

NATION > 02
Reservations for Paharis will not undermine Gujjars, Bakarwals...



HOLLYWOOD > 06
Kaley had to keep her relationship with co-star Johnny secret on the...



SPORTS > 07
3rd T20I: South Africa thrash India by 49 runs...

POLL PANEL WRITES TO PARTIES TO GIVE AUTHENTIC INFO ON POLL PROMISES, SEEKS VIEWS ABOUT

Mode of implementation

▶ THE COMMISSION NOTED THAT THE CONSEQUENCES OF INADEQUATE DISCLOSURES BY POLITICAL PARTIES GET ATTENUATED BY THE FACT THAT THE ELECTIONS ARE HELD FREQUENTLY, PROVIDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR POLITICAL PARTIES TO INDULGE IN COMPETITIVE ELECTORAL PROMISES, PARTICULARLY IN MULTI-PHASE ELECTIONS, WITHOUT HAVING TO SPELL OUT THEIR FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS MORE PARTICULARLY ON COMMITTED EXPENDITURE. IN ANY CASE, THESE DECLARATIONS ARE ALSO NOT SUBMITTED BY MOST OF THE POLITICAL PARTIES IN TIME.

▶ THE ELECTION COMMISSION HAS WRITTEN TO ALL RECOGNISED NATIONAL AND STATE POLITICAL PARTIES SOLICITING VIEWS FOR PROCEEDING WITH THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT FOR BRINGING ABOUT A STANDARDIZED DISCLOSURE PROFORMA WITH THE AIM OF NOT ONLY STRENGTHENING OF MODEL CODE OF CONDUCT GUIDANCE FOR POLITICAL PARTIES AND CANDIDATES BUT ALSO ENSURING AUTHENTIC INFORMATION TO THE VOTERS TO ASSESS FINANCIAL VIABILITY OF ELECTION PROMISES MADE BY POLITICAL PARTIES. ALL THE NATIONAL AND RECOGNISED POLITICAL PARTIES HAVE BEEN REQUESTED TO SEND THEIR VIEWS BY OCTOBER 18.

As per the proposal, the political parties will have to provide the details of the financial feasibility of their promises in a certain format which include information like extent and expanse of coverage; quantification of physical coverage and quantification of financial implications of the promises. Moreover, the information will also include availability of the financial resources and ways and means of raising resources for meeting the additional expenditure to be incurred in fulfilling the promises.



Team Absolute | New Delhi

Noting the fact that declarations provided by the political parties about the financial ramifications of poll promises are quite routine and ambiguous, the Election Commission has proposed to mandate the political parties to provide authentic information to the voters to assess the financial viability of their election promises.

While the existing guidelines under the Model Code of Conduct (MCC) require the political parties and candidates to explain the rationale for

promises made therein as well as the possible ways and means to finance such promises, Election Commission has observed that the declarations are quite routine, ambiguous and do not provide adequate information to the voters to exercise informed choice in an election.

The Commission, under the guidance of Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) Rajiv Kumar proposed to supplement the existing MCC guidelines and mandate political parties to inform voters about financial ramifications of their promises in the manifesto against well-defined quantifiable parameters.

A senior official of the poll panel said the move was aimed at assessing the feasibility of implementation of such promises within the financial space available.

The EC in its meeting led by CEC Rajiv Kumar and attended by Election Commissioner Anup Chandra Pandey decided that it cannot remain a mute spectator and overlook the undesirable impact of some of the promises and offers, on the conduct of free and fair elections and maintaining level playing field for all political parties and candidates.

Drawing upon his experience in dealing with the Finance Commission, RBI and Budget process as Union Finance Secretary, CEC Rajiv Kumar has initiated yet another major electoral reform for not only bringing about a standardised disclosure proforma for guidance of political parties and candidates, but also ensuring authentic information to the voters to assess financial viability of election promises made by political parties. Proforma seeks details of revenue generation ways (through additional tax, if any), rationalising expenditure (cutting some schemes, if so required), impact on committed liabilities and/or raising of further debt and its impact on FRBM limits.

UTTARKASHI AVALANCHE: 10 MOUNTAINEERS KILLED SO FAR

Fatal Tuesday



Uttarkashi | Agencies

Ten trainee mountaineers have been killed while eight others have been rescued so far after an avalanche hit Draupadi's Danda 2 mountain peak in the frontier district of Uttarkashi.

The avalanche reported near Draupadi's Danda 2 mountain peak had trapped 28 trainee mountaineers of Nehru Mountaineering Institute.

The DGP of the area has said that eight climbers have been safely rescued so far, while several others reported to be missing. The Indian Air Force (IAF) has deployed two Cheetah helicopters for rescue and relief operations. Other helicopters in the fleet have been kept on standby for any further requirement.

The Nehru Institute of Mountaineering (NIM) had launched training for basic and advanced courses on September 22 at the Dokrani glacier.

A total of 122 people, including 97 trainees, 24 trainers and an officer of NIM, were involved in the basic training, while 53 people, including 44 trainees and nine trainers, were part of the advanced course.

Meanwhile, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has spoken to Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami over the incident and has directed the India Air Force to carry out rescue and relief operations.

Simultaneously, relief and rescue operations are being carried out by the district administration, NDRF, SDRF, Army and ITBP personnel along with a team of NIM.

10 MISSING IN GOMTI, GANGA RIVERS IN UP

Kanpur/Lucknow (UP): Ten persons were missing and feared drowned in two separate incidents in Lucknow and Kanpur on Tuesday, police said.

While four youths went missing in the Gomti river in Lucknow during idol immersion, six persons, including four girls, are feared drowned in Bilhaur in Kanpur. The youths in Lucknow reportedly drowned during idol immersion when they lost their balance in the boat. In Kanpur, four girls waded into waters and then slipped into the river. Two youths who had accompanied them, jumped into the river to rescue the girls. All are missing. Rescue operations have started in both places and senior police officials are supervising the divers.

11 KILLED IN VADODARA AS TRUCK COLLIDES WITH AUTORICKSHAW

Vadodara: At least 11 people were killed and four others injured when the autorickshaw they were travelling in collided with a heavy commercial vehicle (HMV) carrying cars on the National highway 48 near the Darjipura area of Gujarat's Vadodara on Tuesday. Critically injured have been admitted to a government hospital. Deputy Commissioner of Police Panna Momaya told the mediapersons: "According to local eyewitnesses, the driver of the Heavy Commercial Vehicle driving from Surat towards Ahmedabad lost control over steering while attempting to avoid a car. The container crossed the divider and collided with the passenger rickshaw. 11 passengers have died so far, another three to four passengers are being treated, who are in critical condition in hospital." The container after hitting the autorickshaw also hit the wall of the Air Force station before finally coming to a halt. A team from the station also helped in the rescue operation.

CBI raids at 105 locations in 18 states against cyber crime

Team Absolute | New Delhi

The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) is conducting raids at more than 105 premises across the nation.

According to sources, the raids are being conducted at places belonging to the accused involved in cyber enabled crime. The CBI has given the entire operation the name, "Operation Chakra".

The agency had got inputs from the FBI and Interpol on the cyber enabled crime accused. The CBI formed teams and also informed the state police so that they could assist them in the search operation.

The CBI itself is conducting the probe at 87 locations while



the state police are involved in the other places.

The source said that they have recovered around Rs 1.5 crore in cash and 1.5 kg gold from a location in Rajasthan where the accused were running a fake call centre.

Two more call centres were busted in Pune and Ahmedabad. The accused used to call US and UK citizens and dupe them.

ON EVE OF DASSEHRA RALLY, MAHA GOVT'S DIWALI GIFT TO 17MN FAMILIES

Mumbai: The Maharashtra government on Tuesday announced an advance Diwali gift of subsidised food provisions to nearly 1.70 crore (around 7 crore persons) families covered under the public distribution system. Accordingly, each ration card-holder will be entitled to one kg sugar, one kg palm oil, chana dal and rava at Rs 100 only, giving a major relief to the masses reeling under inflation, in the festival season. The bonanza comes a day ahead of the 'two Shiv Sena Dassehra rallies' -- one to be addressed by Chief Minister Eknath Shinde and another by Sena President and ex-CM Uddhav Thackeray, with both going all-out to woo the crowds at their venues in Bandra Kurla Complex and Shivaji Park, respectively, scheduled on Wednesday. Announcing the cabinet's decisions, Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnis said that these food commodities shall be available for a month vide an e-pass system and will entail a burden of around Rs 489 crore on the state exchequer.

'SERVE BURGERS TO ORPHANS'

DELHI HIGH COURT TO RESTAURATEUR AFTER QUASHING RAPE FIR AGAINST HIM

Team Absolute | New Delhi

Quashing an FIR of rape charges registered against a restaurateur, the Delhi High Court directed him to serve hygienic and good-quality burgers to the children at two orphanages in Noida and Mayur Vihar as a social service. "I am of the view that in the present case, respondent No.2 (man) was married to the petitioner and, thereafter, had temperamental differences due to which they decided to part ways. Moreover, the respondent No.2 has herself made the statement that she wants to put quietus to the matter without any pressure, coercion and out of her own free will. In view of this, the allegations under Section 376 IPC can be quashed," Justice Jasmeet Singh said in the recent order.

His counsel submitted that as per the terms of the settlement, he has to pay the



woman a sum of Rs 4,50,000, which shall be transferred the same day.

Justice Singh further noted that "However, I am of the view that the FIR in the present case is of the year 2020 and considerable time of the police has been wasted in investigation, which could have been utilised for important matters. Similarly, judicial time has also been wasted. Therefore, the petitioner must do some social good for the society."

CIRCULAR ON REQUIREMENT OF CERTIFICATE TO COVER MODI'S EVENT WITHDRAWN

New Delhi: The notification that was issued earlier mandating certification of antecedent for the journalists to cover Prime Minister Narendra Modi's event in Himachal Pradesh on October 5 has been withdrawn, an official said on Tuesday.

The Press Information Bureau (PIB) on Tuesday took to Twitter to inform this.

Earlier, an official notification on September 29 asking the District Public Relations Officer to supply a list of all press correspondents, photographers and videographers along with a certificate of their character verification, had triggered row.

Himachal Pradesh DGP Sanjay Kundu tweeted: "The letter written by SP Bilaspur stands withdrawn. Any inconvenience caused is regretted. Journalists are cordially invited to cover Hon'ble PM's visit to H.P. shall extend cooperation and facilitate their coverage."

'Bollywood's Hanuman looks like a Musalman': 'Boycott Adipurush' trends on social media

Team Absolute | New Delhi

After "Laal Singh Chaddha" and "Brahmastra", another Bollywood movie has run into rough weather, with "Boycott Adipurush" trending on social media, days after its teaser got released.

The excitement for Om Raut's film "Adipurush" -- starring Saif Ali Khan, Prabhas and Kriti Sanon -- was quite high ever since it was announced. However, just a few hours after the release of the teaser, the netizens began criticising the film for Saif's "Islamic" look, unconvincing VFX, and also the costumes of the other cast were targeted.

The netizens have claimed that Hanuman's look in the film also has similarities with the Islamic attire.

A user tweeted, "Bollywood's Hanuman Looks Like A Musalman #BoycottAdipurush." Another one wrote, "After 35 years, gutter Bollywood converted the 'gracefulness' of arrogant Ravana and Hanuman ji into Mughals."



"Hanuman in Ramayan. Musalman in #Adipurush. Note: No Hindu keeps a beard without a Moustache. This film should be banned... They are defaming our Ramayan. They are showing Ravana and Hanuman with beards as Mughals with no Tika on their foreheads," added one. "Adipurush" is a retelling of the Ramayana. Prabhas's character is termed as Raghav, which is another name for Lord Ram. Saif plays Ravana while Janaki (Sita) is played by Kriti Sanon.

This Ravana temple opens only on Dussehra

▶ AT THE TIME WHEN PEOPLE CHANT 'SIYAPATI RAM CHANDRA KI JAI' DURING 'RAVAN DAHAN' AT RAMLILAS IN KANPUR, ANOTHER SET OF PEOPLE MAKE A BEELINE TO WORSHIP LANKAPATI IN THE SHIVALA AREA.

▶ KNOWN AS 'DASHANAN TEMPLE', ITS CONSTRUCTION IS BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN DONE ABOUT 50 YEARS AFTER THE MAIN TEMPLE WAS BUILT IN 1868.

▶ THE DEMON KING'S TEMPLE IS BUILT OUTSIDE CHINMASTIKA DEVI TEMPLE BECAUSE IT IS BELIEVED THAT RAVANA WAS ALSO THE 'CHOWKIDAR' (GUARD) OF THE GODDESS.



Kanpur | Agencies

On Dussehra, when all Hindus celebrate the victory of good over evil and burn effigies of Ravana, one quaint temple in Kanpur will open its doors for those who worship the demon king.

On Dussehra, devotees from far and wide through the Ravana temple. There are four temples of Ravana across the country, but the

temple in Kanpur is one of its kind in Uttar Pradesh. This year too, 'puja' and 'aarti' of Ravana will start from 9 a.m. on Dussehra and will continue till Ravan 'Dahan' in the evening. Dhananjay Tiwari, who is a priest at the temple, says, "People throng this temple for a day to have 'darshan' of Ravana. In the evening, once the effigy of Ravana is set on fire on Dussehra, the doors of this temple are closed for a year." Anirudh Prasad Bajpai,

Known as the Kailasha temple outside Chinmastika Devi temple in the Shivala area of Kanpur, it has a ten-headed idol of Ravan. In this temple, Ravana is held captive for 364 days and the temple is opened only for one day -- Vijay Dashami (Dussehra). It is believed that the sight of Ravana in this temple not only kills evil thoughts but also sharpens the mind.

trustee of the Ravana temple, said the demon king's temple was one among many others located on Kailasha temple complex in Shivala. Ramraj, a local shop owner, who sells flowers and garlands outside the Ravana temple, says, "It is the common belief that on Dussehra day, Ravana comes to this temple. The 'darshan' of Ravana gives the message that evil never prospers."

A fair is also organised to mark the occasion. The demon king's idol is decorated, earthen lamps are lit and an 'aarti' is performed. It is believed that offering mustard oil and 'tura' (ridged gourd) flowers wards off all bad planetary effects.



Reservations for Paharis will not undermine Gujjars, Bakarwals: Shah in Jammu

Team Absolute | Rajouri (J&K)

Union Home Minister Amit Shah addressed a massive public rally here on Tuesday and said that the Justice Sharma Commission has recommended reservations for Gujjars, Bakarwals and the Pahari communities of J&K and all of them will get their lawful right of reservations.

Shah dispelled rumours that the declaration of reservations as STs for the Paharis would in any way undermine the reservations given to Gujjars and Bakarwals.

"This is a rumour being spread by some to create a wedge between the Gujjar/Bakarwal and Pahari communities. Reservations given to Paharis will not undermine the ST reservation of Gujjars and Bakarwals," he said.

He commended the people of Rajouri and Poonch border districts by saying that whenever there was a threat to the country, these people stood like a wall against the enemy.

"The rest of the country is grateful to you because they can sleep in peace when you are maintaining vigil on the country's borders," Shah said.

He said some politicians with vested interest had said there would be



bloodbath in the Chenab Valley and Rajouri/Poonch districts if Article 370 was abrogated.

"The presence of such a large number of people, including men, women and children who waited for me for two hours in scorching heat is the answer to those who spoke of blood-bath if Article 370 was abrogated.

"Till August 5, 2019 when Article 370 was removed, three families had converted democracy into a fiefdom in J&K." "There were no reservations for Gujjars, Bakarwals and Paharis because those three families kept everything for themselves and their few stooges." "Modiji's decision to abrogate 370 has opened way for

reservations to the underprivileged communities of J&K like Gujjars, Bakarwals and Paharis. "Instead of power wrestling with just three families, Modiji held Panchayat, block and district level elections and today power is in the hands of 30,000 representatives of the people elected to these bodies," Shah asserted.

He got a rousing response when he asked the gathering whether they would ensure to keep these three families out of power in the future.

The Union home minister said during the 70 years since Independence, for the first time this year, 1.67 crore tourists had visited J&K.

"Stone pelting is a thing of the past. We have taken away stones from the hands of the youth and given them laptops instead," he said.

Talking about militancy in the state, he said before the abrogation of Article 370 during the previous four years, 4766 militancy related incidents had taken place.

"After the abrogation of Article 370, only 477 such incidents have taken place here so far", he disclosed.

He said Modi abolished the toll tax at Lakanpur through which every item whether iron or food products entering J&K would be taxed.

Andhra temple decorated with currency notes, gold

Team Absolute | Visakhapatnam

A temple in Andhra Pradesh's Visakhapatnam has been decorated with currency notes and gold ornaments worth Rs 8 crore as part of Navratri celebrations.

The management committee of the Vasavi Kanyaka Parameswari temple decorated the walls and floor with the currency notes of Rs 3.5 crore and jewellery.

Wads of notes of various denominations ranging from Re 1 to Rs 2,000 were kept around the deity, on the floor, pasted to the walls and even hung from the ceiling.

According to the committee of this 135-year-old temple, the currency notes and gold ornaments are contributions from devotees and the same will be returned to them after the festivities.

This is not the first time that a temple in Andhra Pradesh has been decorated in this fashion to mark Dasara celebrations. Last



year, the deity at Vasavi Kanyaka Parameswari temple in Nellore district was decked up with currency notes worth Rs 5.16 crore.

The organisers had adorned the deity with garlands and bouquets of origami flowers made from the currency notes of various denominations like Rs 2,000, Rs 500, Rs 200, Rs 100, Rs 50, and Rs 10 and colours.

A large number of devotees worship the deity in the

avatar of 'Dhanalakshmi', the goddess of riches, during the Navratri celebrations.

Earlier, Kanyaka Parameswari temple in Telangana's Jogulamba Gadwal district was decorated with currency notes amounting to Rs 1,11,11,111.

In 2017, the temple committee had made the offering in a similar arrangement with the currency notes amounting Rs 3,33,33,333.

Mahishasura idol resembling Mahatma Gandhi! Congress to move court



Kolkata | Agencies

The West Bengal Pradesh Congress Committee announced on Tuesday that it would move the court against the organisers of a small Durga Puja -- Akhil Bharatiya Hindu Mahasabha -- at Kasba in south Kolkata where the idol of Mahishasura resembled Mahatma Gandhi -- with a shaved head and spectacle.

Although after widespread protests and police intervention, the idol was given a different look on Sunday with the spectacle removed and a wig put on the head of Mahishasura, controversies over the matter continued.

On Tuesday, state Congress chief and Lok Sabha MP Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury told mediapersons that depicting Mahatma Gandhi as Mahishasura was an anti-national act and hence the state Congress wants the matter to be settled

in the court.

Chowdhury also held the Trinamool Congress-led state government directly responsible for the incident.

"We will be moving the court against this incident. This is nothing but anti-nationalism. The state government is equally responsible for this unfortunate incident. Even in BJP-ruled states, no one has the guts to insult the father of the nation in this manner. The entire world follows Mahatma Gandhi's principles. We cannot tolerate his insult in West Bengal," Chowdhury said.

Even different associations of priests have claimed that through this act, the puja organisers actually demeaned Hinduism.

They said that since Hindu philosophy always speaks of paying homage to the deceased persons, such acts are actually contrary to the lessons of this great religion which is also perceived as a way of life.

CENTRE APPROVES RS 26,000 CRORE TO INSTALL 25,000 MOBILE TOWERS IN 500 DAYS

New Delhi: The government has approved Rs 26,000 crore for installation of 25,000 mobile towers in 500 days, an official statement said on Tuesday. According to a telecom ministry spokesperson, financial support for the project will be provided by Universal Services Obligation Fund and it will be implemented by Bharat Broadband Network. The project was announced by Telecom Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw at three-day long 'Digital India Conference of State IT Ministers' that concluded on October 3. "In his concluding remarks, Ashwini Vaishnaw stated that connectivity is vital for Digital India and its reach to every corner of the country. He announced that Rs 26,000 crore has been approved to install 25,000 new towers in next 500 days," the statement said. Minister of State (MoS) for Electronics and Information Technology and Skill Development and Entrepreneurship Rajeev Chandrasekhar, MoS Communications Devusin Chauhan and IT ministers from 12 states and UTs, namely Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Goa, Manipur, Uttarakhand, Telangana, Mizoram, Sikkim, and Puducherry participated in the conference.

TRS leader distributes live chicken, liquor to celebrate launch of national party

Hyderabad | Agencies

A live chicken and a liquor bottle for everyone! This is what a TRS leader distributed among some locals in Warangal on Tuesday ahead of the launch of the national party by Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhar Rao.

Standing under huge cut-outs of KCR, as the Chief Minister is popularly known, and his son K.T. Rama Rao, local leader of Telangana Rashtra Samithi (TRS) Rajanala Srihari was seen personally distributing chicken and liquor bottles to people in in Warangal. Several people, mostly



daily-wage workers, queued up to receive the gifts from Srihari, who is celebrating the proposed launch of

Bharatiya Rashtra Samithi (BRS) by KCR. Srihari said he wants to see KCR as the Prime Minister and KTR as the Chief Minister.

After the video of the distribution of gifts went viral on social media, political rivals took a dig at TRS while many netizens also decried the act by the TRS leader.

Terming BRS as 'Bottles Rashtra Samithi', Telangana Congress said the election symbol of BRS should not be 'car' but 'quarter'.

Meanwhile, several leaders of TRS in different parts of the state offered prayers for the success of the proposed national party.

Kerala Police rubbishes reports of 873 state cops having links with PFI

Thiruvananthapuram | Agencies

The Kerala Police on Tuesday flatly denied media reports that a report from the NIA has been handed over to state police chief Anil Kant, claiming that 873 state police personnel have links with the now banned Popular Front of India (PFI).

Taking to Twitter, the state police termed the report "baseless".

The media report, which appeared first in a leading vernacular daily, claims that the NIA lists contains names of Kerala Police officials, cutting across various key sections, ranging from law and order, vigilance, and the special branch.

Then it claimed officials



from the rank of sub-inspectors to Station House Officers and civil police officials are under the scanner of the central agencies and their financial dealings are being

checked. The charges against them are that they are engaged in leaking reports of raids.

This news gained traction in the wake of a dozen-odd top PFI leaders, both at the nation-

al and state level, being were taken into custody by a joint operation of the NIA and Enforcement Directorate last month from various cities in the state, as part of a nationwide raid on basis of two different cases registered in Delhi and here.

All of them are presently cooling their heels in judicial custody.

Incidentally ahead of the joint raids, the central agencies had sought assistance from the state police chief, without telling what their operation was, and instead, just said that they might require Kerala Police personnel for a task in hand.

This vernacular newspaper was picked up by others, leading to the Kerala Police top making the clarification.

GUJARAT GARBA VENUE ATTACKED, ACCUSED THRASHED IN PUBLIC AS VILLAGERS CHEER

Kheda

On Monday night, a mob of 150 to 200 people from the minority community allegedly attacked a garba venue in Undhela village of Kheda district. Eight persons were injured including a Gram Rakshak Dal jawan.

Video clips are in circulation showing the Kheda police detaining suspects on Tuesday afternoon. They tied them to a pole and thrashed the accused with sticks, compelling them to publicly apologize to the villagers. In one video clip the villagers including children are seen watching the police action and cheering when the accused were beaten. When the media inquired about the video clip, Ahmedabad Range Inspector General V Chandrasekhar said he has not come across any such video clip. If there is any violation of the law on the side of the police, he will institute an investigation into it.



CONGRESS PROMISES SPECIAL CATEGORY STATUS TO ANDHRA

Amaravati: The Congress party, if voted to power at the Centre in 2024, will accord special category status to Andhra Pradesh, said senior leader Jairam Ramesh on Tuesday.

He said the party would stand by the commitment made to Andhra Pradesh at the time of its bifurcation in 2014.

He was talking to reporters along with Oommen Chandy, Digvijaya Singh and other senior leaders at Kurnool after a review of the arrangements for party leader Rahul Gandhi's Bharat Jodo Yatra which is scheduled to enter Andhra Pradesh on October 18.

"If we get a mandate in 2024 and if the Congress party representative becomes the Prime Minister, the first signature will be on granting special category status to Andhra Pradesh," he said.

The former central minister said he was reiterating what Rahul Gandhi has already promised.

He exuded confidence that the Congress party will come to power at the Centre in 2024. He also remarked that without the Congress there can be no coalition government at the Centre.



Domestic help of slain J&K top police officer arrested

Team Absolute | Jammu

After a nightlong manhunt, the J&K Police on Tuesday arrested the domestic help of Hemant Kumar Lohia, Director General (Prisons), who was murdered in the house of his friend Yasin Ahmed, the officer's domestic help was the main accused in this murder, according to police.

Dilbag Singh, DGP (J&K) said while the investigation was going on, so far the terrorist angle to this murder was ruled out.

Police said that initial investigation indicated that the domestic help, Yasir Ahmad of Ramban district, was the main accused.

"CCTV footage collected from the incident site also showed the suspected accused running away after committing the crime.

"He was working in this house for nearly six months. Initial investigation also reveals that he was quite aggressive in his behaviour and was also under depression as per sources.

"So far no terror act is apparent as per the initial investigation, but thorough probe is on to rule out any possibility.



"The weapon of offence has been seized besides some documentary evidence reflecting his mental state," the police statement said.

Police had released the photographs of the accused to seek public assistance in nabbing him. Lohia was killed on Monday in the house of his friend in Jammu. He was an IPS officer of 1992 batch and a native of Assam.

AAP burns effigy of 'BJP Ke Koode Ka Ravan' at 3,500 places on Dussehra eve

New Delhi: Delhi's ruling Aam Aadmi Party on Tuesday held a protest against BJP-run Municipal Corporation, burning effigies of "BJP Ke Koode Ka Ravan" at 3,500 places on the eve of Dussehra.

Blaming the BJP for the national capital's garbage, AAP leaders burnt the effigies as per the rituals of Dussehra where effigies of Ravan are torched as a mark of ending negativity.

The protest was led by AAP MCD in charge and MLA Durgesh Pathak. During the protest, AAP leader Sanjeev Jha torched an effigy at Tiranga Chowk of Nathu Colony in his Assembly constituency Burari. Afterwards, senior AAP Leader & MLA Atishi torched an effigy in her constituency Kalkaji's IG Camp.

"BJP-ruled MCD has turned Delhi into a city of garbage during its 15 year reign. Our protest is a wake up call to BJP which is sleeping like Kumbhakaran to come and see how their maladministration and apathy has caused all sorts of troubles to Delhiites," Jha said. Atishi said: "People want Delhi to be garbage free; burning of Ravana's effigy today is a symbol of how the public wants to free themselves from BJP's rule in MCD and oust them from power. People are proud that CM Arvind Kejriwal has transformed schools, hospitals, electricity and water supply in Delhi; they know that if AAP comes to power in MCD, Delhi will become garbage free as well."

CHANGE OF NAME

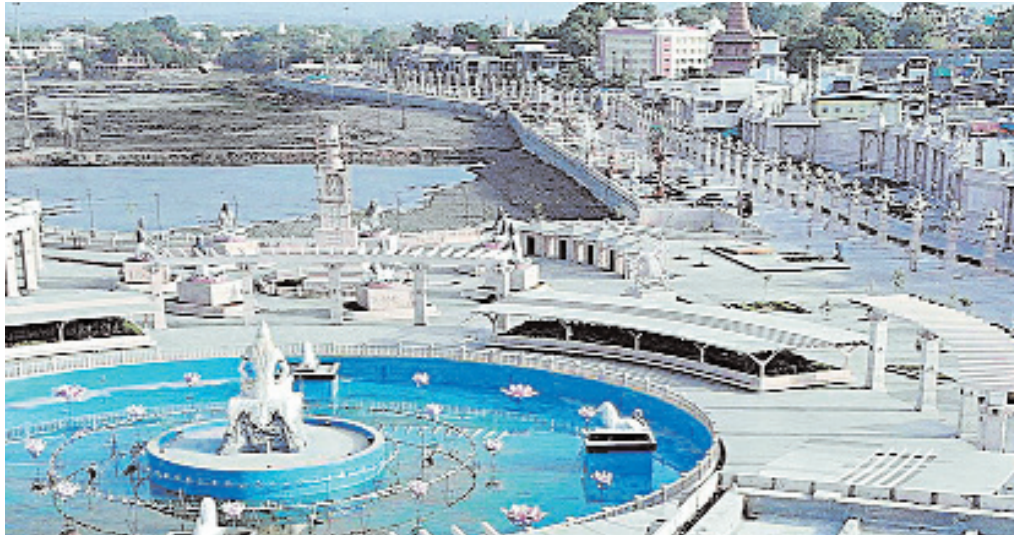
I, Firdous hasan w/o Khalid Hasan Resident House C-10, hill crest view colony, kohfiza, Bhopal, my name in my passport sayeda Firdous hasan w/o Khalid Hasan is registered, in my Aadhar card no. 703326851074 and other original documents my name is Firdous hasan w/o Khalid Hasan which is true and correct. In future I may be known as Firdous hasan w/o Khalid Hasan.

NAME CHANGE

As per my passport my name was RASHIDA BANO after marriage I have change my name to RASHEEDA HUSAIN W/O HUSAIN AMEEN R/O H No 01, Sindhi market road chowki imam bada bhopal pin 462001



Ancient splendour of Ujjain will incarnate in a new form "Shri Mahakal Lok"



Team Absolute | Bhopal

The ancient splendour of the place where Lord Shri Krishna received education, the ancient centre for computation of time, astrology, and culture, the glorious city of the great poet Kalidas and Emperor Vikramaditya, is now going to be incarnated in a new form "Shri Mahakal Lok". Keeping in mind the splendour, traditions, religious, cultural, historical significance of the mythological city of Ujjain, the state government made an effective development plan for the overall development of Shri Mahakal region, which is taking shape. The Prime Minister Narendra Modi is coming to Ujjain to dedicate the first phase of the project in a dignified ceremony on October 11.

Under the leadership of Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan, world class infrastructure was developed in Ujjain in Simhastha-2016. Now "Mahakal Lok" is being built on the lines of "Banaras Corridor". In the first phase of the scheme, small and big Rudra Sagar, Harsiddhi Temple, Char Dham Temple, Vikram Tila etc. have been developed in the courtyard of Lord Shri Mahakaleshwar. In the second phase, the Maharajwada complex will be developed, in which the historic Maharajwada building will be re-used as a heritage, the old remains will be included in the form of Kumbh museum and this complex will be integrated with the Mahakal temple complex.

The first phase of Shri Mahakal Lok, which is technically called "Mrida Project-1", has been completed. After the dedication of the works of the first phase on October 11, it will be opened for the common devotees.

The estimated cost of the "Shri Mahakal Lok" area development project is Rs. 800 crore, in which first

phase work of Rs. 350 crore including Mahakal Plaza, Mahakal Corridor, Mid-way Zone, Mahakal Theme Park, Ghat and Deck Area, Nutan School Complex and Ganesh School Complex has been completed. In the first component of the Mahakal corridor, a 200 meter long walkway has been made suitable for walking on foot. A 25 feet high and 500 meters long mural wall has been constructed. In addition, 108 Shiva pillars have been built with different postures of Shiva, which are spreading a distinct charm. Lotus pond, open air theater and lake front area and routes for e-rickshaws and emergency vehicles have also been made. The big Rudra Sagar lake has been filled with clean water. Also it has been ensured that the water remains clean.

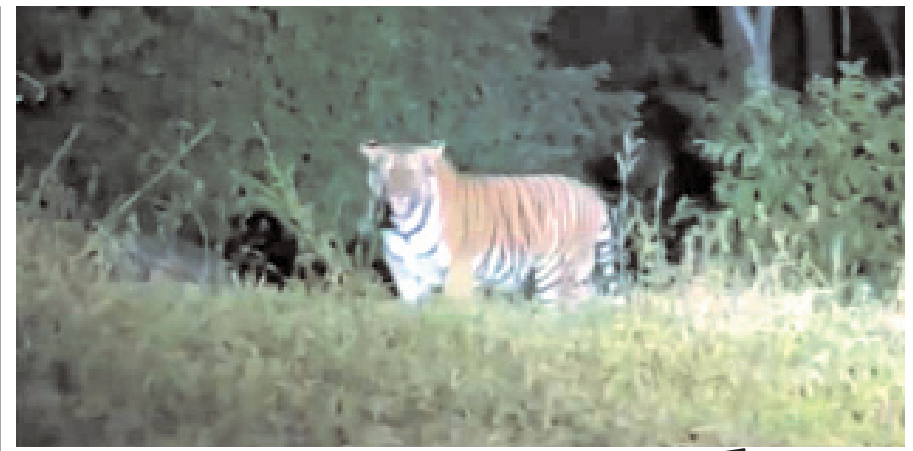
In Mahakal Theme Park, mural wall depicting stories of Lord Shri Mahakaleshwar, deck area for Sapt Sagar and shopping and meeting area facilities have been developed below it. Similarly, multilevel parking for cars, buses and two-wheelers has been made near Triveni Museum. Dharamshala and Anna Kshetra (food area) are also being built in this area. Paedestrian connectivity has been developed through road crossings. Surveillance and Control Centre has also been set up in the mid-way zone along with worship material shops, food courts, lake view restaurant, lake front development, public facilities and towers. Under Sugam Mandir Access Road, Triveni Museum to Harsiddhi Marg, Bhagat Singh Marg, Hari Phatak Bridge to Mahakal Square, Begumbag Road, road parallel to Saraswati Shishu Mandir, Mahakal Square to Mahakal Mandir, Mahakal police station to Bada Ganesh Naya Marg, Bada Ganesh Mandir Road, new road parallel to Narsingh Ghat up to Nutan School, Harsiddhi Mandir to Bhagat Singh Marg have been widened and new roads have been made.

MRIDA PROJECT PHASE II

Maharajwada complex will be developed in the second phase of Shri Mahakal Lok Kshetra Vikas Yojana, "Mrida Project-2". The works of this phase will be completed in the year 2023-24. In this, the historic Maharajwada building will be re-used as a heritage, by incorporating old relics and partially using the building as a Kumbh museum, this complex will be integrated with the Mahakal temple complex. Cultural Haat will be constructed reflecting the local art and culture. The components of Ramghat Façade Treatment include restoration of the pedestrian road leading to Ramghat, separate arrangements for vendors and cart hawkers, beautification of streets using architectural elements and Simhastha themed dynamic light show at Ramghat. Parking, Dharamshala, discourse hall and Anna Kshetra (food area) are also being constructed. In the second phase, renovation of Maharajwada, Rudra Sagar, Chhota Rudra Sagar lake front, beautification of Ramghat, parking and tourism information centre, widening of Hari Phatak bridge and railway underpass and foot bridge over Rudra Sagar, Mahakal gate, development of Begumbagh road, Rudra Sagar western road and Mahakal access road will be upgraded.

In the Chhota Rudra Sagar Lake Front Development Plan, recreation centre, Vedic Vatika and Yoga Center, Mantradhvani Sthal and parking will be developed along with landscaping. Parking information centre and sales centre will be developed. Desilting of Rudra Sagar Lake will be done by removing the sludge in the Rudra Sagar Rejuvenation Plan. Rudra Sagar will be connected with Kshipra river. The four arms of the Hari Phatak Over Bridge will be widened and a railway underpass will be built near Jaisinghpura.

The Mahakal gate located near Shri Mahakaleshwar police station will be protected and heritage corridor will be developed here. Similarly, Begumbagh area will also be developed and beautified. A 210 meter long foot bridge will be built over Rudra Sagar, which will connect the Mahakal theme park with the water tank of PHE. In this phase, the front part of Shri Mahakal temple complex will be expanded to about 70 meters. In this, the process of acquisition of 11 buildings has been completed. Seating, landscaping and walkways are also proposed in this area.



Tiger spotted in Bhopal's Manit

Team Absolute | Bhopal

Panic has spread after the sighting of a tiger at Maulana Azad National Institute of Technology (MANIT) in Bhopal, the capital of Madhya Pradesh. This is the reason that the institute management has suspended the studies for the time being along with instructing the students living in the hostel. It has been told that on

Monday night, the students of MANIT were going to the hostel by bike, during this time they saw a tiger, on seeing the tiger, the students were so scared that they left their motorcycle there and ran away. After this, the students gave information regarding the tiger to the hostel superintendent and security personnel. After the sighting of the tiger in the MANIT campus,

the management has issued a circular, which states that the movement of the tiger has been observed in the premises. In such a situation, the students should remain in the hostel till further instructions, as well as the classes have been suspended. It is to be known that earlier the tiger was also seen in Bhoj Open University and Valmi area and now it was seen in MANIT.

Online application for transfer of MPEB employees

Team Absolute | Bhopal

Madhya Pradesh Electricity Company, Madhya Kshetra Vidyut Vitran Company has sought online applications for transfer of employees. According to the information received, the company has started the process of online application by making changes in the service matters of the employees, making the process of transfer more simple at the own expense of the employees. The company has given to all the officers-employees and line staff of its field of work, illness of self or any member of the family, retirement period of less than one year, husband and wife working in government service, working in government-aided institution, contract The facility of online application has been given for transfer at their own expense for being employed in non-government service and for other reasons. Company's Managing Director Ganesh Shankar Mishra has said that with this new arrangement, company employees will be able to apply without going to various offices and will be able to get their transfer done at the option places given in the application. The online application process has started and employees can apply for their transfers till October 15. Any employee will be able to submit the online transfer application only once. Only online applications will be accepted for transfer. Online applications will not be accepted under any circumstances.



SCENES IN 'ADIPURUSH' MOVIE OBJECTIONABLE: MISHRA

Bhopal: Actor Saif Ali Khan's upcoming film Adipurush has been embroiled in controversy after it has come to light that the film contains objectionable scenes. In this case, Madhya Pradesh Home Minister Dr. Narottam Mishra has written a letter to the producer-director of the film asking him to remove the scene. State Home Minister Mishra, while discussing with reporters, has lodged an objection to the scene of the film. He has said that there are many objectionable scenes in the film Adipurush, which slander the faith of Hinduism and hurt religious sentiments. The clothes of Hanuman ji shown in this are of leather. While it is well known what their body clothes are. These scenes are going to hurt the sentiments of the people. The Home Minister further said, I am writing a letter to the producer-director of the film Om Raut on this. Even after this, if the objectionable scenes are not removed, then the legal side will be considered.



CM Chouhan congratulates and wishes people on Durga Navami

Bhopal: Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan has extended greetings and good wishes to the people of the state on Durga Navami. Chief Minister Chouhan said that we pray to Matarani for happiness and prosperity of the citizens. With the blessings of Mata Rani, the state will move on the path of progress rapidly. Today we have prayed for the prosperity of all the people of the state. Chief Minister Chouhan, in his message after Kanya Puja, said that on the day of Mahanavami, puja archana was done by people enthusiastically. For nine days, the devotees have served Mata Rani day and night. On the occasion of Durga Navami, Kanya Bhoj are performed with reverence. Our prayer to the Mata is that she showers blessings on the people and everyone is blessed with good luck and prosperity.



CM CHOUHAN GREETES ON VIJAYADASHAMI

Bhopal: Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan has extended greetings and best wishes to people of the state on the occasion of Vijayadashami. Chief Minister Chouhan said that many auspicious works are started on Dussehra festival, symbolizing the victory of good over evil, truth over falsehood. Citizens are showing interest in celebrating the festival with joy and gaiety. The two years of Covid had caused a dip in the enthusiasm of the festival. Chief Minister Chouhan said that there are programs of Ravan Dahan at many places in the state. This festival, which gives the message of the joy of victory of Lord Shri Ram and the fall of the demons, also inspires to give up lust, anger, greed, attachment, jealousy, ego, laziness etc.

Bhopal airport

WAITING FOR FLIGHT, PASSENGERS BREAK INTO IMPROMPTU GARBA

Team Absolute | Bhopal

During the Navratri festival when garba fever can be seen everywhere, one such folk dance was performed at the Raja Bhoj Airport in Bhopal by a group of passengers waiting for their flight for Ahmedabad on Tuesday morning. The passengers while waiting for their flight used the time to do garba at the airport. Interestingly, some airport and airline staff too joined them. "Garba started unexpectedly at the Raja Bhoj Airport where staff and passengers came together for a performance to celebrate Navratri," said a Bhopal airport official. A video clip went viral on social media showing a group of passengers breaking into an impromptu Garba dance. Talking to reporter, Ramjee Awasthi, Raja Bhoj Airport Director, said, "It should be taken in a positive



way as it is happening at many airports. It is nothing new. Passengers were waiting for their flight so they

started dancing at the airport to celebrate Navratri." In another incident, a woman

landed in trouble for allegedly shooting a video of her dance at a temple in Madhya Pradesh Chhatrapur district. The woman allegedly shot her dance on a Bollywood song - 'Munni Badnam Hui', which led to a controversy. The woman shot the video and uploaded it on her Instagram account which she deleted later. It made the right wing members angry and demanded action following which the state home Minister Narottam Mishra on Tuesday, directed Chhatrapur district SP to lodge an FIR against the woman. "I have directed the Superintendent of Police of Chhatrapur to file an FIR against the woman. The way she dressed and shot the video was objectionable. I had earlier objected to such incidents and said FIRs will be registered in such cases. Despite the warning, she did this," Mishra said.

On The Ground In Indore

Why Muslim Youth Were Arrested From Garba Pandals

Team Absolute | Indore

The five Muslim men arrested from a Garba pandal in Madhya Pradesh's Indore did not commit any crime, and the arrest was only preventive, a senior cop said today. The men argued with the organisers and the police, he said. Speaking to NDTV, Indore Zone-4 Deputy Commissioner of Police RK Singh said there is also no report of any complaint against Bajrang Dal members, and no official order was passed to check identity cards of attendees at Garba pandals. Singh said such events often happen during the annual event. "Our duty is to take action, irrespective of religion. We didn't get a

complaint from the Bajrang Dal, only from the organisers," he added. Since the start of the Navratri festivities, there have been several instances of Muslim men being held or beaten up in Madhya Pradesh's Indore. Bajrang Dal members are carrying out search drives at Garba pandals, checking people's ID cards. They were seen thrashing three young Muslim men in Ujjain yesterday, after which they handed them over to the police. They accused the youth of making videos of women at the pandals. The Muslim men have refuted the allegations, saying they had no intention to even enter the pandal. Speaking to NDTV, 19-year-old Kaif said they had simply stopped on the road as their motorcycle's fuel ran out.

"We just stopped on the main road and were beaten up," he said, adding that they didn't even try to enter the Garba event. Kaif further narrated that eight to ten Bajrang Dal members, accusing them of making videos, surrounded and assaulted them. They also checked their phones but found nothing, he said. Kaif said they stood with folded hands. "One of our friends is still in jail. We complained against the Bajrang Dal too, there was no action," he said. Another Indore resident, Abdul, said people's IDs are being checked around the pandal which is on the main road, and hence people can't stop going there. He said identity cards are being checked only this year and never happened before.

"We went for Garba for years, nobody had a problem before this," he said. The organisers of the Garba event told NDTV that the Bajrang Dal members harass Muslims and hand them to cops. "This should not happen, the Garba pandals have always been open for all," they said. "There have been no complaints of harassment by women, and the Bajrang Dal is simply creating nuisance," the organisers clarified. They say when they asked the police why there's no action against the Bajrang Dal, the police said because they're with the government. The Bajrang Dal, however, said they have got 14 Muslims arrested from Garba pandals as they came for "love jihad".



CM Chouhan plants saplings in Smart Udyan with officials of Children's Commission and social workers

Team Absolute | Bhopal

Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan planted Amla, Neem and Gulmohar saplings in Smart Udyan today. The Chairman and members of the Commission for Protection of Child Rights also planted saplings. Members of social

organization Youth for You Foundation Bhopal also planted saplings along with Chief Minister Chouhan. Importance of plants Amla planted today is called Amrutphal or Dhatriphal in Ayurveda. Its regular consumption increases the

immunity of the body. It contains abundant vitamins, minerals and nutrients. Flowers blooming in big bunches between the leaves of Gulmohar give a different attraction to this tree. This tree is also rich in medicinal properties. Rich in antibiotic elements, neem is known as the supreme medicine.



EDITOR'S SPECS

Social media is developing depression

Young adults, who use more social media, are significantly more likely to develop depression within six months, regardless of personality type, finds a new study. The findings, published in the Journal of Affective Disorders Reports, showed that the people with high agreeableness were 49 per cent less likely to become depressed than those with low agreeableness. "Previous research has linked the development of depression with numerous factors," said the authors, including Chunhua Cao, an assistant professor in the College of Education at the University of Alabama. "However, the literature has been lacking in studies that focus on how various personality characteristics may interact with social media use and depression. This new study addressed these important research questions, finding strong and linear associations of depression across all personality traits," they added. The team also found that those with high neuroticism were twice as likely to develop depression than those with low neuroticism when using more than 300 minutes of social media per day. For the study, the team involved a sample of more than 1,000 US adults between the ages of 18 to 30. Depression was measured using the Patient Health Questionnaire. Social media was measured by asking participants how much daily time was spent using popular social media platforms. Meanwhile, personality was measured using the Big Five Inventory, which assessed openness, conscientiousness, extraversion, agreeableness and neuroticism. The authors suggest that problematic social comparison can enhance negative feelings about oneself and others, which could explain how the risk of depression increases with increased social media use. Engaging primarily in negative content can also enhance these feelings. And lastly, engaging in more social media reduces opportunities for in-person interactions and activities outside the home.

CONG DOESN'T HOLD BACK ITS PUNCHES AGAINST BJP'S SOCIAL MEDIA BARRAGE

Saiyed Moziz Imam Zaidi

Congress seems to be on the upfront and is now giving timely response to the BJP on social media. It all started with senior Congress leader Jairam Ramesh taking over as the party's General Secretary in-charge of communication. On Thursday, Delhi Congress lodged a complaint about a "fake video" of Rahul Gandhi which attempted to establish that the former Congress President was refusing to perform Ganga Arti. Commenting on the matter, Jairam Ramesh said, "Last night, a police complaint was filed in Delhi against a totally fake video on Rahul Gandhi. The offender deleted his social media post after it was exposed, but he will face the law for his atrocious deed. We will not allow such people to get away lightly." Delhi Congress has filed complaint against filmmaker Ashoke Pandit for spreading "fake and distorted news, incite, provoke the public and create enmity between groups". The party said that the accused has committed offences that are punishable under the Indian Penal code, 1860 and other legal provisions. "Janeudharu Rahul Gandhi is refusing to perform aarti. The reasons are clear," Ashoke Pandit wrote in his now-deleted tweet. Delhi Congress alleged that the tweet was accompanied with a "maliciously distorted video clip" of Rahul Gandhi, wherein it was sought to portray that the former Congress president was refusing to partake in religious rituals being performed in Rajkot (Gujarat) while worshipping goddess Durga. "It must be pointed out that the video was created by morphing (through deliberately editing) an older video in which Rahul Gandhi was indeed offering prayers in direct contradiction to what was being portrayed by Ashoke Pandit." The Congress has appointed Supriya Shrinete to head all the Social and Digital media to counter any narrative against the party. Shrinete is a former journalist. The Congress is fighting on two fronts, says party leaders, on one end with the BJP and on the other with the "so-called news channels". Jairam Ramesh, referring to a news



item, said, "Don't take the Congress party for granted any more... This evening a Hindi news channel ran a mischievous graphic image in connection with PFI. This was a blatant attempt to tarnish Congress party's reputation. Our team acted at once and the reference to us was corrected immediately." Recently, Congress MP Hibi Eden filed a police complaint accusing BJP leader Priti Gandhi of spreading fake and divisive news to disrupt Rahul Gandhi's Bharat Jodo Yatra. Eden alleged that the BJP leader in a tweet shared a set of picture that sought to convey that former Congress president Rahul Gandhi is posing with an individual who had been accused of sloganeering "Pakistan Zindabad" in past. Jairam Ramesh shared the copy of the Congress MP's complaint on Twitter itself, saying that he had initiated legal action against the "online hate factory" of BJP leaders and their devotees and the Congress will not take such a case lightly. He further stated: "The impression these pictures sought to convey was that Congress leader Rahul Gandhi was posing with an individual who had been accused of sloganeering 'Pakistan Zindabad' on a previous occasion." Eden noted (in the complaint) that "the

individuals in the photographs were two separate and distinct people". "The distortion was not an innocent one because it sought to falsely and maliciously suggest that former Congress President Rahul Gandhi, who is on a yatra to unite Indians, had demonstrated sympathy for individuals who supported Pakistan and approved their illegal sloganeering and was ultimately attempting to 'break India'," Eden alleged in his complaint. The Congress leader further said that several users as well as fact-checking social media handles corrected Priti Gandhi and explained that the individuals in the photographs were two separate and distinct people. In fact, the BJP leader even deleted the tweet then "immediately uploaded another one to double down on her messaging making base and vulgar insinuations without the scantest regard for the individuals involved". "...it is clear that this malicious post was designed to (1) create a dangerously false impression in the minds of the viewers regarding the Congress leader's approach towards Pakistan and individuals involved in illegal sloganeering in support of Pakistan; and (2) to foment social tensions in the 'Bharat Jodo Yatra' rallies led by Rahul

Gandhi," the complaint said. Eden sought that an urgent and immediate FIR be registered by under relevant provisions of the Indian Penal Code. The Congress in July targeted BJP national president J.P. Nadda and demanded an appropriate apology from the party for sharing a "doctored video clip" of Congress leader Rahul Gandhi. The Congress alleged that in the original video Rahul Gandhi was commenting on the SFI's violence on his Wayanad office but it was "deliberately and mischievously doctored to establish as if it was a comment on the heinous murder of Kanhaiya Lal in Udaipur". The Congress said that it was immediately brought to the attention of all concerned that the reportage was "false and deliberately misleading". Jairam Ramesh had then sought apology from the BJP and had threatened to take appropriate legal action against the party and its leaders "who insist and persist in using the social media in such a blatantly irresponsible and criminal manner".

international

NORTH KOREA FIRES IRBM OVER JAPAN: S.KOREAN MILITARY

Seoul | Agencies North Korea fired an intermediate-range ballistic missile (IRBM) over Japan on Tuesday in its first launch of an IRBM in eight months, according to South Korea's military. The Joint Chiefs of Staff (JCS) said it detected the launch from Mupyong-ri in the northern province of Jagang at 7:23 a.m. and that the missile flew some 4,500 kilometres at an apogee of around 970 km at a top speed of Mach 17. The missile flew past Japan, they said, adding that the intelligence authorities of South Korea and the US are conducting a detailed analysis to verify the specifics of the missile. Pyongyang last fired an IRBM in January. The Hwasong 12-type missile flew some 800 kilometres at a top altitude of 2,000 km. Soon after the launch, JCS Chairman Gen. Kim Seung-kyum and Gen. Paul LaCamera, the commander of the South Korea-US Combined Forces Command, had virtual consultations and reaffirmed that they would solidify the allies' combined defense posture against "any North Korean threats and provocations," according to the JCS. Given its flight distance, Tuesday's missile appears to have been fired at a standard angle



S.KOREAN F-15K FIGHTER FIRES 2 JADAM PRECISION BOMBS IN RESPONSE Seoul: A South Korean F-15K fighter fired two JADAM precision bombs at a firing range on a Yellow Sea island on Tuesday, in response to North Korea's intermediate-range ballistic missile (IRBM) launch earlier in the day, the military said. The Joint Chiefs of Staff (JCS) said that the F-15K dropped the Joint Direct Attack Munition bombs at a target in the range on the uninhabited island of Jikdo following air drills with US warplanes in a combined strike package. The strike package consisted of four F-15Ks and four US F-16 fighters.

-- in contrast to the North's earlier launch of an IRBM on a lofted trajectory, observers said. The IRBM puts the US territory of Guam within range in a reminder that it poses threats far beyond the peninsula. The North launched one short-range ballistic missile (SRBM) on September 25, then two last Wednesday, another two the following day and two on Saturday. The string of the North's missile launches raised questions over the efficacy of the deterrence efforts by South Korea and the US. The allies have recently ramped up their rhetoric against Pyongyang and held a naval exercise involving the USS Ronald Reagan aircraft carrier. They also resumed the Extended Deterrence Strategy and Consultation Group (EDSCG) session last month after a nearly five-year hiatus.

BRITAIN ABANDONS PLAN TO SCRAP TOP RATE OF INCOME TAX FOLLOWING CRITICISM



London | Agencies The British government has announced it is not proceeding with the abolition of the highest 45-per cent rate of income tax following huge financial turmoil and harsh criticism from within the Conservative Party. It is clear that the abolition "has become a distraction from our overriding mission to tackle the challenges facing our country,"

tweeted Chancellor of the Exchequer Kwasi Kwarteng on Monday. "We get it, and we have listened." "This will allow us to focus on delivering the major parts of our growth package," including support for energy bills, other tax-cutting plans, and supply-side reforms, he added. On September 23, Kwarteng unveiled the largest tax cut package since 1972, citing that the top rate

tax was higher than countries like Norway, the US and Italy, and the removal was designed to attract top talents. Currently, Britain's basic income tax rate is 20 per cent, and it increases to 45 per cent for earnings above 150,000 pounds, Xinhua news agency reported. The September 23 fiscal statement has thrown financial markets into turmoil as the British pound collapsed to record lows, and government borrowing costs rose sharply. Investors are concerned that the policy will ramp up public borrowing, bring serious fiscal uncertainty and push up already high inflation. The plan to scrap the top rate of tax also came under fire from the Conservatives on fears that the government may lose touch with voters. Former Transport Secretary Grant Shapps commented on Sunday in a media article that "Tories aren't meant to govern like this."

INDIAN-ORIGIN COUPLE, INFANT AMONG FOUR KIDNAPPED IN CALIFORNIA

New Delhi: An India-origin couple, their adult relative and an eight-month-old child were kidnapped from Merced County in California, US, authorities said. Merced County Sheriff's Office on Monday, said in a statement that 36-year-old Jasdeep Singh, 27-year-old Jasleen Kaur, their eight-month-old child and relative 39-year-old Amandeep Singh were taken "against their will from a business." They have asked for public's help in locating the four missing persons. "He (the suspect) is described as a light-complected male with a shaved head. He was last seen wearing a hoodie. We consider the suspect to be armed and dangerous," it added.

DEATH TOLL OF AFGHANISTAN'S SUICIDE BLAST SOARS TO 53: UNAMA

Kabul: The death toll of a suicide blast on the western edge of Kabul city has reached 53, said the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA). "Further rise in casualties from Friday's classroom bombing in Hazara quarter of Kabul: 53 killed, at least 46 girls and young women, 110 injured. Our human rights team continues documenting the crime," the UN mission here tweeted on Monday. A suicide explosion rocked an education centre in a neighbourhood of western Kabul on Friday morning where a large number of students were preparing for an exam, Xinhua news agency reported. No group or individual has claimed responsibility for the attack yet. Merced County Sheriff's Office also shared a photograph of the suspect on its Facebook and Twitter handle.

Pakistan PM says rival Imran Khan is 'biggest liar on earth'

Lahore | Agencies Pakistan's Prime Minister, Shehbaz Sharif, has accused the former premier Imran Khan of being the "the biggest liar on the face of the earth" and injecting poison into society to "dangerously polarise the electorate" after he was toppled from power earlier this year, The Guardian reported. Speaking in his first interview from Pakistan since he took over as Prime Minister in April, Sharif, 70, spoke unsparingly of the "damage" that Khan, the former cricket superstar who ruled Pakistan from 2018, had done to the country in both domestic and foreign affairs. Sharif, who is the younger brother of the former Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif and part of one of Pakistan's most powerful political dynasties, called Khan "a



liar and a cheat" whose policies had left the economy in ruins, The Guardian reported. He accused Khan, who ran on an anti-corruption manifesto, of conducting the country's affairs to suit his own personal agenda "in a manner which can be only described as the most inexperienced, self-centred, egotistical, immature politician in the history of this country."

Sharif said the leaked audios were "an irrefutable endorsement that he [Khan] is the biggest liar on the face of the earth. I'm not saying this with a sense of glee but a sense of embarrassment and concern. My country's image has been damaged hugely by these lies told out of mean personal interest." Sharif, who has always worked with the military establishment, acknowledged that he faced significant challenges ruling Pakistan while Khan was mobilising on the streets. Several of the economic decisions made by Sharif's government, such as raising fuel taxes, have proved very unpopular. "Never before was I concerned about our country's future," said Sharif. "Imran Khan has injected infinite amount of poison in this society and made it hugely polarised as n

POLISH FM SIGNS DIPLOMATIC NOTE TO GERMANY ON WWII REPARATIONS

Warsaw: Polish Foreign Minister Zbigniew Rau has signed a diplomatic note outlining his country's demands for reparations from Germany for the damage caused during World War Two. In a report published on September 1, the government of Poland estimated the country's human and material war losses at 1.3 trillion euros (\$1.27 trillion). However, the German government has said that the issue was closed as Poland waived its right to war reparations in 1953, Xinhua news agency reported. Rau told reporters on Monday that the diplomatic note expresses his belief that "both sides should undertake immediate steps towards the lasting, comprehensive and final legal and material regulation of the effects of the German aggression and occupation of 1939-1945". One day before his scheduled meeting with his visiting German counterpart, Annalena Baerbock, in Warsaw on Tuesday, the Polish Foreign Minister also said that Germany's payment of the reparations would "allow the building of Polish-German relations upon justice and truth." "Initialisation of a diplomatic note regarding the settlement of the aftermath of the attack on Poland and the German occupation in 1939-1945 is another important step towards justice and summary of our common past," Prime Minister Mateusz Morawiecki said on Monday.





Minister's threat 'MCOCA for getting even 1 liquor bottle from Goa' sparks row

Quaid Najmi | Mumbai

Maharashtra Minister's threat to invoke the dreaded MCOCA against persons who bring in even a single bottle of liquor from Goa sparked off a fresh political ruckus with the Opposition parties alleging it as a potential new 'extortion style', here on Tuesday.

The 'diktat' by Excise Minister Shambhuraj Desai - intended to curb the growing menace of smuggling in cheap Indian Made Foreign Liquor (IMFL) brands from Goa to Maharashtra - failed to cheer tourists or ordinary folks who procure a few bottles for self-consumption.

Desai has ordered the Sindhudurg and Kolhapur districts, bordering Goa to work out a strategy against smugglers and slap the Maharashtra Control of Organised Crime Act, usually invoked against gangsters for serious crimes.

For starters, the state excise authorities will deploy mobile check-posts at the entry-exit points between the two coastal states, supplementing the ongoing campaign by the police and Excise Department, and intensify efforts to detect vehicles 'smuggling' in the liquor.

Playing the move, Congress General Secretary Sachin Sawant asked whether 'there are no other laws' that have prompted the state govern-



ment to invoke the stringent MCOCA, and wondered "if even tourists would be targeted" or a 'Uttar Pradesh model' being implemented in Maharashtra.

Taking a swipe at the government, Shiv Sena Spokesperson Manisha Kayande said for getting just one bottle of liquor the government will slap MCOCA, but bringing an MLA from Goa would earn a reward of 50 Khokha (slang for Rs 50 crore).

In a sarcastic comment, Nationalist Congress Party's national spokesperson Clyde Crasto said "good to know the Maharashtra ministers are finally getting down to some serious work".

However, while a crackdown on

illegal activities like smuggling is okay, it should not become a tool of extortion or harassment of the ordinary folks," Crasto cautioned.

Sena's Deputy Leader Raghunath Kuchik demanded to know "why only liquor from Goa is being targeted, and what about the Union Territories of Daman & Diu, Dadra & Nagar Haveli" - sandwiched between Maharashtra and Gujarat.

A Goan living in Mumbai, Albert Coutinho said he drives down to his home state every other month and would bring in a few bottles of liquor for home consumption, especially during festive occasions.

"With this new rule, ordinary people like us cannot take the liberty or

we may end up being branded as organised criminals... We shall have to get our supplies locally," Coutinho said glumly.

Both Kayande and Kuchik wonder whether this is 'a target' set by the ruling ally Bharatiya Janata Party - supporting Chief Minister Eknath Shinde - to 'recover' the 'khokhas' (money) they had allegedly spent to bring down the Maha Vikas Aghadi government in June.

While Kayande feels the move could hit tourism in this state, Kuchik accused Desai of lacking knowledge of the MCOCA laws and offered to "gift a copy of the statute to the Minister".

Liquor vendors in Mumbai said that the prices of various IMFL brands in Maharashtra are very high compared with Goa or the UTs, the difference being up to 250-300 per cent, owing to the steep excise duties and local taxes.

"For instance, if a small bottle of IMFL costs Rs 300 in Maharashtra, it can be bought for barely Rs 100 in Goa and the UTs, making it a big attraction for ordinary drinkers or even smugglers," said Kumar A. Shetty, who runs a bar in Mumbai.

Referring to arguments that Goa wine shops provide a liquor licence to the buyers, Shetty pointed out that it is not valid in Maharashtra, so anybody found with any type of alcoholic drinks from the adjoining state could be at a big risk henceforth.

ANIL DESHMUKH GRANTED BAIL AFTER 11 MONTHS



Mumbai: The Bombay High Court on Tuesday granted bail to former Maharashtra Home Minister Anil Deshmukh, 11 months after he was arrested by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) in an alleged money-laundering case. A senior Nationalist Congress Party leader, Deshmukh, 73, was arrested early on November 2, 2021, after multiple raids by the ED and Central Bureau of Investigation. However, the court has kept its order in abeyance till October 13 to enable the ED appeal against it in the Supreme Court, said his lawyers. NCP MP Supriya Sule hailed the court verdict by saying 'Satyameva Jayate' (Truth Prevails), adding that the entire party has stood behind Deshmukh like a 'family' in his hour of need.

Maha family reunited with patriarch during Durga Puja

Kolkata/ Mumbai | Agencies

There couldn't have been a better Durga Maha Ashtami for the Satpute family from remote Bhendala in Gadchiroli, Maharashtra. On Monday, they received information that their 73-year-old patriarch, missing for over 15 years now and presumed dead, had been found near Kolkata, nearly 1,200 km away. Dipankar Chatterjee, a retired Indian Air Force personnel, was out for a morning walk along with friends at Ashoknagar in the North 24 Parganas district of West Bengal (about 46 km from Kolkata), when they found an elderly man picking up scraps to eat from a rubbish heap. Chatterjee approached the man and wanted to know his name and where he lived.

"The man snarled back at Chatterjee. The friends then realised that he was suffering from some sort of mental ailment. After some cajoling, the man accompanied them to their clubhouse where he was given food, water and fresh clothes to wear. The group then got in touch with us. They were aware that the West Bengal Radio Club (WBRC) helps reunite such people with their families," said Ambarish Nag Biswas, secretary, WBRC. WBRC is an

organisation of amateur radio enthusiasts with a wide network across India and other countries. Over the last several years, they have used this network to locate families of people found on the streets with mental problems. After ascertaining from his language that the man was from Maharashtra, members activated their contacts in that state. It didn't take too long for them to trace his family in Bhendala.

"The police there confirmed that Baburao Bapuji Satpute was a state government employee. Several years ago, he began suffering from a mental disorder and left home. A police complaint was registered but all efforts to trace him were futile. Finally, Baburao was presumed dead. His wife started receiving pension and son got a job on compassionate grounds. They were overjoyed when they received the news on Monday. The family immediately sent his identity details. They will arrive soon to take him back after clearing all legal formalities," Nag Biswas added. He said that WBRC is ready to provide free assistance to people in need. The organisation just needs to be contacted whenever such people are found on the streets in or around Kolkata.

BJP responds to Nana Patole's Cheetah-Lumpy virus link claim

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnis on Monday took a potshot on Congress leader Nana Patole over his 'Cheetah' remark, saying he speaks ignorantly for media attention. "Nana Patole (Maharashtra Congress chief) does not even know where the Cheetahs were brought from. He has a hobby of speaking without knowledge as he knows it will run in the media. Otherwise, he won't be seen altogether," said Fadnis in Mumbai.



Patole, the Maharashtra unit president of Congress, said on Monday that the Centre "deliberately" brought "cheetahs from Nigeria" to spread Lumpy Skin Disease to take revenge from the farmers over the withdrawal of the farm laws.

"This lumpy virus has been prevailing in Nigeria for a long time and the Cheetahs have also been brought from there. The central government has deliberately done this for the losses of farmers," he had said.

Blaming the Centre for the spread of Lumpy Skin Disease, Patole had said, "(Congress interim president) Sonia Gandhi must give Nobel Award to Patole for his statement."

But in fact, eight cheetahs were brought to Gwalior from Namibia in a special plane as part of the cheetah reintroduction programme.

Nana Patole, talking to a news agency on phone, said, "PM has never spoken to the farmers during the black laws (farm laws) which they rolled back, and by bringing cheetahs from Namibia they are taking the revenge. The lumpy virus came in India after cheetahs were brought from Namibia on PM Modi's birthday".

"I have not seen such a disease in my 55 years and neither my ancestors did. It is purposely brought so that these farmers face losses. One can make out the spot on cheetahs brought in India and the spot of

lumpy on the cows are same. This disease already existed in Namibia and now it's spreading in India," he added.

Countering Patole, BJP leader and State Cabinet Minister Mangal Prabhat Lodha told news agency, "This is a laughable statement from Doctor Patole, his statement portrays this disease as a non-serious issue."

"Under the leadership of PM Modi, arrangements have been made for the cows to get vaccinated," he added. "if Sonia ji wants, she can give him Nobel prize from Congress side," he said.

Lumpy Skin Disease has severely affected dairy farmers in India. The virus has been found only in cows and buffaloes.

FOUR ARRESTED IN MUMBAI FOR TRYING TO DUPE BUSINESSMAN POSING AS CBI

Mumbai: Mumbai Police arrested four persons for allegedly attempting to dupe a businessman of Rupees five lakh by posing as officers of the Central Bureau (CBI). On September 30, four people pretending to be officials of CBI and police entered the office of Aastik Trading Centre in Goregaon and demanded Rs 5 lakh.

After being informed police arrived at the spot and arrested four people. Fake CBI and Police ID cards were also recovered from them, the Goregaon Police said.

The businessman told police that he needed around Rs 1.6 crore as loan and contacted a person and after some time the fake officials arrived at his office.

According to police, there were cases registered against the four arrested at several police stations on charges of duping.

As per police, the gang used to target rich businessmen and their modus operandi was to trap people by offering them loans and then conduct fake raids and demand money by pretending to be CBI and police officers.

The four arrested have been identified as Jeevan Aheer alias Vipul (52), Girish Klecha (29), Rahul Shankar Gayakwad (43) and Kishor Chaibal (52).

The police have registered a case of extortion against the arrested and have started further investigation. Other than the four arrested, the fifth member of the team is still on the run, the police said.

Kolhapur gets direct flight service with Mumbai



Team Absolute | Mumbai

Maharashtra's Kolhapur city got a direct flight service with Mumbai on Tuesday under the government's regional connectivity scheme with Minister of Civil Aviation Jyotiraditya Scindia inaugurating a direct flight from Kolhapur to Mumbai.

This flight has been launched under the ambitious Regional Connectivity Scheme UDAN of the Ministry of Civil Aviation to provide air connectivity to tier-2 and tier-3 cities and affordable air travel for all.

The flight will operate between Kolhapur and Mumbai thrice a week -- Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday.

Scindia said that the UDAN scheme is realising Prime Minister's vision of making air travel affordable for the common citizen of the country.

So far, 433 new routes have been launched and more than one crore passengers have benefited under this scheme.

The Minister also assured that the expansion of the apron of the Kolhapur airport will be commissioned in November and domestic terminal building will be inaugurated in March 2023.

MoS V.K. Singh congratulated the people of Kolhapur and Mumbai, and expressed hope that this flight will not only create ease of travel but also significantly boost the trade and commerce activities in the region.

Pankaj Tripathi announced as National Icon by ECI

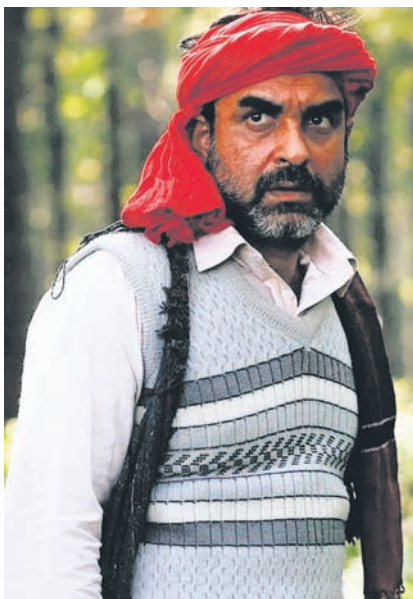
Team Absolute | Mumbai

Actor Pankaj Tripathi, who is known for his work in 'Gangs of Wasseypur', 'Mirzapur', 'Bareilly Ki Barfi' and several others, has been roped in as the National Icon, as announced by the Election Commission of India (ECI).

The actor was already State Icon of Bihar to create awareness and encourage youth as voters and participate in the elections in Bihar. The ECI is launching a special programme in collaboration with All India Radio (AIR) which will include a series titled 'Matdata Junction' with 52 episodes of 15 minutes each to be broadcast every Friday on Vividh Bharti stations, and other primary radio channels of AIR.

The programme will be broadcast in 23 languages across 230 AIR channels. Pankaj Tripathi will join the launch of Matdata Junction as the National Icon. Chief Election Commissioner Rajiv Kumar along with Election Commissioner Anup Chandra Pandey complimenting Pankaj Tripathi announced during the election commission meet and launch of the Matdata Junction.

On being titled the National Icon of Election Commission of India, Tripathi said in a statement: "I was already the state icon of Bihar associated with Election Commission and during the programme at AIR station Chief Election Commissioner Mr Rajiv Kumar along with Election



Commissioner Mr Anup Chandra announced that now I will be the National Icon of the Election Commission of India between the running show and it was a pleasant surprise for me as I wasn't aware anything such thing was to happen."

Continuing further, he mentioned that he feels that the ECI has roped him in because of his dedication and commitment as Bihar's State Icon.

Show-of-strength Dussehra rallies by Shiv Sena factions; Police on toes

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Stringent security measures are in place across Mumbai in view of two rallies on Dussehra organised by Shiv Sena factions led by Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde and party president Uddhav Thackeray, a police official said on Monday.

The rebellion by Shinde in June brought down the Thackeray-led Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) government and the two factions have shared an acrimonious relationship since, with workers clashing at times on streets.

While Thackeray will address the October 5 rally at the Sena's traditional venue Shivaji Park in central Mumbai, Shinde's faction has organised their Dussehra event at the MMRDA ground in Bandra Kurla Complex (BKC), located close to 'Matoshree', the private residence of the former chief minister.

"Thousands of people are



expected from across the state for both rallies and, therefore, arrangements have been made to ensure law and order and deal with any untoward incident. Local police as well as additional cover by other units will be in place," an official said.

Mumbai Joint Commissioner of Police



Vishwas Nangre Patil said his team visited Shivaji Park and BKC to take stock of security arrangements at the venues.

Stringent security measures are in place as there is a possibility of supporters of the two rival factions coming face to face in the metropolis, which may lead to law and order issues,

police said. Incidentally, the security of Shinde was increased recently due to a threat input, police added.

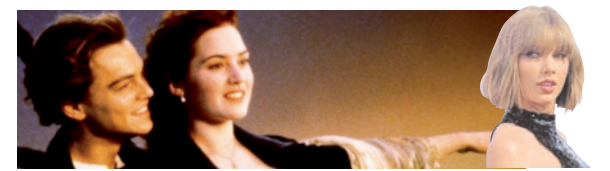
The chief minister visited the MMRDA ground at BKC in suburban Mumbai and took stock of the preparations for the October 5 event. I have visited the venue (in BKC) and the

preparations are in full swing. Lakhs of people from across the state will come to the rally and all departments are working to ensure they don't face any problem. Our preparations will get over tomorrow (Tuesday) and this rally will be a success," Shinde said.

Sheetal Mhatre, a spokesperson for the Shinde camp, said the preparations at the ground are almost 80 per cent over and 4,000-5,000 buses have been booked by MLAs and MPs to ferry their supporters to the rally site.

At the Shivaji Park too, the Uddhav Thackeray camp is making its own preparations for the rally --- building the stage and making seating arrangements for Shiv Sainiks loyal to the Sena president.

The top leadership of the Uddhav Thackeray faction met at Shiv Sena Bhavan, the party headquarters in Dadar, to take stock of the on-going preparations



KALEY HAD TO KEEP HER RELATIONSHIP WITH CO-STAR JOHNNY SECRET ON THE SET OF 'BIG BANG THEORY'

Los Angeles | Agencies

Actress Kaley Cuoco, who played Penny in the sitcom 'The Big Bang Theory', had to keep her relationship with Johnny Galecki a secret while they were shooting. The actress started dating 'Big Bang Theory' co-star Johnny, around the time their fictional counterparts on the hit sitcom were about to get together and kept schtum about their real-life arrangement in case it "ruined" things for the fans. She said: "When we were dating, Johnny was very worried about ruining the fans'



outlook on Leonard and Penny, because they weren't even dating yet at that point in the series. He was so cerebral, and I'm like, "What?! Who f***** cares?! They're gonna be fine!"

The pair would eventually break up in real life and Kaley - who went on to marry Karl Cook in 2018 before divorcing him in 2021 - went on to explain that she didn't understand why she had to keep quiet at the time but acknowledged that with "hindsight", Johnny was protecting the brand.

In an excerpt from 'The Big Bang Theory: The Definitive, Inside Story', published by Vanity Fair, she explained: "I was just so crazy about him, I wasn't thinking that way. But I guess in hindsight, I kind of understood." "He was very protective of what the fans would think because we wanted them to want Leonard and Penny together so badly, that if they saw us together in real life, it could ruin the fantasy."

"I think a lot of what made Leonard and Penny work so well was my relationship with Johnny off camera, which turned into such sarcastic banter that bled into Penny and Leonard. Johnny and my relationship, in a way, was mimicking Penny and Leonard."



'BLACK PANTHER: WAKANDA FOREVER' NEW TRAILER RELEASED

Chennai | Agencies

Marvel Studios has now released a brand-new trailer for 'Black Panther: Wakanda Forever', much to the delight of the fans of the franchise.

Directed by Ryan Coogler and produced by Kevin Feige and Nate Moore, 'Black Panther: Wakanda Forever' ventures back to the kingdom of Wakanda after a new

threat emerges. The brand-new trailer and poster of the action-packed feature film traverse the hidden undersea nation called Talokan.

In the film, Queen Ramonda (Angela Bassett), Shuri (Letitia Wright), M'Baku (Winston Duke), Okoye (Danai Gurira) and the Dora Milaje (including Florence Kasumba) fight to protect their nation from intervening world powers in the wake of King T'Challa's

death. As the Wakandans strive to embrace their next chapter, the heroes must band together with the help of War Dog Nakia (Lupita Nyong'o) and Everett Ross (Martin Freeman) and forge a new path for the kingdom of Wakanda.

The new film will introduce Tenoch Huerta as Namor, king of Talokan. It also stars Dominique Thorne, Michaela Coel, Mabel Cadena and Alex Livinalli.

'HOUSE OF THE DRAGON' FANS MIFFED OVER DIMLY-LIT EPISODE 7

Los Angeles | Agencies

The seventh episode of the streaming series 'House of the Dragon', may well be titled 'Dragons from Dark Dungeons' as a lot of viewers are complaining. This might also serve as a deja vu for 'Game of Thrones' fans. Several scenes from the episode were too dark to see. 'Game of Thrones' ignited similar backlash during its final season, especially for the dimly-lit battle episode 'The Long Night'. Both that episode and episode 7 of 'House of the Dragon' were directed by Emmy winner Miguel Sapochnik.

Variety further states that as many fans took to Twitter to express their frustration over the episode being too dark to see, one of HBO's social media accounts went public defending the dark moments in the episode as "an intentional creative decision."

"We appreciate you reaching out about a night scene in 'House of the Dragon' Episode 7 appearing dark on your screen," the HBO Max Help account replied to one fan who wrote the network needs "to issue a written apology for literally a whole episode of black screen."

"The dimmed lighting of this scene was an intentional creative decision," the HBO account said.

According to HBO less than 1 per cent of social posts spurred by Episode 7 were about lighting issues.



ABSOLUTE PIC OF THE DAY



Vicky Pattison

Los Angeles | Agencies

Hollywood star Naomi Watts just earned strong reviews for leading the English remake of 'Goodnight Mommy', was told her career in acting would end at 40. This month, she's headlining Ryan Murphy's latest Netflix thriller, 'The Watcher'. She'll also be reuniting with the mega-producer to play Babe Paley in the Capote-centric second season of 'Feud'. All of this is to say that Watts' acting career is thriving, which is not what she was told by an unnamed Hollywood figure after her US breakthrough in David Lynch's 'Mulholland Drive'. Watts was 33 at the time, which many in Hollywood viewed as old. "I was told, 'You better get a lot done because it's all over at 40 when you become unf*****able.' And I'm like, 'What? What does that mean exactly?'" Watts recently told Entertainment Weekly. "Then you think about it, and you go, 'Oh, right. When you are no longer reproductive, when those organs are no longer functioning, you are not sexy, so, therefore, you are not hireable.' That just made me so mad." Charlize Theron recently made headlines for sharing a "belittling" experience from earlier in her career when an unnamed male director made repeated attempts to make her look more "f*****able" in their film. "Having absolutely no control over what you're wearing is a big one that really f*****g annoyed me for years," Theron said. "Having some guy make you have a fitting almost in front of them, stuff like that, it's really belittling. When I started, there was no conversation around it. It was like, 'This is what you're wearing.'" Theron continued: "I remember one movie in particular, this male director who just kept bringing me in, fitting after fitting after fitting and it was just so obvious that it was to do with my sexuality and how f*****able they could make me in the movie. And when I started out, that was just kind of the norm."



TAISSA FARMIGA RETURNS FOR 'THE NUN 2'

Los Angeles | Agencies

Actress Taissa Farmiga, who played the role of Sister Irene in the 2018 horror movie 'Nun', is all set to return in the second installment of the film titled 'The Nun 2'. Farmiga will star alongside Storm Reid, who was recently announced to join the New Line franchise. The original 'Nun' movie, which followed Farmiga's Sister Irene as she fought alongside Demian Bichir's Father Burke to fend off the possession of the demon nun Valek in 1952 Romania, debuted in 2018 and earned \$366 million worldwide on the way to becoming the top grossing in the franchise to date, reports Variety.

The film was a spinoff of 2016's 'The Conjuring 2', which starred Farmiga's older sister Vera, who has fronted three 'Conjuring' films, turning the horror franchise into a bit of a family affair.

'The Nun 2' will be directed by Michael Chaves, who helmed the seventh and most recent entry, 2021's 'The Conjuring: The Devil Made Me Do It'.

Akela Cooper wrote the screenplay with current revisions by Ian Goldberg and Richard Naing, James Wan and Peter Safran also continue their run on 'The Conjuring' films, producing the new movie under their respective banners Atomic Monster and The Safran Company, like they've done the previous seven installments.

Judson Scott will oversee the production for Atomic Monster with Michael Clear and Gary Dauberman executive producing.

Having absolutely no control over what to wear f*****g annoyed me: Naomi Watts





3rd
T20I

SOUTH AFRICA THRASH INDIA BY 49 RUNS

Indore | Agencies

South Africa produced a dominating performance to thrash India by 49 runs in the third and final T20I of the three match series at the Holkar Cricket Stadium, here on Tuesday.

With the win in the first two T20Is, India won the two match series 2-1.

A scintillating maiden T20I hundred century from Rilee Rossouw (100 not out off 48) and a fine fifty by Quinton de Kock (68 off 43) powered South Africa to 227/3 in 20 overs, after being invited to bat first.

Apart from Rossouw and De Kock, Tristan Stubbs (23 off 18) and David Miller (19 not out off 5) also played valuable knocks for South Africa, who were also helped by India's sloppy fielding. Umesh Yadav (1/34) and Deepak Chahar (1/48) were the wicket-takers for India.

Chasing a big total, India scored at brisk rate for majority parts of their innings but kept losing wickets at regular intervals. The likes of Dinesh Karthik (46 off 21), Rishabh Pant (27 off 14) got starts but couldn't convert them into big innings.

Lower down the order, Harshal Patel (17 off 12), Deepak Chahar (31 off 17), Umesh Yadav (20 not out off 17) also



made contributions, but they were not enough. Eventually, India were bowled out for 178 in 18.3 overs, losing by a huge margin of 49 runs. Dwaine

Pretorius 3/26, Keshav Maharaj 2/34) were the most successful bowlers for Proteas.

Brief scores

South Africa 227-3 in 20 Overs (Rilee Rossouw 100 not out, Quinton de Kock 68; Umesh Yadav 1/34) beat India 178-10 in 18.3 Overs (Dinesh Karthik 46, Deepak Chahar 31; Dwaine Pretorius 3/26, Keshav Maharaj 2/34) by 49 runs

LEGENDS LEAGUE CRICKET

Mohammad Kaif recreates memory of Pakistan match, netizens go crazy

Jodhpur: While the on-going Legends League Cricket continues to spellbound fans by rolling back the clock with the cricketing greats in action, former India batsman Mohammad Kaif stunned the fans by showcasing the glimpses of his old self, attacking the opposition bowling attack in style.

During the match between Manipal Tigers and India Capitals, Kaif walked down the pitch to hammer the bowlers. This quickly reminded fans of him batting during India's tour of Pakistan in 2004 when Kaif irked Shoaib Akhtar with a similar batting approach.

Kaif was brilliant in that ODI series which India won by 3-2. His series-levelling unbeaten knock of 71 in the fourth match is still fresh in fans' hearts.

Kaif also revisited the memories when he later took to Twitter and posted a video of both the events.

"Walking is good for health!! #never stop walking. Allahabad wale cricket aise hi khelte hain. #chora ganga kinare wala @llc20," he wrote in the caption.

The video took social media by the storm in no time as fans went gaga over the nostalgic post.

"I remember this," said one of the users while another added: "Wo bhi kya din the sir.. @MohammadKaif, childhood memory.. taza di di... (those were the days, it refreshed our childhood memories) I still remember that reaction from @shoaib100mph sir."

SWAPNA BARMAN, PROUD DAUGHTER OF BENGAL, WINS DOUBLE GOLD FOR MP



Gandhinagar | Agencies

She is as practical as they get. And that is the reason Swapna Barman says that while her two-gold effort in the National Games Athletics competition at the IIT Gandhinagar campus gives her happiness, she is not satisfied with her own performance in her favourite event, the Heptathlon.

She claimed the High Jump gold with a Games record clearance of 1.83m and added gold in the gruelling seven-event contest spread over two days.

"After winning a surprise gold in the High Jump, which I had not trained for, I did not complete my recovery as well as I wanted to. That affected my Heptathlon performance," the 25-year-old said.

Swapna Barman topped three events - 100m Hurdles and High Jump on the first day and Javelin Throw yesterday - and was second best in Shot Put and Long Jump to insure against her weak efforts in the 200m at the end of the opening day and 800m, the final event of the

competition. The 2018 Asian Games champion and 2019 Asian Championships silver medallist hinted that not having support staff was a reason. This year, Swapna chose to compete for Madhya Pradesh in the National Games rather than her home State, West Bengal for whom she won the Heptathlon gold and High Jump silver back in the 2015 National Games in Thiruvananthapuram. She said one of the reasons for the shift was that her long-time coach Subhash Sarkar may relocate to Madhya Pradesh upon retirement in January. She is okay with being criticised for not aspiring to compete in the Olympic Games and World Championships.

Swapna Barman has topped the 6000-point mark once, when she secured 6026 at the Asian Games in Jakarta. She missed that milestone by 7 points in the Asian Championships in Doha. She is confident that she can prime herself up to get the National record, pegged at 6211 points by JJ Shobha 18 years ago.

World Team TT Finals

Indian men advance to round of 16 despite loss against France



Chengdu (China) | Agencies

The Indian men's table tennis team advanced to the round of 16 despite losing 0-3 to France in their final Group 2 tie at the ITTF World Team Championships

Finals 2022, here on Tuesday.

In the first match, youngster Manav Thakkar went down 0-3 to (6-11, 8-11, 8-11) to world No 30 Alexis Lebrun. In the second match, Commonwealth Games 2022 bronze-medallist Sathiyam Gnanasekaran suffered a shocking 0-3 (4-11, 2-11, 6-11) defeat to 16-year-old Felix Lebrun, the younger brother of Alexis.

Thereafter, National Games champion Harmeet Desai gave a tough fight to Jules Rolland but ultimately lost 2-3 (11-13, 13-11, 7-11, 11-8, 7-11) and conceded the tie.

However, the men's table tennis team had won their previous three matches, including a memorable win over second seeds Germany and ended up with seven points in four ties.

It placed India third in Group 2 and ensured that they advanced to the knockout stages as one of the best-placed third teams in the group stages. The Indian women's team has also made it through to the round of 16.

Rajkot | Agencies

The Hanuma Vihari led Rest of India (ROI) produced a dominating performance to beat hosts and defending champions Saurashtra by eight wickets to win Irani Cup 2022 at Saurashtra Cricket Association Stadium, here on Tuesday.

Beginning the day, pacer Kuldeep Sen took the last two Saurashtra wickets early on the fourth day of the Irani Cup. Chasing a target of 105 for victory, Abhimanyu Easwaran hit an unbeaten 63 while Srikanth Bharat played a knock of 27 not out as ROI chased down a target of 105 inside 32 overs with eight wickets to spare.

The Rest of India side dominated the preceding right from the opening day when they bowled Saurashtra for



98. The 2019-20 Ranji Trophy Champions produced a slightly better performance with the bat in the second innings.

The lower-order batters led by captain Jaydev Unadkat's 89 showed

resistance and his eight-wicket partnership with Prerak Mankad (72) pushed Saurashtra into the lead but ROI were always just two wickets away from turning the game in their favour.

Sen set the ball rolling by trapping Parth Bhut in front of the stumps. Unadkat then became his fifth wicket as Saurashtra were bowled out for 380 in their second innings.

Needing 105 for victory, Unadkat dismissed ROI batters Priyank Panchal and Yash Dhull early to spark a little hope for his team but a steady Easwaran combined with Bharat to snuff out Saurashtra's challenge.

Brief scores

Saurashtra 98 & 380 (Jaydev Unadkat 89, Prerak Mankad 72; Kuldeep Sen 5-94) lost to Rest of India 374 & 105/2 (Abhimanyu Easwaran 63 not out; Jaydev Unadkat 2-37) by eight wickets.

PGTI Players Championship

Jamal Hossain dominates in first round

Panchkula: Bangladesh golfer Jamal Hossain dominated the first round of the TATA Steel PGTI Players Championship 2022 with an impressive seven-under 65 to lead round 1 at the Panchkula Golf Club here on Tuesday.

Trailing Jamal by a stroke was Delhi golfer Harshjeet Singh Sethi at six-under 66, while fellow Bangladeshi golfer Badal Hossain trailed Jamal by two shots to be placed at the third spot with a score of five-under 67.

Chandigarh's Yuvraj Singh Sandhu and Panchkula-based amateur golfer Brijesh Kumar carded identical totals of four-under 68 to be tied at the fourth place at the Rs. 50 lakh event. The other five players also bunched in tied fourth were Om Prakash Chouhan, Arjun Sharma, Sandeep Singh, Jay Pandya and Sri Lankan Anura Rohana.

Jamal Hossain's round consisted of six birdies, an eagle through a chip-in on the fifth hole and a lone bogey. His also chipped-in for birdie on the 13th. The standout feature of Jamal's exceptional round was his driving that continues to impress and his chipping as he set up birdie putts within four feet on three occasions, while also managing a massive 15-footer birdie putt on the 18th hole.



Nitin Menon in list of 16 umpires for ICC T20 World Cup

Dubai | Agencies

Nitin Menon, the only Indian in the ICC Elite Panel of umpires, figures in the list of 16 umpires and four match referees who will officiate in the T20 World Cup First Round and Super 12s stage matches in Australia from October 16.

Menon, the 38-year-old former Indian cricketer, has been selected along with 15 other umpires to officiate in the World Cup matches to be held at seven venues across the country.

Chief Referee of the ICC Elite Panel of Match Referees, Ranjan Madugalle, is part of a quartet of former international cricketers who will make up the match referees for the eighth edition of the T20 World Cup. Sri Lankan Madugalle is joined by Andrew

Pycroft of Zimbabwe, England's Christopher Broad and Australian David Boon.

Pycroft will be in-charge of the tournament opener in Geelong on October 16 when Sri Lanka take on Namibia in the First Round with Joel Wilson and Rodney Tucker the umpires in the middle. Paul Reiffel will act as the TV umpire with Erasmus, occupying the role of the fourth umpire.

Erasmus, Tucker and Aleem Dar are set to appear in their seventh ICC Men's T20 World Cup, with Langton Rusere umpiring in his second World Cup of the year having stood in the ICC Women's Cricket World Cup 2022, including acting as reserve umpire for the final.

Rusere will be the TV umpire when Australia and New Zealand kick off the

Super 12 round on October 22 in Sydney. The match is a replay of the 2021 final and Rusere will be joined by Adrian Holdstock and Dharmasena (on-field) and Richard Illingworth (fourth umpire).

The officials for the semifinals and final of the tournament will be named in due course, said ICC.

Match Referees: Andrew Pycroft, Christopher Broad, David Boon, Ranjan Madugalle.

Umpires: Adrian Holdstock, Aleem Dar, Ahsan Raza, Christopher Brown, Christopher Gaffaney, Joel Wilson, Kumara Dharmasena, Langton Rusere, Marais Erasmus, Michael Gough, Nitin Menon, Paul Reiffel, Paul Wilson, Richard Illingworth, Richard Kettleborough, Rodney Tucker.

Lovlina, Jaismine, Shiva and Hussamuddin set for boxing at National Games

Gandhinagar | Agencies

Tokyo Olympic Games bronze medallist Lovlina Borgohain's last-minute entry in the 36th National Games will spice up competition in the boxing ring at the Mahatma Mandir here from Wednesday.

Lovlina, who suffered a minor injury on her nose during the selection trials for the Asian Championships, had earlier indicated that she would.

Thus, the National Games could provide the two-time World Championship 69kg bronze medallist a perfect platform to assess herself ahead of the continental meet, starting on October 30 in Amman, Jordan.

Along with Lovlina (75kg), all eyes will be on 21-year-old Jaismine Lamboria from the boxing nursery of Bhiwani in Haryana. Jasmine is expected to face a stiff fight from Punjab's Simranjit Kaur Baatth, the 2018 World Championship bronze medallist. Haryana's former World



men's events at the National Games. Besides the 57kg division, several Services boxers are expected to dominate the competition in their weight categories, with Sumit Kundu (75kg), Sachin Kumar (80kg), Sanjeet (92kg), Narender (+92kg) confirming their participation.

Women's T20I Player Rankings



Jemimah Rodrigues jumps four places to reach eighth position

Dubai | Agencies

India batter Jemimah Rodrigues gained four places to reach eighth position in the batting chart in latest ICC Women's T20I Player Rankings, released on Tuesday.

Rodrigues, who smashed a match-winning 76 off 53 against Sri Lanka in an Asia Cup match in Sylhet, is the third-highest ranked India batter after Smriti Mandhana (third) and Shafali Verma (seventh). On the other hand, India captain Harmanpreet Kaur has reached 13th position after gaining two places. Meanwhile, West Indies captain Hayley Matthews, who last week grabbed the top spot for all-rounders in ODIs after the ICC Women's Championship series against New Zealand, carried her fine form into the ongoing five-match T20I series which is currently led 2-1 by New Zealand. Matthews has gained eight slots and is tied in third place in the bowling chart with South Africa fast bowler Shabnim Ismail after a haul of four for 12 in the third T20I. The 24-year old, who also scored 30 runs opening the innings in that match, is up one place to 33rd among batters and advanced three places to second in the list of all-rounders led by New Zealand's Sophie Devine. Bangladesh captain Nigar Sultana (25th), Pakistan captain Bismah Maroof (28th) and India all-rounder Deepti Sharma (36th) have gained a slot each while Pakistan's Nida Dar and Bangladesh's Fargana Hoque have also progressed and are tied in 44th place. Former Bangladesh captain Salma Khatun is in 49th position after moving up four slots.



'Better be sure than sorry', Tejasswi Prakash on marriage

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Tejasswi Prakash, who is in a relationship with her former 'Big Boss' co-contestant Karan Kundrra, has a hilarious reaction to the question of marriage and also shared some "serious" advice for other girls on the subject.

The two have been facing questions about when they are getting married. Instead of dodging, Tejasswi had a funny response to such questions.

Tejasswi took to Instagram to share her rendition of a meme, where she lip-synced to the lyrics: "Mujhe nahi pata hai, mujhe nahi pooch na (I don't know, don't ask me). In the clip, she wrote: "Paps: shaadi kab hogi" at the top, hinting that her reaction is to the paparazzi constantly asking her when she and Karan are getting married.

For the caption, she wrote: "But on a serious note, it's always better to be sure than sorry. This is especially for all the girls out there. Take all the time you need to be sure."

The actress is currently working in 'Naagin 6', where she plays the lead role.

Dussehra 2022 Special

Shachi Chaturvedi | Mumbai

Today, the country will celebrate Dussehra. The auspicious occasion represents the victory of good over evil. It is being celebrated in various ways throughout the country. In some places, the festival commemorates Goddess Durga's win over the demon Mahishasura. This occasion also commemorates Lord Rama's victory over Ravana.

On this occasion, Pankaj Tripathi opened up about his thoughts on Dussehra and his memories of the festival in an exclusive chat with Absolute India News.

While talking about his belief and the social evils the Mirzapur actor says, "Dussehra is a pooja of power and it is a belief that we honour women as a symbol of power. So, in my opinion, if one cannot worship women, one should at least respect them. When I hear something or witness an incident against a woman or a girl, it makes me wonder that if we live in a society

Pankaj Tripathi shares, "Watching skits during Dussehra has a huge impact on his career"



where goddesses are worshipped, why can't we respect women?"

He added, "There are several things concerning society that upset me. And I have no solution because people are not aware. For example, if

we talk about environmental degradation, people are not serious about it even after learning about the consequences for future generations. People must become aware."

Later, the actor becomes nostalgic and shares an old memory associated with this festival, "We used to have these skits in my town's market in Madhavpur. Thousands of people used to come to see it during Navami and

Dussehra. We used to go there for three days, which played a big part in my decision to become an actor."

I am excited, as my favourite actors are dancing on my songs: Sharvi Yadav

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Singer Sharvi Yadav's latest songs - 'The Hic Song' from the Amitabh Bachchan-starrer 'Goodbye' and 'Step Copy' from the Ayushmann Khurrana-starrer 'Doctor G' are getting a lot of positive response from the listeners. The singer has now reacted to all the appreciation coming her way. Incidentally, both the songs have been composed by music director Amit Trivedi, who is known for crafting off-beat tracks.

Sharing her experience of working with Amit, Sharvi said, "It is an honour to work with him and learn so much from him. The songs are dance numbers so it lets me embrace my demeanour and nature. The songs truly define me and capture me as a vocalist."

For Sharvi, this is only the beginning of a great season, as she is doubly excited that her favourite stars are dancing to her tracks. "Rashmika Mandana is pretty much the national crush right now and she is dancing to my song. And I am the biggest fan of Ayushmann Khurrana and singing for him is such a pleasure. It's just the most incredible feeling. I love him as a singer and here's hoping that we will sing together soon someday." Sharvi, who has previously delivered hits in films like 'Veerey Di Wedding' and 'Thappad', is living her dream.

She is grateful for everything coming her way. "I saw Madhuri Dixit, Nora Fatehi and Karan Johar dance on the Hic Song. People are putting up reels. It's an extraordinary feeling and I find it so hard to believe sometimes. Of course this is the cue for me to work harder. I have worked towards this for so long. I owe this to Amit Sir (Amit Trivedi) who had faith in me, in times when I wanted to give up. He truly understands my voice," she concluded.



As a actor, It is good to challenge yourself: Angad Bedi

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Actor Angad Bedi and his co-star Kirti Kulhari have talked about the challenges they faced to emotive for their short film 'The List' whilst projecting blank faces to bring out the narrative.

'The List' is a journey of 'He' and 'She' who are living a robotic life that is a reflection to the typical metropolitan life we are living today. From daily household chores, to office tasks, to traffic jams, all of these are symbolic of how all humans today are stuck in a certain structure of 'Matrix'.

Kirti said: "This was a different experience, there were moments where Gaurav Dave (the director) would tell us 'thoda aur dead dikho, thoda aur emotion kam karo, abhi bhi kuch lag raha hai, usko bhi hata do.' So we were going in the opposite direction."

This challenge was really something that I enjoyed because it was different from the usual 'yeh emotion chahiye, woh emotion chahiye.' In my own head, I kept pushing and trying to get it right because it matters to me. Baaki toh kaafi majja aaya yaar, kuch dialogues nahi hai, bas chehre se emote karna hai.. It was a great change," she added. Angad added: "Acting like robots for me isn't easy. Imagine on camera, the filmmaker tells you that this is how you're supposed to be for 18 mins. It's the toughest thing to do and then you have to project certain emotions while you act all robotic." "There is a very fine line that you have to maintain for such a multi-layered character." Speaking of his experience portraying a character in this film, Angad said: "I think because this role was so new to me, it became all the more challenging because I am a very energetic person and to have such stoic expressions is a task I thought was out of my league. Of course, working with Kirti and taking workshops for 5 days helped me a lot."

"I honestly didn't think I would be able to pull this character off. Every actor has certain advantages and disadvantages and yes it is good to challenge yourself but at the same time it is also very important to know what you can do and what your capacity or capability is" said Angad.



Team Absolute | Mumbai

'Big Boss 10' fame Antara Biswas, who is popularly known as Monalisa, recently shared that she will be essaying the role of a sex worker in the anthology 'Ratri Ke Yatri 2'. The actress also opened up on the challenges that the character entailed.

Talking about the same, she said: "Every role has its own shape, form, and essence. And it becomes even more challenging when you have to step out of your comfort zone to play a certain character. At the same time, it pushes us as an artist to take that extra step where you give your best shot and deliver a performance that justifies the role."

The anthology series includes five different stories with a common background of the red-light area and its dark reality. Opening up on how she prepared for the role, she said: "I watched many shows and movies

MONALISA ON HOW SHE PREPPED UP TO PORTRAY A SEX WORKER IN HER SERIES

where actresses have donned the role of sex workers. I even had a dialect coach train me on my dialogue delivery with a firm yet elegant attitude. Since my character is a strong-headed woman, I could add my own elements to it."

The first part of the anthology series 'Ratri Ke Yatri' was released in 2020.

Shedding light on her story in the series, she added: "My episode 'Dulhe Raja' is about a mysterious visitor in the red-light area and my character, with her wit and headstrong personality, teaches him a lesson for life."



Nimrit Kaur Ahluwalia