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# Ankita Bhandari murder case mentioned before SC, plea criticises U'khand's revenue police system

Team Absolute | New Delhi

An intervention application has been moved in the Supreme Court claiming that 19-year-old Ankita Bhandari, a resort employee who was allegedly murdered by her employer, fell victim to the century-old practice of the revenue police system in Uttarakhand.

The intervention application, filed by journalist Anu Pant, submitted that the present revenue police system prevailing in Uttarakhand is unconstitutional as it deprives the citizens of the state of the equal protection of law as all the citizens are not been given the same treatment in detection and prevention, investigation and trial of criminal cases. Therefore, by practicing two different police systems in Uttarakhand, the state has gone against the spirit and essence of the Constitution, it added.

The petitioner said the system, in which revenue officials had been given police functions, had been abolished by the state High Court. However, the state government filed an appeal, which is pending in the apex court and no hearing has been



done on it since 2019. The petitioner said the system was responsible for the delay in the complaint being registered.

A counsel mentioned the matter on Monday before a bench headed by Chief Justice U.U. Lalit at 4 p.m. and sought hearing on the application. The Chief Justice asked the counsel to mention the matter again on Tuesday with relevant documents.

The plea said Uttarakhand is the only state, where revenue collection officials are tasked with the job of

policing, especially in the hill regions.

"The recent unfortunate and distressing incident of murder of 19-year-old girl Ankita Bhandari, a text book example of failure of century old revenue police system prevailing in the state of Uttarakhand leading to massive outrage amongst the public at large," it said.

The plea said the major police work is being carried out by the unequipped, inexperienced, untrained, and century-old revenue police system in Uttarakhand.

## WON'T MOVE FROM POLICE STATION UNTIL KILLERS ARE HANGED, SAYS ANKITA'S FATHER

**Pauri/Garhwal:** Virendra Bhandari, father of Ankita Bhandari who was allegedly killed by Pulkit Arya, the son of now expelled BJP leader Vinod Arya, on Monday said that he will not go back from the Laxman Jhula police station until the culprits in his daughter's murder were hanged.

Ankita (19), who worked as a receptionist at a resort in Uttarakhand's Pauri district, was reported missing a few days ago. On Saturday morning, her body was recovered. Ankita had reportedly refused to provide 'special service' to the guests at the resort owned by Pulkit Arya. During a conversation with reporters at the police station, Ankita's father Virendra Bhandari said that his daughter had come on August 28 to work in Vanantra Resort. "My daughter was killed by former state minister's son Pulkit Arya and his associates. I will not return home from the police station until my daughter's killers get the death penalty," he said.

# Status quo likely in Rajasthan, say Congress sources

Team Absolute | New Delhi

In wake of embarrassment for the Congress in Rajasthan with a number of MLAs, close to Chief Ashok Gehlot, openly revolting, sources said that the party may adopt a wait and watch strategy and maintain status quo till election of the new chief but no final decision has been taken till now by party President Sonia Gandhi.

A meeting is going on between Sonia Gandhi, Kamal Nath and Priyanka Gandhi to chalk out strategy for Rajasthan. Gehlot, who is set to file papers for the Congress Presidential election, was tipped to quit in favour of Sachin Pilot but his supporters came out strongly against it, and the Congress legislature party meet on Sunday had to be called off.

Earlier in the day, Sonia Gandhi had sought detailed report from state in charge Ajay Maken after a meeting on Sunday's happenings with Maken, senior leader Mallikarjun Kharge and General Secretary,



Organisation, K.C. Venugopal present.

Both Maken and Kharge briefed her about the sequence of events in the state. Addressing media persons later, Maken said: "I have briefed Congress President, she has sought a detailed report which I will send to her."

Maken, who was in Jaipur along with Kharge to convene the CLP meeting on Sunday for deciding the new CM face but instead faced a high-voltage drama, on Monday told the media that three members from the Gehlot camp had met them with three proposals, which they did not accept as it raised conflict of interest.

## SOLDIER, 2 CIVILIANS INJURED IN ENCOUNTER AT J&K'S KULGAM

**Srinagar:** A soldier and two civilians were injured in an ongoing encounter between terrorists and security forces in Jammu and Kashmir's Kulgam district on Monday, police said. "One Army soldier and two civilians got injured in the ongoing encounter. All the three injured shifted to hospital for treatment. Operation going on," police said. The firefight in Batpora area of Kulgam started after a joint team of police and security forces got an input about the presence of terrorists in that area. After security forces cordoned off the area, terrorists hiding there started firing drawing retaliation by the security forces. There have been a series of encounters between terrorists and security forces across Kashmir in the recent past in which many terrorists have been eliminated.

## Government blocks 45 videos from 10 YouTube channels: Officials

Team Absolute | New Delhi

Based on the inputs from intelligence agencies, the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting has directed YouTube to block 45 videos from 10 YouTube channels. Orders to block the concerned videos were issued on September 23 under the provisions of the Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules 2021. The blocked videos had cumulative viewership of over 1 crore 30 lakh. The content included fake news and morphed videos spread with the intent to spread hatred among religious communities. Examples include false claims such as the government to have taken away the religious rights of certain communities, violent threats against religious communities, declaration of civil war in India, etc. Such videos were found to have the potential to cause communal disharmony and disrupt public order in

the country. Officials said that some of the videos blocked by the Ministry were being used to spread disinformation on issues related to Agnipath scheme, Indian Armed Forces, India's national security apparatus, Kashmir, etc. The content was observed to be false and sensitive from the perspective of national security and India's friendly relations with foreign states. Certain videos depicted the erroneous external boundary of India with parts of J&K and Ladakh outside the Indian territory. Such cartographic misrepresentation was found to be detrimental to the sovereignty and territorial integrity of India. The content blocked by the Ministry was found to be detrimental to sovereignty and integrity of India, security of the state, India's friendly relations with foreign states, and public order in the country. Accordingly, the content was covered within the ambit of section 69A of the Information Technology Act, 2000, said the Ministry on Monday.

## Sitharaman to review performance of credit schemes for SCs by public sector banks

Team Absolute | New Delhi

Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman will hold a review meeting of public sector banks today, where the focus would be on status and performance of their credit and other welfare schemes for Scheduled Castes (SCs).

Public sector banks give credit to people belonging to the SC community for various Central schemes like Stand-Up India, credit enhancement guarantee scheme for SCs and venture capital funds for the community, among others. All these activities are expected to be reviewed during the



meeting, official sources said. Apart from this, various loan schemes like the Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana, the National Rural

Livelihood Mission (NRLM), the National Urban Livelihoods Mission (NULM), the Credit Guarantee Fund Trust for

Micro and Small Enterprises (CGTMSE) as well as education loan, will also be reviewed.

Chairman of National Commission for SCs and heads of public sector banks as well as representatives of financial institutions like SIDBI and NABARD as well as officials of the Department of Financial Services would also be present in the meeting.

The meeting would also review the measures undertaken for the welfare of SCs in public sector banks, reservation, backlog vacancies and action taken to fill them up and functioning of welfare and grievance redressal mechanisms, sources said.

## DIRECT FLIGHTS FROM DELHI TO SHIMLA STARTS AGAIN

Team Absolute | New Delhi

People can now take direct flights from Hindon airport in Ghaziabad to Shimla. To offer enhanced air connectivity between Delhi and Himachal Pradesh, the Ministry of Civil Aviation and Alliance Air have recommenced the Delhi-Shimla-Delhi flight which will operate daily effective from September 26, 2022. This flight will operate with a brand new ATR 42-600. Initially, this flight of Alliance Air was flagged off by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in 2017. After operating for more than 2 years under UDAN, this flight was discontinued due to the renovation of the airport and the unavailability of suitable aircraft.

Meanwhile, AAI has renovated Shimla airport and Alliance Air has inducted ATR-42 aircraft exclusively to connect airports of Himachal Pradesh.

In his address on the occasion of the inauguration of the flight, MoS V.K. Singh said that this flight will provide convenience for the people of Shimla and Delhi-NCR.



The ministry is working to further increase this ATR connectivity from Shimla to Kullu and Shimla to Dharamshala. He congratulated the state government and thanked them for their support and cooperation.

Jairam Thakur, Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister, said that the state government is working towards creating more air connectivity in the state in collaboration with the Ministry of Civil Aviation. The introductory all-inclusive fares for Delhi-Shimla and Shimla-Delhi will be Rs 2,141.

## Tamil Nadu cabinet approves ordinance to ban online gaming

Team Absolute | Chennai

The Tamil Nadu cabinet on Monday approved an ordinance banning online gaming, and it will be promulgated after getting assent of Governor R.N. Ravi, an official statement said.

The Madras High Court had struck down the state's ban on online games like rummy and poker with stakes, and the Tamil Nadu government had then appealed to the Supreme Court. The state government

had told the apex court stated that teenagers and youths were losing their entire earnings and savings by indulging in online games. In its petition, it also said that while rummy could be considered a game with skills, by placing stakes, it had turned into gambling. The state government had constituted a committee headed by Madras High Court's retired judge, Justice K. Chandru to study the adverse effects of online games. The committee had submitted its

report to the Chief Minister in two weeks, recommending a ban on online games with stakes.

The committee also recommended that the state government ban advertisements that encourage people to play such online games. Justice Chandru committee, in its report, also asked the state government to insist on the Union government enact a national-level law against online gaming with stakes under Article 252 of the Constitution.

# SC notice to Centre on plea against Surrogacy, ART Acts' provisions



Team Absolute | New Delhi

The Supreme Court on Monday issued notice to the Centre on a PIL challenging the vices of Surrogacy Act, 2021 and the Assisted Reproductive Technology Act, 2021, for direct infringement on reproductive rights of women.

The petition was filed by Chennai resident, Arun Muthuvel, who was represented in the apex court by advocate Mohini Priya. Muthuvel is an IVF specialist and currently the Managing Director of Iswarya Fertility Services Private Ltd, which runs fertility centres in various parts of the country.

The plea contended that there is an unreasonable blanket ban on

commercial surrogacy while allowing only altruistic surrogacy which may lead to further exploitation of women within the family, which is akin to forced labour.

After hearing detailed arguments, a bench of Justices Ajay Rastogi and Justice C.T. Ravikumar sought response from the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Ministry of Women and Child Development, and the Indian Council for Medical Research.

The plea argued that there was discriminatory and restrictive classification of persons under the scheme of the Acts making it violative of Article 14 of the Constitution.

It submitted that there has been direct infringement of reproductive

## Relief for SRK as SC upholds quashing case against him for Vadodara stampede

**New Delhi:** The Supreme Court on Monday upheld the Gujarat High Court decision to quash a criminal case filed against Bollywood actor Shah Rukh Khan, filed for allegedly causing a stampede in 2017, while promoting his film "Raees", at the Vadodara Railway Station.

A bench of Justices Ajay Rastogi and C.T. Ravikumar dismissed the appeal filed by the original complainant against the Gujarat High Court's April 2022 judgment. The complainant, Jitendra Madhubhai Solanki had filed a private complaint against Shah Rukh Khan before the judicial magistrate, first class, Vadodara, alleging that his presence at the Vadodara Railway Station coupled with him throwing T-shirts and smiley balls at the crowd assembled at the station led to the stampede.



After the local court in Vadodara issued summons, asking him to remain present, Shah Rukh Khan moved the high court against the summons and for quashing the complaint.

After the high court on April 27, 2022, quashed the complaint filed against the actor, holding that it has been filed by a person who has no direct connection with the incident in question, Solanki filed a special leave petition challenging the order. The top court dismissed it and has finally afforded a quibus to the said issue.

rights of women which is integral to the right to privacy guaranteed under Article 21 of the Constitution. It further argued that the Acts fall short in fully addressing the essential goal of regulating surrogacy and other assisted reproductive tech-

niques. The petitioner also sought a direction to recognise the rights of women other than married women above 35 years of age to avail surrogacy as a means of assisted reproductive technique to experience motherhood.



# MANN BATS FOR STRENGTHENING TIES BETWEEN PUNJAB, SASKATCHEWAN

Team Absolute | Chandigarh

Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann on Monday called for further strengthening ties between his state and Canada, especially with its Saskatchewan province. Meeting a high-level delegation from Saskatchewan which called on him at his residence here, he advocated strong and cordial ties between Punjab and the Canadian province, noting that Punjabis have been playing a vanguard role in the social and economic progress of Canada.

Mann also said it is a matter of great pride and satisfaction that a large number of Punjabis have also carved a niche for themselves in the political arena of Canada too. The Chief Minister also showcased Punjab as the most preferred industrial destination across the country. He invited the delegation from



Saskatchewan to encourage the entrepreneurs to invest in Punjab which is having favourable atmosphere for industrial growth.

Mann said the state government has already put the state on high

growth trajectory of industrial growth which will benefit the investors.

The Chief Minister also said that cooperation between both Punjab and Canada, especially province of Saskatchewan, can be mutually bene-

ficially for them.

He said this is need of the hour to give fillip to economic activity in Punjab and ensure the comprehensive development of the state.

Mann also envisioned that mutual cooperation between both Punjab and Canada will transform the destiny of the youth of state by opening new vistas of employment for them.

Meanwhile, the Canadian delegation comprising Saskatchewan Ministry of Trade and Export Development's ADM, International Engagement, Richelle Bourgoin, Saskatchewan India office MD Victor Lee, Consul General of Canada in Chandigarh Patrick Hebert, and Vice President of Research at University of Saskatchewan, Baljit Singh, thanked the Chief Minister for sparing his time.

They also assured fulsome support and cooperation to the Chief Minister in every field.

# Over 1,000 kg poppy straw seized in MP

Team Absolute | New Delhi

In continuance of anti-drug operations, Central Bureau of Narcotics (CBN), Neemuch seized 1083.150 kg poppy straw from a suspected house in Madhya Pradesh. The CBN also arrested three persons and recovered two pistols and 61 live cartridges from them.

The officials got a tip-off that a Hathipura village resident was involved in smuggling and transportation of poppy straw and was having illicit poppy straw secreted at his residence.

After receiving the information, a team was formed and raid was conducted. Seeing the officials, the accused had aimed their gun at them but were overpowered. Additional reinforcements from the nearby police stations were also called to assist the CBN officers.

"High precast wall had been constructed around the temporary godown along with tin shed to conceal the illegal activities. The search resulted in recovery of 25 bags of poppy straw weighing 482.700 kg loaded in



one Mahindra Pickup, 21 bags of poppy straw weighing 401.550 kg loaded in Scorpio SUV and 5 bags of powdered poppy straw weighing 198.900 kg loaded in Hyundai i20 car (Total 51 bags of poppy straw weighing 1083.150 kg). Two pistol and 61 live cartridges were also recovered," the official said.

Grinding machine (used for grinding poppy straw into fine powder to reduce the volume of poppy straw), stitching machine with bundle of blue thread (used for stitching and packing, poppy straw bags), weighing scale, air pump (for vehicles) etc were also recovered and seized from the temporary godown (Bada).

## JAMMU ADMIN APPEALS CITIZENS TO UPDATE AADHAAR CARD INFO

Jammu: Deputy Commissioner Jammu Avny Lavasa has appealed to the citizens to update information in their respective Aadhaar cards in case of change of address, an official said on Monday.

The Deputy Commissioner said: "The government launched the individual Aadhaar card programme nearly 12 years ago. Many citizens have changed their address in these years and have updated their Aadhaar cards, however, there are some who haven't done it yet; hence, we appeal to all such residents to provide their documents for their respective Aadhaar card which is being used at various platforms and it is very important to keep it updated."

The Deputy Commissioner further said that the citizens can upload their documents online on the MyAadhaar portal or can submit their documents at Aadhaar enrolment centres in their respective areas.

Meanwhile, she convened a meeting with the concerned agencies and directed them to start an Aadhar updation drive in the district.

## Dharwad IIIT will specially contribute to growth of India: President Murmu

Team Absolute | Dharwad (Karnataka)

The Indian Institute of Information Technology (IIIT) will go on making special contributions to the future of the country, said President Draupadi Murmu on Monday in Dharwad city of Karnataka.

Giving her speech after inaugurating IIIT campus, President Murmu stated that she can proudly vouch for it. "PM Modi ji laid the foundation stone in 2019 and today the permanent campus is ready. It is being named as 'Jnana Vikasa' campus. There is vikas (development) within 'Jnan' (knowledge). India should be made a vishwa guru for which knowledge has to be developed. IIIT has a conducive atmosphere



for that. Let the students of this campus progress and reach heights by working for the country," she explained.

Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai stated that IIIT-Dharwad should become the number one institute in the country and students should study hard. Union Minister for Coal, Mining Pralhad Joshi explained that PM Modi was taking updates on the progress of IIIT regularly. The aim was to complete the work in five years, but it's being inaugurated in three years.

# Accused of witchcraft, four forced to eat excreta in Jharkhand's Dumka

Ranchi | Agencies

Four people including three women of a family were tortured after being accused of witchcraft in Jharkhand's Dumka district.

A few people from Aswari village under Saraiyhat block of the district forcibly fed them excreta and urine. The four were also tortured with hot iron rods.

Despite being treated inhumanly, the victims could neither muster the courage to go to the police nor tell anyone about the atrocities inflicted on them.

On Sunday, police reached the village after getting information about the incident. After this, all the four victims were admitted to a hospital for treatment.

According to information, a person named Jyotin Murmu called a meeting of the people of the village on Saturday night. In the meeting, three women of one Srilal



Murmu's family were accused of being witches.

It was claimed that the animals and children of the village were getting sick due to their witchcraft. After this, about a dozen people armed with sticks and other weapons attacked the victims' house.

Three women of the family, Sonamani Tudu, Rasi Murmu, Kosa Tudu as well as Srilal Murmu were brutally thrashed. After this, all four were caught and excreta and urine were forcibly put in their mouths. They were also thrashed with hot iron rods.

The victims were reportedly threatened that the entire family would be killed if they reported the incident to the police. On Sunday morning, the victims were thrashed again.

Meanwhile, Saraiyhat police station in-charge Vinay Kumar got information about the incident and a police team was sent to the village. The four people were first admitted to the Saraiyhat Community Health Centre. However, considering their critical condition, they were shifted to Deoghar for further treatment. Raids are being conducted to arrest the attackers, the police said.

# Odisha: No fine to be imposed on vehicle owners waiting for HSRPs

Bhubaneswar | Agencies

In a major relief for people who are waiting for fixation of High Security Registration Plates (HSRPs) in their vehicles, the Odisha government has decided not to impose fine on the vehicle owners who have applied for the HSRP online before the deadline, an official said on Monday.

As per the prescribed timeline, September 30 is the deadline for the vehicles carrying Odisha registration mark and registration number ending with 1, 2, 3 & 4, while October 31 and November 30 is the deadline for the Odisha registration vehicles with registration number ending with 5 & 6 and 7 & 8, respectively.

Similarly, the vehicle owners carrying Odisha registration mark and registration number ending with 9 and 0 will have to affix the HSRP by December 31.

So, the law enforcing agencies will start enforcement activities on the affixment of the HSRP from October 1.

Dipti Ranjan Patra, joint commissioner transport (technical) said it is



observed that due to sudden rise in online booking for fitment of HSRP, some of the vehicle owners are facing difficulties for getting a slot for fitment of HSRP within the timeline.

In case any vehicle owner has applied for HSRP online before the timeline applicable to his/her vehicle, he/she shall be exempted from enforcement checking provided they produce an online booking slip during the checking, the official said.

However, the vehicle owner who has not affixed the HSRP within the scheduled date or does not have the online

booking slip, e-challan of Rs 5,000 or Rs 10,000 will be issued against the offending vehicle as per Section 192 of MV. Act, 1988, warned Patra.

So far, a total of 1,678,163 vehicle owners have booked slots, out of which HSRP has been affixed in 730,303 vehicles. The Odisha transport department has made affixation of HSRP mandatory since June 1, 2022 for all classes of old vehicles which were registered prior to April 1, 2019. Notably, the HSRP has already been made mandatory for all new vehicles registered on or after April 1, 2019.

# MP police arrests woman in Noida for duping people on matrimonial sites

Noida | Agencies

A woman allegedly involved in defrauding people through matrimonial websites was arrested by the Madhya Pradesh police from a society in Uttar Pradesh's Gautam Budh Nagar district.

On Sunday, Madhya Pradesh's Bhind district police along with the crime branch team of Noida police arrested accused Pallavi Sonwal from Tower 19 of Jaypee Aman Society at Sector 151 in Noida.

The accused has been taken to Madhya Pradesh.

Sonwal and her husband John Julius are both accused of interacting with people using fake profiles on matrimonial websites and presenting themselves as someone who live abroad.

Later, the accused used to cheat people by saying that he or she has been stopped



by the customs at the airport while returning from abroad and need to deposit a refundable penalty amounting to lakhs of rupees.

Families, under the greed of a relationship, used to

arrange the money and transfer it. Once the accused received the money, he or she changed their mobile number and vanished. Both of them have defrauded many victims of crores.

As per information, Julius is already in jail while the Madhya Pradesh police have now arrested his wife Sonwal on the basis of a complaint registered in Bhind district.

# BJP says Siddaramaiah will go to jail in de-notification case

Bagalkot | Agencies

The BJP's state unit president Nalin Kumar Kateel has surprised political circles by stating that opposition leader Siddaramaiah will be sent to jail in the de-notification of government land case.

Talking to reporters on Monday, Kateel stated that "we will probe the Arkavathy de-notification scandal which took place during Siddaramaiah's tenure. Through the Lokayukta as many as 52 cases will come out in connection with the scandal and those who are involved in the scandal would be sent to jail."

"Former CM Siddaramaiah will also land in jail," he underlined. "During its tenure the Congress government was involved in wide-spread corruption. Not only the



Arkavathy land scandal, there are illegalities in the purchase of pillows, beds. Why have the scandals of the Congress party not been investigated?" Kateel questioned.

The documents relating to the scandals that took place during the tenure of Siddaramaiah have been concealed. "We have to struggle a lot to dig them out," he stressed.

He asked Siddaramaiah why did he close down the Lokayukta during his tenure as the CM? Siddaramaiah ruled with the support of the sand mafia and drug mafia. After B S Yediyurappa became the CM, the drug mafia was confronted and reputed personalities were put behind bars, he added. He stated that records are

being gathered in connection with the banning of the Popular Front of India (PFI) and the Social Democratic Party of India (SDPI). He blamed Siddaramaiah for the growth of the SDPI and the PFI in the state. "He had taken back cases against the SDPI and PFI workers accused of serious crimes. If they had been put in jail, the situation would have been different in Karnataka," Kateel said.

Siddaramaiah is directly responsible for the spread of terror activities in the state, he alleged.

Siddaramaiah and the Congress party have launched an offensive against the ruling BJP especially Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai through the PayCM poster campaign. Siddaramaiah recently said that he has studied law and knows that no legal action can be taken against him.



## THREE KILLED AS TREE FALLS ON AUTO IN PATNA

Patna: Three persons were killed and four others injured after a palm tree fell on a three-wheeler in Patna's Phulwarisharif locality on Monday, police said. The victims were on the way to Anisabad and the accident occurred near the Mahaveer Cancer Institute. While two persons died on the spot, five others were critically injured. Passersby and local traders rescued them and took them to the nearby trauma centre where one of the injured succumbed. The condition of the other injured persons is said to be critical. Due to the accident, a huge traffic snarl occurred on Phulwarisharif-Khagaul road. It also affected the Patna bypass road and other connecting roads. A police team reached the spot but they were also unable to resolve the traffic issue. The tree was finally removed with an earth mover and normalcy was only restored then.





# BJP and Congress put full emphasis in urban body elections, voting today



Team Absolute | Bhopal

The elections being held in 46 urban bodies in Madhya Pradesh are small elections, but a big message is hidden in these elections. This is the reason that the ruling party BJP and the main

winning these areas. This is the reason that on behalf of BJP, Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan and State President Vishnu Dutt Sharma reached every area and held meetings of the workers of public meetings and emphasized on effective strategy, similarly State President Kamal Nath on behalf of Congress reached every remote area. tried to reach. All the regional leaders of the Bharatiya Janata Party and the Congress were active in the election of the urban body, because the victory and defeat of these elections are going to decide the future of those local leaders. The entire command of BJP remained in the hands of Chief Minister Chouhan and State President Sharma at the state level, while on the other hand all the responsibility of Congress remained in the hands of State President Kamal Nath.

About a week before the date of polling, the prominent leaders of both the political parties increased activism and left no stone unturned to win the heart of every voter, forcing the same organization and people associated with power to reach the ground.

It is to be known that in 46 bodies of the state, polling will be held on September 27 and results will be declared on September 30, the places where elections are to be held, these include 17 municipalities and 29 municipal councils. These Nagar Palikas and Nagar Parishads come in 18 districts of the state.

opposition party Congress put all efforts to win these elections.

Voting is to be held in 46 urban bodies of the state on Tuesday, all these areas fall in 18 districts and most of them are tribal dominated, so both the parties want to give a big message politically by

## SHIVRAJ CAUGHT THE LIE OF THE OFFICER IN THE REVIEW MEETING, HE APOLOGISE



Team Absolute | Bhopal

Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan's exercise is underway to gauge the pulse of the ground situation. They are keeping a close watch on the situation at the district level and village. This has been revealed during his review of Anuppur district on Monday. One officer lied and he was caught, as a result the officer had to apologize. The occasion was to review the works of Anuppur district with the district officers. Manish Singh and Neeraj Mandloi, along with Umakant Umrao, Principal Secretary, Panchayat Department, and district officials joined Chief Minister Chouhan through video conferencing. During this, when the Chief Minister discussed the plan to supply water from the tap, there was some mistake in the information given by the Executive Engineer, on which the Chief Minister not only expressed his displeasure, but the officer also had to apologize for his mistake. In the review meeting, Chief Minister Chouhan told the officers that development works should be completed on time, quality and public works should be completed on time. He further said, we had decided that if we want to save the Narmada river, then it is necessary to stop the encroachment. In the past, the Chief Minister has announced a ban on construction of pucca in Amarkantak, the point of origin of Narmada.

During the discussion of 'Jal Jeevan Mission', the Chief Minister wanted to know that how many percent of the targeted households have been given tap water. Give complete information about this. The collector said that the target was 1.29 lakh. Last time 102% was completed. This time the target is 9435, 4 thousand have been completed.

When the Chief Minister asked whether

there were any complaints regarding the quality of work, the Collector said that complaints had come at two places. In these cases notice has been given to both the contractors. Payment has been stopped at one place.

The Chief Minister again asked that, from how many schemes have started giving water? The answer of the Executive Engineer was, water has been started under 77 schemes. Get it rechecked, what is the use if the level of satisfaction of the villagers does not increase.

When the Chief Minister caught the lie in the information given by the Executive Engineer, he expressed his displeasure over the presentation of wrong facts by the Executive Engineer and asked to apologize in the meeting itself. EE apologized for this.

The Chief Minister emphasized in the meeting that the villages which do not have water source. Make a special plan for how to get the source of water in those villages. Also tell how many complaints related to water are there in the CM Helpline. On this EE said that there are 82 complaints. The Chief Minister asked for early disposal of these complaints.

The Chief Minister questioned the relatively less work in the 'PM Awas Yojana' in the district, and also said, the remaining are old houses, try to complete them. At the same time, what is the status of Awas Plus, its details were sought. Was told the target was 7758. Housing has been sanctioned to all the eligible people. Some houses were not approved due to technical reasons. The Chief Minister said, after completing the house in Anuppur district, we should conduct the program of planet entry. It will also be a matter of pleasure and there will be moral pressure on the staff to complete the house. Also asked whether there are complaints of corruption in the housing scheme, show it seriously, the collector should cross check it.

## VICE CHANCELLOR DR. NEELIMA GUPTA MEETS CM CHOUHAN

Bhopal : Vice Chancellor of Dr. Harisingh Gour Central University, Sagar, Dr. Neelima Gupta called on Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan at the Chief Minister's residence.

Vice Chancellor Prof. Gupta invited CM Chouhan for the inauguration of a five-day workshop and research seminar to be held in the university on 7 October on National Education Policy-2020. This seminar is being organized by the Education Culture Upliftment Trust, New Delhi under the joint aegis of the University. The theme of the seminar is 'Character Formation and Holistic Development of Personality'. In this seminar, Vice Chancellors of various universities of the country, scholars, officials of Education-Culture Upliftment Trust will take part. Vice Chancellor Prof. Neelima Gupta also invited Chief Minister Shri Chouhan to visit Sagar as chief guest at the 31st convocation of the university to be held on November 25, 2022. While thanking the Vice Chancellor for the invitation CM Chouhan said that Sagar University has a glorious history. This is the first university of the state, which was established in the year 1946 with the efforts of Danveer Dr. Harisingh Gaur. The Vice Chancellor also presented literature to CM Chouhan.

## MLA Krishna Gaur also plants saplings

# CM Chouhan plants Karanj, Badam and Teak saplings

Team Absolute | Bhopal

Along with Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan, MLA Krishna Gaur planted saplings on her birthday.. Gaur's son Akash Gaur, daughter-in-law Smt. Neha Gaur and grandson Vyom Gaur also planted saplings. CM Chouhan planted saplings of Karanj, Badam and Teak (sagwan/sagoun) in Smart City Park. Along with Chief Minister i Chouhan, Dr. Ikram Hashmi, Syed Javed Ali, Nilofar Khan, Sime Philip, Prachi Jain and Hariom Jatav of New Life Development society also participated in plantation. New Life Development Society works for environment, water conservation, health and sanitation. The society is active in keeping the city livable. The society is specially working with the children in schools for plantation, cleanliness and water conservation. Special work has been done by the society in providing help to the needy people during the Corona period.



### IMPORTANCE OF PLANTS

The Karanj sapling planted today is considered important in Ayurvedic medicine. Karanj is also used in religious works. Badam is a dry fruit. Technically it is the seed of the fruit of the Badam tree. The Badam tree bears pink and white fragrant flowers. Teak is a dicotyledonous tree and remains green throughout the year. Its leaves are quite large.

## International Day of Sign Languages Observed in SHGC

Team Absolute | Bhopal

Friday, 24th September 2022, Saturday, literary committee of SHGC, Bhopal observed International Day of Sign Language. The day is observed to raise and disseminate awareness and preservation of sign language that are recognized for the human rights to support the hearing-impaired community. This year's theme was Sign Language Unites Us.

Dr. Dalima Parwani, Principal said the languages are the means of communication and observing this day highlights the unity related to the sign languages of the deaf people.

Neha Achhara of BCom III year, in her speech briefed



the students about the history and its importance. She also informed the students that though structurally distinct from spoken languages these sign languages are visual languages that use gestures and symbols to communicate. She further highlighted that this day celebrates all the amazing sign language, paying homage to the incredible difference they have made to

deaf people all around the World in their communication. Anushka Dubey of B.Com I Year practically demonstrated certain signs which are very common. The management appreciated the Literary Committee for educating the students for global movement and in this way advocating the issues that deaf people face in their everyday life.

## Crowd gathered in the temples on first day of Navratri, Governor and Chief Minister expends best wishes

Team Absolute | Bhopal

There was a huge crowd of devotees in the temples of Madhya Pradesh on the first day of Navratri festival on Monday. Everyone worshipped their idol and wished for the fulfillment of their wishes. Simultaneously, the era of installation of deity idols started at different places. State Governor Mangubhai Patel and Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan have greeted the people of the state on the occasion of Navratri. Devalayas of the state started influx of devotees since morning. When the reverberation of Devi songs was heard everywhere, then the period of bhajan-kirtan started. Tight security arrangements were made if huge crowds were seen at major deity places of the state. The process of reaching Pitambara Shaktipeeth in Datia district has started with the arrival of devotees from different places of the country. Here a



large number of devotees do religious rituals by stopping here throughout Navratri. Similarly, hundreds of devotees queued up in Maihar's Sharda Mata temple since morning, while thousands of devotees were seen on the stairs made to reach the temple. Apart from this, a ropeway has also been made to reach the temple from below. Through which devotees also

reach the temple.

On the one hand, where there is a huge crowd in the deity temples, there is a process of setting up deity idols at various places. The sequence of special worship recitation continues on this occasion.

Governor Patel has greeted the people of the state on the occasion of Navratri festival. The Governor has

appealed to the people of the state to celebrate Navratri festival with peace, unity and traditional harmony.

Governor Patel has said in the message that Maa Durga is Adi Shakti, Prakriti Prakriti, virtuous Maya, mother of intelligence and remover of disorder. Maa Durga is the protector and welfare from the demons of darkness and ignorance. Maa Durga is the giver of all kinds of accomplishments. She is beneficial to all.

While conveying warm greetings and best wishes to the people of the state on the festival of Navratri, the Chief Minister of the state said that Navratri is a festival of worship, devotion and power of Goddess Durga. He has wished Maa Durga to remove the sufferings of all the people of the state and bring happiness and prosperity in the state. Chief Minister Chouhan has appealed to the citizens to celebrate the festival of Navratri with zeal with devotion and restraint as per the tradition.

## Over 40 suspicious deaths in Vyapam case continue to be a mystery

Praveen Dwivedi | Bhopal

The Vyapam scam, which has irregularities in three categories -- impersonation, manipulation and engine-bogie (nexus between government employees and middlemen), came to light in 2013. The CBI in its several chargesheets has listed over 1200 accused in different categories, including forgery, bribery, misuse of government office and others.

However, more than the irregularities in conducting the exams in as many as 13 categories and recruitment of state government employees, including medical and teachers, a number of mysterious deaths of the accused and the witnesses after the scam surfaced shook the nation. And those deaths remain a mystery even today even as 50-55 cases have been disposed off by the special CBI court in Bhopal.

On record, there are more than 40 people associated with the scam who have died since it broke in 2013. A senior Public Prosecutor representing the CBI in the court said, "Over 55 people have died so far, including some during the court proceed-



ings due to which many accused and co-accused were acquitted."

Most of the people who were either accused or witnesses in the cover-up have died due to alcohol-related illnesses, suicide

or road accidents. At least ten middlemen have died in road accidents since 2010, three years before the scam broke.

The deaths include accused and witnesses as well as a journalist who was investigating

the scam, and have largely been under mysterious circumstances. At least five persons died in strange circumstances, within a period of one week in 2015, including the dean of a Jabalpur medical college Dr Arun Sharma, medical student Namrata Damor and TV journalist Akshay Singh, who was probing the scam.

The other persons who died in suspicious circumstances include Shailesh Yadav, who was the son of then Madhya Pradesh Governor (late) Ramnaresh Yadav. Shailesh, who was named as an accused in the multi-crore Vyapam scam, was found dead under mysterious circumstances at his father's official residence in March 2015.

Similarly, a constable Sanjay Yadav, who was a witness in the case was found dead at his house a day before he was to appear in the court. "See, there was a strong nexus of politicians, senior bureaucrats and even police officials and they wanted to stop witnesses at any cost. People were targeted and killed. Who killed these people and who was behind it is still a mystery and is likely to remain so," said a Bhopal-based activist, who refused to identify himself.



## CM Chouhan pays tribute to Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar on his anniversary

Bhopal : Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan paid homage to eminent social reformer Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar on his anniversary. CM Chouhan garlanded his portrait by paying floral tributes in the auditorium at his residence office. Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar was born on September 26, 1820 in Veer Singh village of Medinipur district of Bengal. Ishwar Chandra was honoured with the title of Vidyasagar because of his erudition in Sanskrit and philosophy. He is called the patron of the downtrodden and the poor. Due to his efforts, the law for widow marriage was passed in the year 1856. While raising his voice to educate daughters, he also opposed child marriage. Vidyasagar passed away on 29 July 1891.



Kamala Harris, who lost to Biden in the primaries and who was picked by him to be his running mate, has the President's ears and trust to take his Build Back Better (BBB) initiatives forward. Others feel she is not strong enough to take on the "Make America Great Again" (MAGA) Republicans like Trump or Ron DeSantis. Here's who is generating the most talk and the most confidence, says the Hill in a special report based on the new approval ratings of the incumbent President Joe Biden which appears to be sliding again. Though his legislative successes and EO on abortion rights propped him up from last September's ratings that saw a historic low for an incumbent president at 33 per cent. The November midterms could be a game changer for both parties ahead of 2024.





# EXPEDITIOUSLY DECIDE BAIL PLEA OF ANIL DESHMUKH, SC TO BOMBAY HC

Team Absolute | New Delhi / Mumbai

The Supreme Court Monday expressed displeasure over the delay in hearing the bail plea of Maharashtra's former home minister Anil,

arrested in connection with a money laundering case, and directed the Bombay High Court to hear and decide his case expeditiously. The top court observed that any person who has filed a bail application has a legitimate expectation that his plea will be disposed of at an early date. It said keeping an application for bail pending is not consistent with the Right to Life under Article 21 of the Constitution, A bench of Justices D Y Chandrachud and Hima Kohli noted that the bail plea of Deshmukh is pending in the high court since March 21. "We issue a direction and permit the petitioner to apply before the learned judge, to whom the case has been assigned, tomorrow. The application shall be taken for hearing during the course of this week and



decided expeditiously," the bench said. The top court clarified that it has not expressed any opinion on the merits of the case.

Justice N J Jamadar of the high court is hearing the bail plea of Deshmukh. At the outset, senior advocate Kapil Sibal, appearing for 73-year-old Deshmukh, submitted that the hearing on the bail plea is being deferred and sought interim

bail. Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, appearing for Enforcement Directorate (ED), opposed the interim bail plea and said the top court should not pass any such order. Anil Deshmukh was arrested by the Enforcement Directorate in November 2021 and is currently in judicial custody. On April 8, the high court

adjourned the hearing on Deshmukh's bail application while deprecating the practice of seeking urgent hearings of bail pleas citing medical emergencies. The high court had said urgent hearings being sought on medical grounds have become a problem. The NCP leader had filed a petition in the high court after a special court rejected his bail plea earlier. He has sought bail on grounds of his ailing health and termed the ED's case false and frivolous. The ED in its affidavit had opposed the bail plea and alleged that Deshmukh was the mastermind and brain behind the conspiracy and that he had misused his official position as home minister. The ED's case is that while serving as the state home minister, Deshmukh misused his official position and collected Rs4.70 crore from various bars in Mumbai through Sachin Waze, a police officer who has been dismissed. Anil Deshmukh has refuted these allegations.

## K'taka Inspector attacked by Ganja mafia in Maharashtra, airlifted to Bengaluru

Bengaluru | Agencies

Karnataka police airlifted Circle Police Inspector (CPI) Srimanth Illal to Bengaluru Manipal Hospital on Monday. Inspector Srimanth has been fatally attacked by a gang of 40 ganja (marijuana) growers in Maharashtra and is being treated at United Hospital in Kalaburagi. The special arrangement of the air ambulance was made following Inspector Srimanth's sagging health condition. The air ambulance had reached Kalaburagi from Kochi in Kerala. The incident took place on Sept 23 in Taruri village of Umarga taluka in Manthala police station limits of Maharashtra. The police arrested Naveen from Kalaburagi and Santhosh from Bhosaga in Basavakalyan taluk on charges of selling ganja. Based on their information, Kamalapur CPI Srimanth and a 10-member police team had raided an agriculture field in Maharashtra close to Karnataka border, 80 km away from Kalaburagi. A gang of 40 persons surfaced suddenly with wooden logs and stones attacked the police team. CPI Srimanth was massively injured in the attack. Though Srimanth tried to open fire, the attackers had overpowered him. He sustained injuries on his face, chest and stomach. His condition is said to be critical.



## Monkey tries to snatch baby from Mother, leaves her injured

Team Absolute | Thane

A one-month-old girl was injured after a monkey sneaked into a police station in Maharashtra and tried to snatch the baby from her mother, an official said. The incident took place on Sunday when the woman carrying the infant went to Shil Daighar police station in Thane city to file a complaint.

At the same time, a monkey sneaked into the premises, jumped on the woman, and tried to snatch the baby, the official said. The woman held the baby tightly and saved her from the animal's clutches. The child, however, suffered injuries in the incident, the official said. The woman rushed the bleeding child to a nearby hospital where the baby received five stitches on her head for the injuries, he said. The child's condition is stable, the official



said. The woman told reporters that she had seen the monkey at the police station and wanted to drive it away. In the attempt, the animal pounced on her child. "I was shocked, but luckily, I managed to save my child," she said. Forest personnel later reached the police station and took the monkey away to release it into the wild, the official said.

## INDICES END DOWN, SENSEX FALLS OVER 900 POINTS

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Indian benchmark indices fell sharply on Monday, starting the week on a negative note, as investors remained cautious of slackening growth that would push key economies into recession, dealers said. At close, Sensex ended 953.70 points, or 1.64 per cent, down at 57,145.22, and Nifty closed 311.05 points, or 1.80 per cent at 17,016.30. A total of 2,925 shares have declined, 660 shares advanced and 122 remained unchanged. Maruti Suzuki, Tata Steel, ITC, Axis Bank, NTPC, and Bajaj Finance were major losers on the Sensex. Among indices, Nifty Auto fell 3.81 per cent, Nifty Metal fell 4.13 per cent, BSE Commodities fell 3.32 per cent, and BSE Utilities fell 3.72 per cent. "The speed with which central banks across the globe are hiking interest rates, investors are worried



that slackening growth would push key economies into recession. With the monetary policy decisions on the anvil, rate-sensitive stocks like banking, realty, and auto crumbled

badly as rate hikes could dent demand going ahead. However, due to markets being in oversold territory, we could witness a quick pull-back rally," said Shrikant Chouhan,

Head of Equity Research (Retail), Kotak Securities Ltd. Global risk assets including equities extended their selloff on Monday as fears of faster inflation and global recession continued to rise. The Chinese government raised the foreign exchange risk reserve requirements for financial institutions to stem a drop in the yuan, making it more expensive for traders to short the currency. S&P Global ratings has retained India growth outlook at 7.3 per cent for the fiscal year 2022-2023 and 6.5 per cent for the next fiscal year, although it sees the risks tilted to the downside. "Nifty has broken the important support of 17,166 and now is on the verge of breaking 17,000. 16,947 and 16,794 are the next supports for Nifty while 17,166 could be the resistance in the near term," said Deepak Jasani, Head of Retail Research, HDFC Securities.

## NCP's dig at Finance Minister as rupee hit all time low

Team Absolute | Mumbai

The Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) on Monday asked Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman to explain why the rupee has fallen to an all-time low against the US dollar. The rupee depreciated 43 paise to an all-time low of 81.52 against the US dollar in early trade on Monday as the strengthening of the American currency and risk-averse sentiment among investors weighed on the local unit. At the interbank foreign exchange, the rupee opened at 81.47 against the greenback, then fell to 81.52, registering a fall of 43 paise over its previous closing. The Sharad Pawar-led NCP targeted Sitharaman for her remarks made at a press conference in Pune on Saturday that the rupee has



"held back very well" against the US dollar when compared to other currencies. "Can she explain why the rupee has fallen to an all-time low of

81.47 against the US dollar? If she concentrates more on the finance ministry and less on Baramati, may be she can," NCP national spokesman Clyde Crasto said in

statement. Against the backdrop of the rupee dropping to a lifetime low against the greenback, Ms Sitharaman on Saturday said the Reserve Bank and the finance ministry are keeping a very close watch on the situation. "If any one currency which has held its own and did not get into fluctuation or volatility as much as other currencies, it is the Indian rupee. We have held back very well," she had told reporters in Pune at the end of her three-day tour of Baramati last week. The tour was part of the BJP's campaign to strengthen itself in 144 Lok Sabha constituencies where it is weak, ahead of the 2024 general elections. Out of these 144 seats, 16 are in Maharashtra, including Baramati, the Pawar family bastion.

## ED attaches property worth Rs 16 cr of Gujarat's Mandeep Industries

Team Absolute | New Delhi

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has attached the immovable assets worth Rs 16 crore under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) in connection with a case against Mandeep Industries, Rajkot, official said on Monday. Mandeep Industries is a partnership concern of Ashish B. Talaviya, Kishoribhai Hariibhai Vaishnani, Ramjibhai H. Gajera, Kalpesh P. Talaviya and Bhavesh Talaviya in Gujarat's Rajkot. The official said that the attachments include immovable properties in the form of plant and machinery, factory land and



building, residential flats and plots worth Rs 16 crore located in Rajkot. The ED initiated the money laundering investigation on the basis of an FIR registered by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), Mumbai. During the course of investigations under the PMLA, it was

revealed that Mandeep Industries had defaulted in repaying the loans to Union Bank of India in a fraudulent manner, which caused an undue loss to the tune of Rs 44.64 crore to the bank. Accordingly, the ED conducted investigation, which revealed that the said company was availing various loan facilities from the Union Bank of India and diverted the funds to various fictitious entities, and also to the personal accounts of the partners of the firm. Part of the diverted funds was also used for the purchase of immovable properties. Further investigation in the matter is on.



Quaid Najmi | Mumbai

Barely a fortnight before Prophet Mohammad's birthday on October 9 celebrated worldwide as Eid-e-Milad, several Muslim groups in Mumbai have united for a unique initiative to enlighten non-Muslims on the Prophet's teaching and preaching and remove misgivings about Islam. Titled 'Prophet For All Campaign', the initiative will see the participation of various masjids, madrasahs, Muslim-run schools or colleges, NGOs, social and cultural organisations and other entities. "This is not intended to be an evangelical exercise. We are only keen to carry the

Prophet's message of love, peace and brotherhood to all our non-Muslim brethren - Hindus, Christians, Sikhs, Parsis, Jains, Buddhists, etc - for a better understanding of Islam and its followers," the Campaign torchbearer Adv. Yusuf Abrahani, who is also the Islam Gymkhana President, told correspondent. Besides the Prophet's message for humanity, it will also dwell on environment, conserving water, compassion for the poor, destitutes, orphans, workers or women along with certain activities conducted specially for non-Muslim audiences, he added. President of the Association of Muslim Professionals (AMP), Aamir Edresy said

## Ahead of Prophet Mohammad's birthday, Mumbai masjids woo non-Muslims

that there are around 500 registered masjids in Mumbai, nearly 400 schools and 20 colleges run by various Muslim trusts who are also being roped into the Campaign. "We are sending appeals through the students to their families to participate in the campaign, invite at least five locals or neighbours to their homes for a meal on Oct. 9, and try to convey the Prophet's message, with similar pleas even on social media," Edresy informed correspondent. The PFAC will put up banners of the Prophet's teaching which have universal appeal at major railway stations, bus stands, outside mosques or other public places, to make the maximum number of masses aware, on October 8. On October 9, a special amushaira' shall be held at the Islam Gymkhana featuring non-Muslim poets who have written on the Prophet with the audience comprising invitees from different communities, added Abrahani. Explaining the principle behind the PFAC, the duo said that in recent times, certain misconceptions about Islam and Muslims have been created which have caused immense distress to the law-abiding and peaceful minority community in

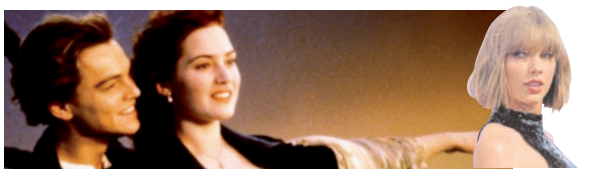
the country. The PFAC hopes to dispel such wrong notions among the masses, make them aware of the true beauty of Islam, its philosophy of universal peace, brotherhood, love and concern for all people irrespective of their faith, etc, they said. Abrahani recalled how many Muslims had fought for India's Freedom, many had contributed in different ways to Mahatma Gandhi's struggle for Independence, and Muslims have always remained at the forefront of various wars to protect their Motherland. "Even during the recent Coronavirus pandemic for two years, hundreds of mosques in Mumbai and other parts of the state, besides individuals took care of lakhs of ordinary folks, threw the doors open for the migrants, the poor and needy, with meals, and a safe place to rest and refresha," added Edresy. The next goal is to have regular meal services for the deprived sections of society in all mosques, like the Sikh community, all mosques to remain open round-the-clock for people without any restrictions, offering other social-cultural services to the nearby communities, competitions, health initiatives, and more, as the budgets of the

masjid trusts would permit. Other members like Saeed Khan, Wamir Idrisi, Farooq Syed have urged Muslims to visit orphanages, destitute homes, old age institutions, blind persons or even hospitals on October 9 to distribute food, fruits or items of daily necessities to the needy, as propounded by the Prophet. "On the Prophet's birthday, various organisations, NGOs, mosques, and others hope to offer celebratory meals to around 300,000 non-Muslims across Mumbai. We shall continue this campaign on a long-term basis," said Abrahani. Meanwhile, starting the main PFAC activities, groups of mediapersons (non-Muslim), IAS-IPS officers, police personnel, lawyers, civic workers, politicians, film celebs, cricketers, industrialists, and leading social personalities shall be invited in batches at a series of events culminating with the Prophet's birthday. The PFAC organisers are hopeful that this will help curb the venom spewed against Islam and its followers in India by a minuscule number of misguided individuals' and help strengthen the existing bonds of Muslims with all other communities.

## Portion of 7 Mumbai hutments collapses, residents evacuated

**Mumbai :** A portion of seven hutments collapsed in a nullah located at Indra Nagar area in Juhu, Vile Parle on Sunday night, said Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC). Following the incident, 24 hutments in the same area were vacated for safety reasons and residents living in them were shifted into a school. However, no injuries have been reported in this incident. "Portion of 7 hutments collapsed in a nullah located at Indra Nagar area in Juhu, Vile Parle. No injuries were reported in this incident. 24 hutments vacated for safety reasons and residents are shifted to Ashram BMC School," BMC said.





There is no downside to my wife: George Clooney

London | Agencies

Actor George Clooney says there is no "downside" when it comes to being married to Amal, as he reflects on eight years of marriage with the human rights lawyer. The actor tied the knot with Amal Alamuddin, back in 2014 and went on to have twins Alexander and Ella, four, with her and insisted and paid tribute to his "magical" wife just days before they celebrated their eighth anniversary on Tuesday.

He said: "Eight years! And they said it wouldn't last. Everything about my wife is sort of magical, as I think everybody has come to realise as they see her and hear her and hear what she stands for. There's just no downside to her!"

Meanwhile, the 'Gravity' star was asked about the "moral code" he and his wife hope to instil in their children, and explained that he wants his little ones to learn to "pay attention" to others and to "challenge with power."

He said: "The same thing I think everybody wants to instil in their kids, really. Which is to pay attention to other people. In my family, the rules were always 'Challenge people with power, defend people with less power.' And if you can do that, you've had a good life."

Lily James lost 'lots of jobs' due to method acting in 'Pam & Tommy'

Los Angeles | Agencies

Actress Lily James claims she was left to "s\*\*\*" and a "wreck" after living in character as Pamela Anderson. The actress was exhausted by her method acting while playing the 'Baywatch' star, in series 'Pam & Tommy', which chronicled Pamela's stormy relationship with Motley Crue drummer Tommy Lee, who was portrayed by 40-year-old actor Sebastian Stan.

Speaking to a magazine, including her mum, in Pamela's voice, Lily blamed staying in character

for losing her "lots of jobs" for which she auditioned while filming.

"It was such a screwed-up process. You just have to be patient with yourself. The hours are so long and you feel really burnt out. Your nervous system is just like, shot to s\*\*\*. I felt like a real wreck at the end of it," the actress said.

British-born Allen added she felt she had to stay in character as she is so different from Pamela, saying, "The difference from me to her was too extreme to go back and forth. So, I had to stay in this middle no man's land of like

Lily/Pamela most of the time. I would totally slip into her voice." "Even when I went out for dinner and was ordering with the waitress or talking to my mom on the phone, I would be American. I think I've lost lots of jobs - because I keep speaking like Pamela in any audition." Telling how she spent four hours in make-up every day to transform into Pamela, which included the fitting of a prosthetic body suit, "Of course, there was the physical transformation. Slowly, our incredible team found a balance where I resembled Pamela but also felt like I could act through it."

Los Angeles | Agencies

I & Natalie, made same film like 'Friends with Benefits' in same year: Ashton

Hollywood star Ashton Kutcher is spilling one of the worst-kept secrets in rom-com history. He recently reunited with his 'No Strings Attached' co-star Natalie Portman for a joint Peloton workout for an episode of his series 'Our Future Selves', released September 20.

During their session, the actor admitted that their 2011 rom-com was pretty darn similar to a certain film starring his now-wife Mila Kunis and Justin Timberlake, released the same year.

"I think the first time we really started hanging out is when we shot No Strings together," Kutcher said, to which Portman responded: "Who would've thought 20

years later, we'd be on a Peloton together?"

Kutcher then said: "Wait, it's also weird because my wife was shooting basically the same movie, called 'Friends With Benefits.'" Both Ivan Reitman's 'No Strings Attached' and Will Gluck's 'Friends With Benefits' are about a man and a woman who decide to turn their friendship sexual without becoming a romantic couple, realising later that that's more complicated than they thought. Both films were successful. On Our Future Selves, Kutcher's interview and marathon training series with Peloton, Portman also raised another curious point to her former co-star.

"And Mila and I had just shot Black Swan together. So we were all making out with each other."

My mind was 'f\*\*\*ed up': Gwyneth Paltrow

Los Angeles | Agencies

WHEN I WON OSCAR AT 26

Hollywood actress Gwyneth Paltrow has opened up about what she really felt when she took home an Oscar at the age of 26. In a new interview, the Pepper Potts depicter in 'Iron Man' says her mind was "f\*\*\*ed up" by winning the Best Actress award.

Gwyneth, named Best Actress for her role in 1998's 'Shakespeare in Love', made the admission as she discussed her family and her upcoming 50th birthday.

During an interview on CBS about getting the award, she said: "It's crazy when I think about that now. At the time I thought I was, like, a full adult, you know?" When correspondent Tracy Smith asked, "what do you think that did to your mind?" the actress laughed, "f\*\*\*ing it up!"

The actress went on to say: "You know, to reach that kind of, like, the pinnacle at that age and have that much scrutiny and attention, and then it's like, no matter

what you do after that, you can't really win, right? It's like you have a few years of it's, like, nothing's gonna live up to that. It's just a lot to hold."

When asked when she decided to focus on wellness, which led to Gwyneth setting up her Goop firm, she said: "I'll tell you exactly, when my father got cancer. And I was helping him one day feeding him with a syringe and feeding tube.

And it struck me, like, 'What is in this can that I'm injecting directly into his stomach?' And it was the first time I made a connection between food (and) wellness. I'll never forget that moment."

Los Angeles | Agencies

Singer Rihanna has slyly affirmed that she will be performing at the Super Bowl LVII Halftime Show in February 2023. Roc Nation also officially confirmed the singer's participation through a statement recently released. The singer shared a picture of an NFL-branded football on her Instagram. The post came amid reports that the singer was "in talks" to headline the next Halftime Show. The game, which typically draws one of the biggest single TV audiences of the year, is scheduled to be played at the State Farm Stadium in Glendale, Arizona, on February 12.

"Rihanna is a generational talent, a woman of humble beginnings who has surpassed expectations at every turn," said Jay-Z in the official announcement. "A person born on the small island of Barbados who became one of the most prominent artists ever. Self-made in business and entertainment." Rihanna was also offered to headline the 2019 Halftime show but turned down the offer in a decision to show solidarity with Colin Kaepernick. "We are thrilled to welcome Rihanna to the Apple Music Super Bowl Halftime Show stage."

RIHANNA CONFIRMED FOR FEB 2023 SUPER BOWL HALFTIME SHOW

Rihanna is a once-in-a-generation artist who has been a cultural force throughout her career," Seth Dudowsky, NFL's head of music, said in a statement. "We look forward to collaborating with Rihanna, Roc Nation and Apple Music to bring fans another historic Halftime Show performance." "Rihanna is an incredible recording artist who is a favorite for many millions of Apple Music customers around the world," said Oliver Schusser, Apple's vice president of Apple Music and Beats. "We're excited to partner with Rihanna, Roc Nation and the NFL to bring music and sports fans a momentous show, what an incredible artist for the inaugural Apple Music Super Bowl Halftime Show."

ABSOLUTE PIC OF THE DAY

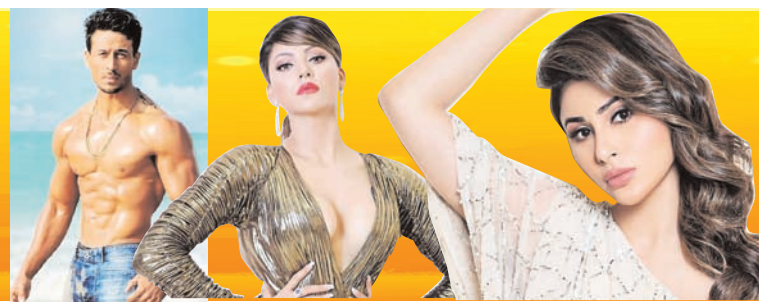


Jordyn Woods









# ANUSHKA KAUSHIK TO PLAY PARALLEL LEAD WITH RAVEENA

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Anushka Kaushik, who was seen in web series 'Ghar Waapsi' and 'Crash Course', has been roped in to play a prominent role in Raveena Tandon-starrer film 'Patna Shukla'. She said that the most challenging thing for her was to speak in Bhojpuri and she put extra effort to learn the language. When she got a call from makers, she was not sure if she would be able to do justice to it. But according to her, they were confident that she would be perfect for this role.

"They said that they have seen me doing different characters and they are sure that I can pull off this dialect as well. Yet, I asked them for a day during which I watched a lot of Bhojpuri content to prepare, and then gave the audition," she said.

Recalling the day of her audition, she said: "In the queue outside the audition room, I could see many known faces and I just knew that this was something big. I entered the room and greeted everyone in a very desi way as my character is like this only. Arbaaz (Khan) was there and so was our director with about 5-6 people."

"Midway during my first take, I asked to start again, and then it took just one take for me to do the entire scene. At the end of it, everyone started clapping but I still asked them for one more take. They told me that they had gotten what they wanted but I could do one more take if I wanted to. Then in a day or two, I got the call that I was doing the film."

Anushka briefed about her character: "It is a parallel lead alongside Raveena Tandon and the whole set up of the character and the story is very different. I have never been a part of any story set in Patna or even visited the city, but I know to prepare for this role, I would love to go there. The journey of this character is very different, yet it still has some relatability with the real Anushka."

Starring Raveena Tandon, Anushka Kaushik, Satish Kaushik, Chandan Roy Sanyal and Jatin Goswami amongst others, 'Patna Shukla' is all set to release next year.



## Navratri 2022 Special

**Nyrraa M Banerji:** Navratri is mostly about playing dandiya, hanging out with friends...

Shachi Chaturvedi | Mumbai

Navratri has begun, and today is the second day of the celebration. This day is dedicated to Maa Brahmacharini's worship. Goddess Durga in this form represents Goddess Parvati's severe penance, and her unmarried form is worshipped as Goddess Brahmacharini.

In an exclusive interview with Absolute India news, Nyrraa M Banerji, who is currently playing Pishachini in the serial Pishachini, shares her plans and her way of celebrating, and much more.

Talking about the festival the actress said, "The Maha life has begun yesterday when Durga Mata gathers all the shakti to fight the demons. Navratri is not what I

celebrate because I am a Bengali. Ashtami, Navmi, and Dussehra are the three important days for us when Durga Ma reigns supreme."

Later talking about the traditional style of celebrating this occasion Nyrraa added "We get up early during those three days and give Anjali (the pooja). We also offer flowers and prayers to Mata and visit pandals to see Durga Mata's idols. Throughout these three days, we get up, put on dresses, and eat delicious non-vegetarian food. There is a great deal of dance, music, and even drama."

The actress also expresses her excitement and plans for this year as "During these days of the year we meet our relatives and because of pandemic we haven't celebrated much for the past 2 years. And as I was born and raised in Mumbai, so I haven't seen much of Kolkata, but I will say that Mumbai has equally amazing Pandals. For me, Navratri is mostly about playing dandiya, hanging out with friends, and relaxing."



## Every day feels like first day on set to Manushi Chhillar

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Former Miss World and Bollywood actress Manushi Chhillar, who made her debut with 'Samrat Prithviraj', has been signed with John Abraham for 'Tehran', a film inspired by true events. The project is proving to be a great learning experience for the actress. Talking about her experience on the project so far, Manushi said: "'Tehran' has been an exciting learning experience for me. I love how differently I get to showcase myself as an actor." She is living every moment of her journey as a growing actress, adding further: "Since my career in cinema has just begun, every day feels like my first day on set. There is so much to absorb and take mental notes of."

She is glad that she got to dabble in very different types of films. "With a historical (Samrat Prithviraj) and now this, I have got to taste two very different genres. More to look forward to," she said. A Maddock Films production in association with Bake My Cake Films, 'Tehran' is directed by Arun Gopalan, written by Ritesh Shah and Ashish Prakash Verma, produced by Dinesh Vijan, Shobhna Yadav and Sandeep Leyzell.



**Only KJo could have got me back on screen: Neelam Kothari**

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Former actress Neelam Kothari Soni, who is getting a lot of positive response for her work in the second season of OTT series 'Fabulous Lives of Bollywood Wives', recently opened up on the kind of equation she shares with the multi-hyphenate Karan Johar.

She also credited KJo for pulling her back from her sabbatical. Neelam had taken a sabbatical from professional acting to concentrate on her career as a finesseful jewellery designer and to focus on her family life.

Back in 1998, Karan was keen on getting Neelam back on screen for 'Kuch Kuch Hota Hai' and thus he convinced her to be herself in the movie.

Neelam said: "Karan is very dear to me. He is a genius when it comes to film making. In fact, 'Kuch Kuch Hota Hai' also happened quite sometime after my sabbatical from films."

"Karan was sure that my cameo shall be remembered, 'The Neelam Show' went on to become an iconic part of the film, and is still remembered! Karan definitely has a magical farsightedness. If it wasn't him, I don't think I would have done the film."

Now, once again after all

these years, Neelam officially made her comeback to mainstream Bollywood space with the first season of 'Fabulous Lives of Bollywood Wives' and yet again it was KJo, who convinced her to take the plunge as the show is produced by Karan Johar's Dharmatic Entertainment.

She further said: "In fact, he was the one who convinced me to get back on the screen for Bollywood with 'Fabulous Lives of Bollywood Wives.' It is something with him, like he has this knack of getting me back on screen be it 'Kuch Kuch Hota Hai' or 'Fabulous Lives of Bollywood Wives'."

In the third episode of 'Fabulous Lives of Bollywood Wives', Neelam announced that she was going to be a part of Zoya Akhtar's much anticipated web series 'Made in Heaven 2'.



## INSTAGRAM PIC OF THE DAY



Kusha Kapila

## Pavail Gulati on working with Neena Gupta & Rashmika

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Pavail Gulati, who is gearing up for the release of his upcoming film 'Goodbye' starring Amitabh Bachchan, has spoken about working with veteran actress Neena Gupta and south sensation Rashmika Mandanna in the movie.

In the film, Pavail Gulati is playing the role of Amitabh Bachchan and Neena Gupta's son. He'll be sharing screen space with Neena and Rashmika for the first time.

"Neena ji and Rashmika are a riot on set, Rashmika is such a sweetheart, and has a beautiful smile and a lovely way of working, whenever she used to come on sets she used to bring a smile on everybody's face, as she's always smiling."

He added: "Neena ji is a fireball of energy, I can chat with her all day long. Her stories are so beautiful, just standing next to her is like a dream come true. I am honoured to be working with her and I wish to be working with her more and more, what a wonderful talent she has and on top of that she's also a wonderful human being."

The story of Goodbye revolves around the importance of being there for each other as a family and coming out stronger irrespective of what life throws at you.

