Lillehammer (Norway) | Agencies

Yuki Bhambri and Saketh Myneni put up a strong fight but lost to US Open finalist Casper Ruud and Viktor Durasovic as India slumped to an unassailable 0-3 deficit against Norway in the Davis Cup World Group, First Round match here on Saturday.

Bhambri and Myneni came back strongly after losing the first set to win the second but down in the third to lose 3-6, 6-3, 3-6 in a two-hour encounter at the Hakans Hall in Lillehammer.

Trailing 0-2 after India's top singles player Prajnesh Gunneswaran went down to Ruud, the World No. 2 in ATP Rankings, in straight sets -- 6-1, 6-4 and then Ramkumar Ramanathan too slumped to the same scoreline (6-1, 6-4) against Viktor Durasovic.

India's hopes of making a fightback depended on the doubles combination of Bhambri and Myneni, which has won six titles in the last year or so.



With senior doubles player Rohan Bopanna unavailable due to an injury, India had to depend on the Bhambri and Myneni but the duo got off to a poor start as Ruud and Durasovic won the first set.



The Indian pair lost its serve in the second game, but broke back immediately and levelled the score 2-2. But the Norwegians broke back again in the sixth game (4-2) and went on to win the set 6-3. The Indian pair

had a lot of chances -- they had six break points but could convert only one -- but could not capitalise on them.

They won 80% of points on the first serve and were also ahead on points won on the second serve. The Norway pair converted two of the four break points while the Indians won one out of six.

The tables turned in the second set as the Norwegian pair failed to convert even one of the 14 break points they won while the Indians converted the lone break point to win the set 6-3.

Games went with serve till 3-2 in the second set before the Indians broke Ruud and Durasovic to go up 4-2.

In the decider, the Indians lost the plot after 1-1 as they lost their serve in the fourth game as they went down 3-1. The hosts then went ahead 4-1 and went on to win the third set 6-3 to seal the tie in Norway's favour.

India will now go back to qualifiers again and play against one of the winners of World Group 2 teams.



'SAROJ KA RISHTA' GARNERS RAVE REVIEWS

Absolute India is a media partner of the movie.

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Sanah Kapur and Kumud Mishra starrer family entertainer film 'Saroj Ka Rishta' has finally screened in cinemas. Directed by Abhishek Saxena and jointly produced by Anmol Kapoor and Aena Productions, the film also stars Gaurav Pandey and Randeep Rai. The film was released on 270 screens. As it is a content film, the goal was to target extremely particular niches in which the audience are interested rather than over saturating the theatres. The creators of "Saroj Ka Rishta" have concentrated on small theatres with average ticket prices of Rs. 100 to 150 and are pleased with the influx of positive reviews around the nation. Talking about the film, the story of Saroj Ka Rishta is a story of a girl named Saroj who lives in Ghaziabad. She appears to be a typical girl, just like every other girl, yet whenever she leaves her house, faces body shaming comments. However, Saroj is unconcerned or unburdened by what others may think of her appearance or how she looks? She regards living life to the fullest as important. She has plenty of boys who lust after her or want her to marry them despite the fact that she is considered overweight. Also the father-daughter relationship is the highlight of the film. Interestingly, he loves her daughter Saroj to an extent where he tells her daughter to find herself a groom who would readily agree to stay in their home, instead of Saroj leaving her home after marriage! To note, Sanah Kapur, who plays Saroj had made her debut in 'Shaandar' in which she starred along with her brother Shahid Kapur and father Pankaj Kapur. 'Saroj Ka Rishta' is a delicious cuisine in the platter love by the middle class families of India.

Team Absolute | New Delhi

'Pushpa' star Rashmika Mandanna, who is making her Hindi cinema debut with Amitabh Bachchan and Neena Gupta in 'Goodbye', said her character Tara is the complete opposite of her and also shared anecdotes about working with the Big B. She said, in fact, that Tara is more like her sister, Shiman, who is 16 years younger to her and demands a rational explanation for all that she's asked to do. "I am not at all like Tara, who doesn't believe in rituals and questions everything," Rashmika said in an interview with correspondent. "I have great faith in all the rituals and superstitions. I think my sister is more like her. She wants an explanation for everything. Like, why are you doing this or why have I been asked to do this? So, yeah, Tara and my sister are quite similar in this way." She also talked about her bond with her sister. The relationship between them is more like that of a mother and daughter, rather than that of two sisters. Rashmika said: "My sister is very close to me and shares everything about her friends. If she has a fight with them, she tells me about it, not my mother."

Rashmika believes in rituals, is superstitious

Dulquer Salmaan on criticism bothering him
'They drive me to push myself as an actor'

Aakruti Bagla | Mumbai

The very handsome, Dulquer Salmaan is predominantly known for his work in Malayalam and Tamil cinema. The actor made his Hindi Debut in 2018 with film Karwaan and later featured in The Zoya Factor. His upcoming film 'Chup: The revenge of artist' will be his third outing in Bollywood. Ahead of the film's release, the actor indulged in a freewheeling chat with media. Excerpts:

▶ **On Sita Ramam receiving overwhelming response**

Dulquer was last seen in the blockbuster hit film Sita Ramam, which also starred Mrunal Thakur and Rashmika Mandanna. Talking about how the film played a role in expanding his fanbase, the actor said, "I genuinely believe that we don't truly understand the power and reach of great cinema. I have seen this in every step whenever I have had a great film. Yes, I definitely think that Sita Ramam has opened up a whole bunch of new viewers to my filmography. I genuinely and passionately loved cinema even way before I became an actor. I have always been seeking to be a part of great cinema. At dif-



erent times of my career, I have been slotted in a particular kind of role. I have only been hero in my films. So, I think not seeking this kind of success maybe is finding me."

▶ **On reviews bothering him**

His latest outing Chup takes a sensitive stance to depict the pain of an artist who suffers from wrong criticism. Talking about film critiquing bothering him, the actor said, "It definitely does. I am the kind of person who ignores hundred good things and focuses on a handful of bad things written. But I think I derive some kind of drive from it. Those critics and haters drive me to push myself as an actor."

▶ **On the relevance of film critics reviewing film**

In times when social media provides a platform for every individual to express their opinion, the actor feels that it's very important for critics to give a balanced opinion. Talking about its relevance, the actor quipped, "It's more important now as the film is the easiest art form to analyse. A viewer can have any opinion and personal issue with me due to various reasons. That should not be the reason that film receives hate. So it's significant for critics to give genuine and balanced reviews to help us become a part of better cinema."

More films like Saroj Ka Rishta should be made: Neelu Kohli

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Neelu Kohli plays Saroj's Chachi in the film Saroj Ka Rishta, alongside Sanah Kapur and Gaurav Pandey. Neetu says of her brief but important role in the film, "My role is a little more than a cameo and a little less than a full-fledged role. It's a very sweet film, in today's time especially when body shaming is a big thing. Here there's a plus-size girl who is so confident and I think she is the cutest heroine I know and she's so cute in the film," she says. She adds, "I played a bad Chachi but it was a powerful role. It's a slice-of-life kind of film." The film addresses body shaming, and Neelu believes that more films like this should be made. "She's been shown as a very confident girl throughout the film which is so relevant nowadays. The way she looked was more of an advantage to her and I think such films should be made. I would choose to say the film was different, and it was surprisingly and beautifully different," she says.

Vendhu Thanindhathu Kaadu Part I: The Kindling



BY SHACHI CHATURVEDI

Cast: Silambarasan Siddhi Idnani, Raadhika Sarathkumar, Siddique, Neeraj Madhav

Director: Gautham Vasudev Menon

Runtime: 2 hours 45 minutes

Rating: 3/5

Synopsis: Muthuveeran, a graduate from rural Tamil Nadu, travels to Mumbai to help his mother and younger sister support their struggling family. The plot revolves around him and the Mumbai underworld, where people like Muthu are paid to murder others. Muthuveeran's life is depicted in the film, from a struggling young man to a feared and respected gangster.

Review: The plot of the film begins with the introduction of the main character Muthu, who comes to Mumbai to work to support his family. Muthu works as a waiter in a restaurant, but the mystery behind the restaurant's closed doors turns him into a gangster.

This section of the film, Part I: The Kindling feels more like the start of a franchise than a film. This movie is approximately 3 hours long and has an amazing story that never bores you.

It is only in the last 10-15 minutes that you realise you are watching a segment of a much larger story. The script is so neatly nested into the visuals that it is a clear case of brilliant cinematic craziness.

When it comes to the performances of the characters, Silambarasan and Siddhi Idnani, who played the main leads in the film, were outstanding. Silambarasan, who played Muthu, was the heart of the film. With his brilliant expression, he kills each and every

SILAMBARASAN'S VENDHI THANINDHATHU KAADU PRESENTS
A DETANGLED REALITY OF A TANGLED UNDERWORLD



scene. Sidhi, who played Muthu's love interest, was fantastic. With a limited amount of screen presence, she manages to leave an impact on the audience.

Speaking of the rest of the cast who helped make the film what it is. Each character has its own significance, and each character in the film has contributed to the film's excellence.

The songs are soothing and perfectly placed in the right context. AR Rehman (Music Director), always provided his spectacular voice to the songs and

made them a treat for the ears.

Technically, this film has everything that a good film should have. It's gloriously cinematic, reelling in the simplicity of filmmaking's most essential tools while fully utilising them.

Conclusion: This film depicts the reality of the world's dark side in the simplest way possible. This section of the film is mostly about setting up the premise, and it is necessary to watch it in order to get on track with the amazing storyline that is going to unravel in the coming parts.

Fatima Sana Shaikh preps for Indira Gandhi's role in upcoming

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Fatima Sana Shaikh is all set for 'Sam Bahadur' starring Vicky Kaushal in the lead. The actress has started prepping to play the role of former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi in the upcoming movie.

Taking to her social media, Fatima shared a glimpse of how she is preparing for the role of Indira Gandhi.

She shared a picture of a book titled 'Indira - The Life Of Indira Nehru Gandhi'.

Fatima captioned the image: "Such an interesting book on her life. Half way through.. would highly recommend it."

She also shared a BTS picture of herself sitting in front of the mirror from the sets of the highly anticipated film 'Sam Bahadur' and wrote: "And here we go #SamBahadur".

On the work front, along with 'Sam Bahadur', Fatima has an interesting line-up and she will also be seen in 'Dhak Dhak' directed and co-written by Tarun Dudeja, co-produced by Taapsee Pannu, Pranjal Khandhdiya and Ayush Maheshwari.



INSTAGRAM PIC OF THE DAY



Elena