

absolute india

VOL. 5, ISSUE 322, NEW DELHI | MONDAY, OCTOBER 03, 2022 | ₹5 | PAGE 08

PUBLISHED SIMULTANEOUSLY FROM NEW DELHI, MUMBAI AND BHOPAL

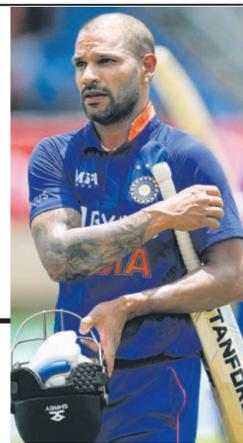
NATION > 02
President Murmu pays homage to Mahatma Gandhi, Lal Bahadur...



HOLLYWOOD > 06
Adele has a fan girl moment while meeting Gabrielle...



SPORTS > 07
Dhawan to lead India in ODI series against South Africa...



BURHANPUR BECOMES FIRST IN THE COUNTRY TO MAKE EVERY HOUSE A WATER CERTIFIED DISTRICT

BURHANPUR DISTRICT GOT THIS AWARD FOR COMING FIRST IN THE COUNTRY IN THIS WORK, THIS AWARD IS THE RESULT OF THE HARD WORK IN WHICH THE GRAM SABHAS OF THE PANCHAYATS OF THE DISTRICT HAVE VERIFIED THE WORK THAT ALL THE HOUSES, SCHOOLS AND ANGANWADI CENTERS ARE GETTING CLEAN AND SAFE DRINKING WATER.

Team Absolute | Bhopal

Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan has expressed happiness over declaring Burhanpur district as the first Har Ghar Jal certified district of the country in the Swachh Survekshan Gramin-2022 award function. Chief Minister Chouhan said that Madhya Pradesh has got many awards in cleanliness survey. Chief Minister said that the selection of Burhanpur district of the state as the first district in the country to provide water to every household is a national achievement.

President Draupadi Murmu presented this award to Madhya Pradesh. Chief Minister Chouhan said that all those who fulfill the resolve of providing water through tap to every household in Burhanpur deserve to be congratulated. He said that this pride and honor is the result of continuous hard work and sincere efforts of all the members of Team Madhya Pradesh. Chouhan has congratulated and extended best wishes to the Public Health Engineering Department, district administration, officers-employees of Burhanpur district, all the staff of Jal Jeevan Mission and citizens and public representatives of the district for this achievement.

MAHA CALLING 'VANDE MATARAM' RINGS IN, HELLO CUT OFF

The GR was issued by the General Administration Department, headed by Chief Minister Eknath Shinde -- and applies to employees across government, semi-government, local civic bodies, aided schools, colleges and other institutions.

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Maharashtra has mandated all government staff and officers to henceforth answer phone calls with 'Vande Mataram' instead of the traditional Hello, from Sunday.

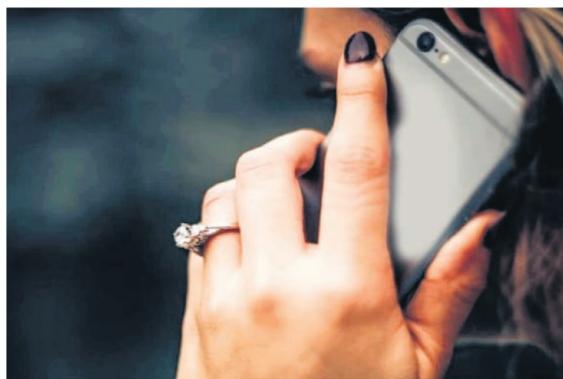
In a late Saturday notification, the state has said that this will instil a sense of national pride among the people and hello has no meaning.

The new rule will be applicable even to various state events, on public address systems as it would generate a conducive environment and emit positive energy.

The proposal had been floated by Forest Minister Sudhir Mungantiwar in mid-August, but the government remained in a denial mode.

The rule will be followed by all government staff, University, colleges, schools and up to the last level in the state administration as part of the ongoing 75th Anniversary of Indian Independence celebrations.

"The slogan 'Vande Mataram' played an important role in our Freedom struggle... Martyr Bhagat Singh's last words were 'Vande



Mataram'. We must bring it back in our daily routine again... from today onwards, we start the 'Vande Mataram' movement," said Fadnavis.

However, the issue snowballed into a major row with political parties expressing reservations, suggesting other greetings, and even sections of people opposing it.

Maharashtra Samajwadi Party's President Abu Asim Azmi firmly said

that the move was not acceptable.

"We would like to greet 'Saare Jahan Se Achha' and not 'Vande Mataram'. Besides, Muslims cannot utter 'Vande Mataram' as it is against their faith," he said. Azmi also demanded to know whether Shinde had discarded 'Jai Maharashtra' and taken up 'Vande Mataram' under the pressure of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP).

"I had met Balasaheb Thackeray a few times... He would always say 'Jai Maharashtra' and Shiv Sainiks would respond with that," Azmi pointed out.

Shiv Sena national spokesperson and farmers leader Kishore Tiwari, who is from the ex-CM Uddhav Thackeray group, said: "Saying 'Vande Mataram' is a welcome development. However, to respect farmers, there should be a campaign to say 'Jai Kisan' and to have a corruption-free government 'Jai Seva'."

NCP national spokesperson Clyde Crasto feels that 'Vande Mataram' invokes "a sense of pride and a feeling of patriotism among Indians. But forcing the people to say so is not right. This is an infringement of their Right to Freedom of speech and also imposition of a particular mindset on the people. Let them say Vande Mataram with pride, don't force them to say so," urged Crasto.

Mumbai Congress Working President Charan Singh Sapra said: "It is yet another a ploy to divert attention from major issues of concern... inflation, unemployment, fall of Rupee.

Stampede at football match in Indonesia, 174 died

IN 1964, A TOTAL OF 320 PEOPLE WERE KILLED AND MORE THAN 1,000 INJURED DURING A STAMPEDE AT A PERU-ARGENTINA OLYMPIC QUALIFIER IN LIMA.

IN 1985, 39 PEOPLE DIED AND 600 WERE HURT AT THE HEysel STADIUM IN BRUSSELS, BELGIUM, WHEN FANS WERE CRUSHED AGAINST A WALL THAT THEN COLLAPSED DURING THE EUROPEAN CUP FINAL BETWEEN LIVERPOOL (ENGLAND) AND JUVENTUS (ITALY).

IN THE UK, A CRUSH DEVELOPED AT THE HILLSBOROUGH STADIUM IN SHEFFIELD, RESULTING IN THE DEATHS OF 97 LIVERPOOL FANS ATTENDING THE CLUB'S FA CUP SEMI-FINAL AGAINST

Jakarta | Agencies

At least 174 people have died and 180 others are injured in a stampede at a football match in Indonesia's Malang in East Java province, Indonesian Police said on Sunday.

The incident took place after police tear-gassed supporters who invaded the pitch late on Saturday evening, BBC reported.

It is one of the world's worst stadium disasters after local team Arema FC lost 2-3 to bitter rivals Persebaya Surabaya in East Java.

The country's Chief Security Minister said that spectators exceeded the stadium's

38,000 capacity by around 4,000, BBC reported.

President Joko Widodo has ordered that all matches in Indonesia's top league must be stopped until an investigation is done.

Videos show fans running on to the pitch after the final whistle.

Police then fired tear gas, leading to a crowd stampede and cases of suffocation, said Nico Afinta, Police Chief in East Java.

Fleeing fans "went out to one point at the exit. Then there was a build-up, in the process of accumulation, there was shortness of breath, lack of oxygen", he added.

Videos on social media show fans clambering over fences to escape. Separate videos appear to show lifeless bodies on the floor.

FIFA, the world's governing football body, states that no "crowd control gas" should be carried or used by stewards or police at matches.

The Indonesian football association (PSSI) said it had launched an investigation, adding that the incident had "tarnished the face of Indonesian football".

Violence at football matches is not new in Indonesia, and Arema FC and Persebaya Surabaya are long-time rivals.

Persebaya Surabaya fans were banned from buying tickets for the game because of fears of clashes.

But Chief Security Minister Mahfud MD posted on Instagram that 42,000 tickets had been sold for the match at the Kanjuruhan stadium.

President Widodo called for this to be the "last soccer tragedy in the nation" after ordering that all Liga 1 games should be paused pending an investigation.

The stampede is the latest in a long line of disasters at stadiums.

Bihar Agriculture Minister Sudhakar Singh resigns

Patna: Bihar Agriculture Minister Sudhakar Singh resigned from the government on Sunday.

Jagadanand Singh, the father of Sudhakar Singh and RJD state president, confirmed the development.

"Sudhakar Singh has sent the resignation to deputy chief minister Tejashwi Yadav, who is also a leader of the party legislators in Bihar Assembly. Now, it is up to Tejashwi Yadav to send his resignation to the higher authorities," the RJD state president said.

Jagadanand Singh also said that Sudhakar Singh has started a big fight in the interest of farmers of the state

which needed sacrifice. Sources said that Tejashwi Yadav reportedly applied pressure on Sudhakar Singh to resign to please Chief Minister Nitish Kumar. Sudhakar Singh earlier pointed out corruption in the agriculture department. He publically said that the corruption was taking place from lower to the higher level officers. "All of them are thieves," he had said.

Following the statement, the Chief Minister became furious during a cabinet meeting last week and raised objections to his statement. He wanted Sudhakar Singh to withdraw the statement which he denied and instead left the meeting.

6-yr-old killed in human sacrifice in Delhi, 2 arrested

Team Absolute | New Delhi

In a shocking incident, two men allegedly killed a six-year-old boy as human sacrifice by slitting his throat in South Delhi's Lodhi Colony.

A senior police official said the accused have been arrested and identified as Vijay and Amar.

"The accused have confessed to the crime. Vijay said that after consuming ganja, he went to the place where the ladies were singing bhajans and asked for incense for worshipping Lord Shiva, which was denied. After that, he returned to his shanty where he dreamt that Lord Shiva is asking for sacrifice of a child. The accused found



the victim (Dharmender) alone and took him to his room and murdered him by slitting his throat," said the police.

The police said that on Saturday, they got a PCR call about the incident, that two youths have slit the neck of a child at construction site

CGO Complex, near CBI building.

The police reached the spot and found the body of a child with visible injury marks on neck and head.

The crime team and FSL team were called at the spot and the body of the deceased was shifted to AIIMS Trauma

Centre for post-mortem.

The police recorded the statement of Ashok Kumar, father of Dharmender and lodged an FIR.

The complainant stated that, the women of the labourers family were singing bhajan at construction site after dinner. When they were going back to their shanties, they realised that Dharmender was missing, and started searching for him. During search, he spotted blood oozing out from a shanty and when he barged in, he saw his son's body under a kot.

Ashok raised an alarm after which a mob gathered and caught hold of the accused. Weapon of offence has been recovered.

Indian crypto exchange WazirX fires 40 per cent of staff: Report

Team Absolute | New Delhi

Amid the current global economic slowdown, crypto exchange WazirX has reportedly laid off 40 per cent of its total workforce. A total of 50 to 70 employees of the 150 workers at the exchange were asked to go, CoinDesk reported, citing sources.

The laid-off employees were informed on Friday that they would be paid for 45 days and that they would no longer be needed to report for work. "The crypto market has been in the grip of a bear market because of the current global economic slowdown," WazirX was quoted as saying in a statement. "The Indian crypto industry has had its unique problems with respect to taxes, regulations

and banking access. This has led to a dramatic fall in volumes in all Indian crypto exchanges," it added. One of the sources said "the workforce has been cut from several departments including customer support, HR, and other departments. Managers, Analysts, Associate Managers/Team leaders were among those laid off". The entire public policy and communication team was fired, according to another employee who lost his job. As per the report, WazirX daily trading volumes have been steadily declining from a one-year high of 478 million on October 28, 2021, to 1.5 million on October 1, 2022, according to CoinGecko data. Trading volumes on some days have been lower than a million and "this is not enough to support operations," the sources said.

MESSAGE TO GEHLOT

THREE CONG SPOKESPERSONS RESIGN TO CAMPAIGN FOR KHARGE

Team Absolute | New Delhi

Three Congress spokespersons -- Deepender Hooda, Gourav Vallabh and Syed Naseer Hussain -- resigned on Sunday to campaign for Mallikarjun Kharge for the presidential polls.

The move is being seen as a message to Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot, who refused to resign ahead of filing the nomination for the party president's post, and his loyalist MLAs who boycotted the CLP where Kharge was observer then. Gehlot later apologised to Sonia Gandhi and opted out from the poll.

Kharge, who resigned from the post of leader of opposition in the Rajya Sabha on Saturday, said to the media, "I will begin my campaign from today and I am contesting not because of being a particu-



lar caste but I have been in the party for more than 50 years."

Attacking the BJP, he said, "Anybody can tell how many delegates elected J.P. Nadda... 9,300 delegates will elect a new president in the party. The fight against the BJP will continue because their policies are anti-people."

It's going to be Mallikarjun Kharge versus Shashi Tharoor in the Congress Presidential polls scheduled on October 17. And Kharge has got the support of not only the senior leadership of the party, but the G-23 leaders as well.

The Gandhi family has decided that it will not endorse any candidate this time. Sonia Gandhi and Rahul Gandhi both are of the view that polls will strengthen the party, which is very good, Tharoor said.



President Murmu pays homage to Mahatma Gandhi, Lal Bahadur Shastri

Team Absolute | New Delhi

President Droupadi Murmu paid floral tributes to the father of the nation at the Rajghat on his Jayanti on Sunday morning and urged people to "rededicate themselves to the values of his life."

She said that Mahatma Gandhi's birth anniversary serves as an occasion for everyone to "rededicate themselves to the values of his life" and urged everyone to follow his footsteps and walk the path of truth and non-violence.

"A century ago, Gandhiji inspired millions with his call of Swadeshi and his stress on self-reliance. The making of an Atmanirbhar Bharat, which is under way, is, thus, inspired by the vision of the Mahatma and is intended as a true tribute to him. The India of his dreams is a clean India, a healthy India. The initiatives taken in this regard have been bearing fruits now," the President said in her message on this occasion.



President Murmu also paid tributes to Lal Bahadur Shastri, former Prime Minister of India, at the Vijay Ghat on his birth anniversary. "Humble tributes to former Prime

Minister Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri ji on his birth anniversary. Shastri, who gave the slogan 'Jai Jawan, Jai Kisan', played a special role in Green Revolution and White Revolution. Shastri ji's simplicity and high ideals

PM URGES ALL TO BUY KHADI

New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday paid homage to Mahatma Gandhi on his birth anniversary, and urged people to purchase khadi and handicraft products as a tribute to him.

PM Modi also tweeted a video of his thoughts on Mahatma Gandhi on this occasion.

"May we always live up to Babu's ideals. I also urge you all to purchase Khadi and handicrafts products as a tribute to Gandhi Ji. His ideals reverberate globally and his thoughts have provided strength to millions of people," PM Modi wrote in his tweet

are a source of inspiration for all the countrymen even today," the President said.

26 killed as tractor-trolley falls in pond near Kanpur

KANPUR | Agencies

At least 26 people were killed while several injured after a tractor-trolley carrying devotees overturned and fell into a pond near a village in Uttar Pradesh's Kanpur district on Saturday evening.

The devotees, all residents of Kortha village under Sadh police circle, had gone to the Chandrika Devi temple in Fatehpur in the tractor-trolley. There were about 40 people in the vehicle. While returning, the trolley overturned into a roadside pond between Sadh and Gambhirpur village.

The injured were rushed to a community health centre (CHC) in Bhitargaon. The police and senior officials have reached the spot and are supervising the rescue operation.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Union Home Minister Amit Shah and Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath have expressed grief over the incident.



"Distressed by the tractor-trolley mishap in Kanpur. My thoughts are with all those who have lost their near and dear ones. Prayers with the injured. The local administration is providing all possible assistance to the affected," Prime Minister Modi said in a tweet.

"The road accident in Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh is very sad and heart-wrenching. The local administration is providing treatment to the injured. I express my condolences on the irreparable loss of those who have lost

their loved ones in this incident. May God give strength to his family to bear this loss," Shah said in a tweet.

Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has instructed officials to provide proper treatment to those injured in the accident.

The Chief Minister also appealed people to not carry passengers on tractor-trolley. He asserted that tractor-trolley should be used only for agricultural works and freight. "Life is priceless, please don't be careless," he said in a tweet.

Ankita Bhandari murder: Parties observe 'Uttarakhand bandh'

Dehradun | Agencies

Various political and social organisations on Sunday observed 'Uttarakhand bandh', demanding death penalty for the accused in connection with the Ankita Bhandari murder case. Congress, including all opposition parties, have also supported this bandh. Ankita was allegedly killed by Pulkit Arya, the son of now expelled BJP leader Vinod Arya. Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP), Dehradun, Dilip Singh Kunwar has appealed to the residents of the city to maintain peace in the areas. Uttarakhand Congress Vice-President, Mathura Dutt Joshi and Uttarakhand Congress General secretary, Vijay Saraswat have issued a joint statement saying that the party is continuously appealing the Central and state governments to hand over the investigation of the Ankita murder case to the Central Bureau of Investigation but the government has not paid any heed to their demand. The heinous Ankita murder case, which took place in Pauri district of Uttarakhand, drew sharp response from people. Various organisations have accused the police and the Uttarakhand government of



delaying the investigation into the murder case and shielding the accused.

In order to maintain law and order in Dehradun, the district has been divided into nine super zones, 21 zones and 43 sectors by the SSP so that no untoward incident happens during this bandh.

SSP Kunwar said that strict action will be taken against any individual who indulges in violent activities during the bandh.

The Congress has directed the district and metropolitan party committees to ensure their participation while fully supporting the bandh.

Ahead of festive season, prices of essential commodities continue to spiral up

Team Absolute | New Delhi

Average retail prices of essential kitchen commodities, including wheat, atta, and rice have seen a significant rise during the last one year, and as the arrival of the festive season may see the trend continue. As far as wheat is concerned, prices have gone up considerably in the last few months. As per traders at Delhi's wholesale markets, wheat prices have seen a spike crossing a record Rs 2,560 per quintal, due to slower supplies and robust demand.

According to traders, the heat wave led to lower production of wheat this year, impacting the domestic supplies of the agricultural produce.

Jai Prakash Jindal of Delhi's Lawrence Road Mandi said that the prices have been going up continuously. "Currently, wheat prices is at Rs 2560 per quintal. It is likely to rise further to the level of Rs 2,600 in the



coming days during this festive season," he said.

The mandi prices were ruling at around Rs 2,150-Rs 2,175/quintal since the ban on wheat export was imposed on May 14 this year.

Jindal said that production was at lower side this year and the government did not stop export at the right time. "A lot of wheat was already exported by the time when the government put a ban on the export of

wheat. It should have been done earlier," he said.

Government data also showed a similar trend in the average retail prices of wheat, atta, and rice. As per the data of the Consumer Affairs Department, the average retail price of atta was Rs 36.13 per kg. Similarly, the average retail price of rice on Friday was Rs 38.2 per kg and the average retail price of wheat was Rs 31 on Friday.

Traders said that while wheat prices have registered a rise of nearly 14-15 per cent, prices of atta have gone up by nearly 18-19 per cent. Similarly, retail prices have also gone up by nearly 7-8 per cent in Delhi retail markets.

The reasons for the increase in wheat prices include various factors like international demand-supply situation, rise in global commodity prices and conflict between major wheat exporting nations like Ukraine and Russia, etc, the traders said.

IAF TO INDUCT FIRST BATCH OF INDIGENOUSLY-DEVELOPED LCH ON MONDAY

New Delhi: The Indian Air Force (IAF) will induct the first batch of Made in India Light Combat Helicopter (LCH) on Monday.

The helicopters will be inducted into the IAF inventory at a ceremony in Jodhpur in presence of Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and Chief of Air Staff, Air Chief Marshal V.R. Chaudhari. The induction of these helicopters will be a big boost to the IAF's combat prowess, Rajnath Singh said. "I would be in Jodhpur, Rajasthan tomorrow, 3rd October, to attend the Induction ceremony of the first indigenously developed Light Combat Helicopters (LCH). The induction of these helicopters will be a big boost to the IAF's combat prowess. Looking forward to it," he tweeted.

The LCH has been developed by aerospace major Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd (HAL), primarily designed for deployment in high-altitude regions.

'AAP to form govt in Gujarat', Kejriwal cites IB report

Rajkot | Agencies

Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal has claimed that an Intelligence Bureau (IB) report has suggested that the Aam Aadmi Party will form the government in Gujarat with a thin margin.

But, he said that he wished to have a thumping majority, and so appealed to the voters to vote for the AAP in large numbers.

Addressing the mediapersons in Rajkot on Sunday, Kejriwal said, "According to sources, IB report says if the elections are held today, AAP will form government in Gujarat with thin margin. We are ahead of the BJP with a very few seats, the people of Gujarat have to give a big push to the AAP so that the AAP has a good majority and a government is formed with a good majority."



He also claimed that since the report was made available to the government, "the BJP and the Congress have joined hands, group meetings are going on, the BJP is badly frightened with the report. Both party leaders had secret meetings and later both are making allegations at the AAP in the same language."

According to Kejriwal, now the BJP wants Congress to be stronger in the state and for that the party is making maximum efforts to make the Congress stronger. He also claimed a few Congress MLAs were to join the BJP, but now the BJP leaders have asked them not to quit the Congress, because if they leave the Congress, it will weaken the party. BJP wants anti-incumbency votes to be divided and so it wants the Congress to play a strong role in the Assembly elections.

MOOSEWALA MURDER CASE

Accused gangster Tinu escapes from Punjab Police custody

Chandigarh | Agencies

Deepak Tinu, an accused in the killing of famed Punjabi singer Sidhu Moosewala and a close aide of jailed gangster Lawrence Bishnoi, escaped from the custody of the Crime Investigations Agency (CIA) of Punjab Police in a dramatic way.

It is learnt that Tinu, who was charge sheeted in the Moosewala murder case, was brought out of a jail in Mansa town by an in-charge of the CIA and was travelling in a private car on Saturday night without wearing handcuffs and other security personnel when he fled.

A senior police official, requesting anonymity, admitted his

escape. He said Tinu was taken out of the jail to facilitate his meeting with someone.

Punjab police had brought him on transit remand from the Tihar jail in Delhi on July 4 in the Moosewala killing.

The role of the CIA in-charge is under suspicion and the police have kept mum on his escape. It is still not clear why the gangster was taken out of the jail in the midnight and where he was being taken.

A massive search operation has been launched, especially on the Punjab-Rajasthan border, to nab him. Responding to his escape, Moosewala's mother Charan Kaur blamed the police for extending



special treatment to the gangsters in jails. He questioned how Tinu escaped from the jail.

Moosewala was shot dead by six-shooters at Jawaharke village in Mansa district on May 29.

Mulayam's health deteriorates, shifted to ICU at Medanta Hospital



Gurugram | Agencies

Samajwadi Party supremo Mulayam Singh Yadav has been shifted to the Intensive Care Unit (ICU) of Medanta Hospital here after his health condition deteriorated, reports said on Sunday. The 82-year-old former Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister has been undergoing treatment at the Medanta Hospital for several days. However, he was shifted to the ICU after his condition became serious on Sunday.

According to reports, his son Akhilesh Yadav along with wife Dimple Yadav also reached Medanta hospital after his father was shifted to the ICU.

Earlier, Mulayam's wife Sadhna Gupta passed away in July this year. She was undergoing treatment at a private hospital in Gurugram for a lung infection.

Sadhana was Mulayam Singh Yadav's second wife. His first wife, Maalti Devi passed away in 2003. Maalti Devi was the mother of Akhilesh Yadav.

Gujarat: Four teachers suspended over garba controversy

Team Absolute | Kheda (Gujarat)

Four teachers of Hathaj Primary School in Gujarat's Kheda district were on Sunday suspended after they allegedly forced school students to chant 'Ya Hussain' at a garba event organised on Friday.

District Primary Education Officer K.L. Patel told IANS, "On Sunday morning, I along with other officers and police team visited the village, and after gathering facts from students and other school members, suspended four teachers with immediate effect. Teachers are suspended because in the garba event organised on Friday, 'Ya Hussain' slogans were chanted and school students were compelled to sing 'Ya Hussain'. This has hurt the sentiment of the majority community."



He has simultaneously asked the Taluka Primary Education Office to carry out an investigation and submit a report by Monday.

Teachers suspended are Jagruti Sagar, Saberaben Vora, Ektaben Aakashi and Sonalben Vaghela.

He said on Saturday, Hindu Dharma Sena leaders

had drawn my attention towards the incident. After which an inquiry was constituted against Hathaj Primary School teachers. 'Garba is Hindu festival in which another religion was promoted that has hurt the sentiment of the majority community and so Hindu Dharma Sena demanded

swift and stern action against teachers," said Rajan Tripathi of Hindu Dharma Sena. "Parents came to know, when students told them after returning from school. Some 30 students wearing Muslim group T-shirts started chanting 'Ya Hussain', which was followed by Hindu students," he alleged.

Sonia Gandhi To Join Congress's Bharat Jodo Yatra On Thursday: Sources



New Delhi: Sonia Gandhi will join the Congress's ambitious 'Bharat Jodo Yatra' in Karnataka on Thursday (October 6), sources said on Sunday.

Congress leader and Mrs Gandhi's daughter, Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, will join the march the next day, they added. The Congress interim chief, who was abroad for a medical check-up when the march began, would join it for the first time from Mandya District. She will reach Karnataka tomorrow and will participate in the yatra led by Rahul Gandhi two days later, the sources said.

Earlier, Karnataka Congress President DK Shivakumar and AICC General Secretary KC Venugopal had said that Sonia Gandhi and Priyanka Gandhi Vadra would participate in the yatra in the state separately and that the dates would be announced soon.

The 'Bharat Jodo Yatra', which began on September 7 from Kanyakumari and entered Karnataka on Friday after Tamil Nadu and Kerala, will span about 511 km of the BJP-ruled state over 21 days.

The march aims to cover as many as 12 states in five months.



It is the responsibility of the government to save the lives of the citizens : CM Chouhan

Government and society together will make the state drug free. CM administered oath to make MP drug free. Hookah lounges will not operate on the land of the state. Chouhan launched the state wide drug de-addiction campaign.

Team Absolute | Bhopal

Chief Minister Shivraj Singh has said that it is the responsibility of the government to make the lives of citizens and save their lives with development activities. Due to intoxication, body, mind, intellect and family are all harmed. The life of one who is caught in the drug addiction gets ruined. We will leave no stone unturned to make the society drug free. All sons, daughters, brothers and sisters of the state should unite and take a pledge to make the state drug-free. Chief Minister Chouhan was addressing the state-wide drug de-addiction campaign program started in the state from Gandhi Jayanti. While administering pledge to the people present to make Madhya Pradesh drug-free, Chouhan said that the government and society together will make the state drug-free. Chief Minister said that Madhya Pradesh has received many awards in the field of cleanliness. We will continuously strive to come first in the country in tree plantation, sex ratio, saving water and de-addiction. The state will make every possible contri-



tribution to the drug-free India campaign under the leadership of Prime Minister. Various activities related to drug de-addiction will be conducted in each city and village in the state-wide drug de-addiction campaign. Chief Minister said that such an excise policy would be formulated to control drug activities in the state, so that alcohol is not encouraged and non-drinkers do not face trouble. Activities like Hookah Lounge will

run on the land of the state. Strictest action will be taken against those involved in drugs and illegal activities. Chouhan said that the youth should not go towards drugs, with this aim, sports and yoga activities will be expanded from village to village in the state. The state government, along with religious leaders and society, will conduct activities to make the state drug-free. Efforts will

be made in collaboration with the organizations working to get rid of drug addicts. Chief Minister Chouhan invited the people of the state to Ujjain to participate in the launch program of "Shri Mahakal Lok" by Prime Minister Shri Modi on October 11. Chief Minister Chouhan said that if you are unable to come to Ujjain, then participate emotionally in the program by lighting lamps in the temples of your area and performing bhajans in this festive atmosphere in your village and city. Former Chief Minister Uma Bharti said that the country became independent when the freedom struggle became a mass movement. Similarly, it is necessary to give the form of mass movement to get rid of drugs and alcohol. For this, the government and society should play their respective roles. The state government will have to make efforts to implement the system of controlled liquor distribution. Uma Bharti said that Chief Minister Chouhan is not only the Chief Minister but also a social reformer. Madhya Pradesh will soon emerge as a model in the field of drug de-addiction.



Burhanpur honoured for declaring as Har Ghar Jal certified district

MP got first prize in West Zone in Swachh Sarvekshan Gramin-2022. Madhya Pradesh also honoured for Sujalam 1.0 and 2.0 campaigns

In Burhanpur, all the villages conducted Gram Sabhas to verify that safe drinking water is regularly available in all their houses, schools and anganwadis. The award was presented by President Draupadi Murmu at a programme at Vigyan Bhawan on the occasion of Swachh Bharat Diwas. Additional Chief Secretary, Public Health Engineering Department Malay Srivastava and Burhanpur Collector Praveen Singh received the awards. Union Minister of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj Giriraj Singh, Minister of Jal Shakti Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, Minister of State for Jal Shakti

Prahlad Singh Patel and Bishweshwar Tudu were present. Under the Swachh Bharat Mission, Madhya Pradesh has got the first prize among the states doing excellent work in the West Zone in the Swachh Sarvekshan Gramin-2022. Principal Secretary Panchayat and Rural Development Umrao received the award. Apart from this, Bhopal has got the first prize and Indore has got the third prize in the districts doing excellent work. Madhya Pradesh got first prize for best work in Sujalam 1.0 campaign and fourth prize in Sujalam 2.0 campaign.

Team Absolute | Bhopal

Burhanpur of Madhya Pradesh was honoured for declaring as Har Ghar Jal (water to every household) certified district in the Swachh Sarvekshan Gramin-2022 award function.

BJP prepared road map for assembly elections

Team Absolute | Bhopal

In Madhya Pradesh, the Bharatiya Janata Party has intensified preparations for the assembly elections to be held next year. The roadmap for the elections has also been prepared in the meeting of the party core committee held at Ratapani sanctuary near the capital. BJP is not ready to repeat the mistake of 2018 assembly elections this time. In view of this, he has intensified his steps from now on. On the one hand, while the central and state government will collect the details of the beneficiaries of the schemes, on the other hand the leaders have been instructed to maintain mutual coordination.



In the meeting held at Ratapani Sanctuary, from the national level to the state level officials and representatives of the government were present. In this meeting, in view of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Ujjain on October 11, instructions were given to organize various programs, then there was also discussion about recruitment on vacant posts in the same corporation boards. Along with this, the leaders were also instructed to keep themselves away from unnecessary rhetoric. In this meeting, the results of the recent urban body elections were also reviewed. The focus of the party will be more on their places from where it has received reports of weakening of BJP's posi-

tion. Along with this, the MLAs whose work the public is not satisfied with, they will also be given a chance to improve themselves in the next 1 year. If sources are to be believed, the party brainstormed about the programs to be organized for the next one year and all the leaders have also been asked to discharge their responsibilities in a better way. The party has also started preparing the working details of the sitting MLAs.

CAR COLLIDES WITH TRUCK IN SAGAR, FOUR KILLED

Sagar: A major accident took place in Madhya Pradesh's Sagar district on Sunday in which the truck rammed the car, killing four people in the car and injuring one seriously. The victims of the accident were going from Harda to Kanpur for Navratri worship. According to the information received from the police, the car was hit by a truck near Berkhedhi village of Rahatgarh police station area, killing four people in this car. Shukla family of Harda district was traveling in this car which was going to Kanpur for Ashtami puja.

It has been told that the accident was so horrific that the car was badly damaged and four people in it - Pankaj Shukla, Mohit Shukla, Shradha Shukla and Lavanya Shukla died on the spot, while one person was seriously injured. Gaya who has been admitted to the district hospital for treatment. Rahatgarh is situated on the route from Bhopal to Sagar and major accidents keep happening here. Recently, a judge had become a victim of death in this area due to a car overturning.

Gandhi Darshan is still most relevant in the world today: CM

CM Chouhan presented the National Mahatma Gandhi Award for the year 2021 on Gandhi Jayanti. Shastri Ji infused hope and energy in the country by giving the slogan "Jai Jawan-Jai Kisan"

Team Absolute | Bhopal

Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan has said that Gandhi Darshan (Gandhi philosophy) is still most relevant in the whole world. The whole world says this and believes it too. Gandhiji is still beacon of peace. It is worth pondering that we believe in Gandhiji but do not follow the words of Gandhiji. Miracles can happen if we follow his small ideas, put them into practice, thought and conduct. Chief Minister Chouhan was addressing the National Mahatma Gandhi Award Ceremony at Ravindra Bhavan on Gandhi Jayanti. Chief Minister Chouhan said that we can bring change in our country, state



and society by continuously following Mahatma Gandhi's ideas like cleanliness, distance from addiction, respect for women and planting trees every day. Cleanliness has become a mass movement under the leadership of Prime Minister Modi. cleanliness. It is an attempt to put Gandhi's philosophy into

practice. Every one of us should be committed to follow one of the messages of Gandhiji and follow it continuously in our life, only then it will be worthwhile to celebrate the Gandhi Jayanti. Chief Minister Chouhan, while remembering former Prime Minister Lal Bahadur Shastri on his birth anniversary,

said that Shastri Ji infused hope and energy in the country by giving the slogan "Jai Jawan-Jai Kisan". Former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee gave the slogan of "Jai Vigyan" and Prime Minister Modi is leading the country on the path of progress by giving the slogan of "Jai Anusandhan".

CHIEF MINISTER CHOUHAN PLANTED SAPLINGS ON GANDHI JAYANTI

Team Absolute | Bhopal

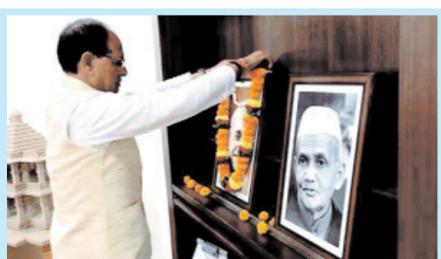
Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan planted Neem, Khirmi and Mulberry saplings in the Smart City Garden on the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti. Dr. Tapasya Tomar, Shweta Srivastri, Ranjeeta Ashish Sahai, Dr. Medhavi Choure and

Ravindra Singh of KEFL Show Stopper Mrs. India 2022 organisation participated in the plantation. The organisation motivates people continuously through social work and plantation campaigns and itself is all set for this work. It also continuously conducts activities for environmental protection.



Three girls drowned in the pit filled with rain water, died

Bhopal: In Guna district of Madhya Pradesh, three girls have died after drowning in the water filled in the pit made by digging the mudroom. The bodies of the three girls were recovered and handed over to their families after post-mortem. According to the information received from the police, road construction work is going on in Kadhayakala village of Mrigwas police station area. The panchayat is getting this work done through a contractor. For this work, the contractor dug a pit seven-eight feet deep on the side of the road and took out the mudroom from it, after which the water got filled due to rain. According to the police, Pragma had left the house on Saturday evening to go to the farm, besides two real sisters - Subhana and Dabboo. When I saw water in the pit on the way, I started bathing in it. All three girls died due to drowning. On the other hand, when the family members did not reach home till late evening, they started searching for the girls and informed the police. After that the search was started. When the police reached near the water-filled pit, they found the bodies of the three girls, aged between 4 years and 10 years. The bodies of the three girls have been handed over to the relatives after post-mortem.



CM CHOUHAN PAYS TRIBUTE TO MAHATMA GANDHI AND LAL BHADUR SHASTRI ON THEIR JAYANTI

Bhopal: Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan paid tributes to Father of Nation Mahatma Gandhi and former Prime Minister of the country, Lal Bahadur Shastri on their birth anniversary. CM Chouhan garlanded their portraits in the auditorium at his residence. Remembering Mahatma Gandhi, Chief Minister Chouhan has given a message on social media, "On the Jayanti of Mahatma Gandhi, the Father of the Nation, who ensured the welfare of the humanity by showing the path of non-violence, peace and harmony to the country and the world, I pay my respectful homage at his feet." Chief Minister remembered the vision and contribution of Late Lal Bahadur Shastri on his Jayanti, the great leader, former Prime Minister of India, who filled the country with a new power, strength and enthusiasm by giving the slogan "Jai Jawan-Jai Kisan".

To fund children's online studies, many MP families sink into debt

Sundeep Pouranik | Bhopal

Kumer Singh, a resident of Amarpura village in Madhya Pradesh's Sehore district, plunged into debt as he had to buy mobile by taking loan for his daughter's online education during the Corona epidemic. Closure of educational institutions due to the epidemic and then online education created trouble for many poor families of Madhya Pradesh, because these poverty-stricken families had to buy Android mobiles for their children's education, for which they took a loan. And now they have to pay a huge price in the form of interest. Kumer Singh is not the only person who has bought an Android phone by taking a loan for his daughter's education. The number of such people is much more. Kumer Singh says that his daughter Muskan studies in class VIII. "Due to the Corona epidemic,

schools were first closed and after that the emphasis was on online studies. Online studies were possible only when you have an Android phone. I had a phone with a keypad, but for the education of my daughter, we decided to buy an Android phone," he states. The mobile phone costed Rs 7,000, but he did not have that much amount in lumpsum, so he took a loan from a person of the village and in return paid the amount along with interest in several instalments. Several thousand rupees had to be paid as interest. Kumer Singh says that he first bought the phone with difficulty and after that the big problem was to recharge the phone. Many a times, it was possible to recharge only after one to two weeks after the date of recharge. Similar is the story of Lilabai Ivne of Kakaria village, her husband Bhagwant works as a labourer. She wants to educate her daughters, that's why she bought

an Android mobile for the online education of her Class VI daughter, for this she had to take a loan because she did not have enough money to buy a mobile at one go. So she had to become a debtor for his daughter's online education. Many times, she also had to face the problems of recharging, but she didn't give up so that her daughter's education would not stop. Abid Khan, a resident of Singar Chori village in the same area, also had to get a mobile financed for the education of his children. A teacher from the capital Bhopal, on anonymity, said that online education was a big problem for poor families because firstly they did not have mobiles and families that had mobiles had more than one child studying. Not only this, many families also faced the problems of recharging mobiles, in such a situation the teachers used to recharge the mobiles of the children.





EDITOR'S SPECS

RIP... Kumbhkar, Meghnad

After over 300 years, the Aishbagh Ramlila committee has decided to discontinue the practice of burning effigies of Kumbhkar and Meghnad along with that of Ravana this Dussehra. The reason, said organisers, is that all Ramayana texts mention that Kumbhkar and Meghnad had tried to dissuade Ravana from fighting against Lord Ram since the latter was the incarnation of Vishnu, though eventually they too participated in the war when the demon king rejected their advice. The idea was first mooted by the Aishbagh Dussehra and Ramlila Committee president Harishchandra Agrawal and secretary Aditya Dwivedi five years ago, but it was rejected by other members on the ground that burning effigies of the trio was part of the 300-year-old tradition. "A thorough reading of Ramcharitmanas and other versions of the Ramayana reveals that Ravana's son Meghnad had told him that Lord Ram was the incarnation of Vishnu and they should not wage war against him. Ravana's brother Kumbhkar, on the other hand, told him that Sita, whom the Lanka king had kidnapped, was none other than Jagdamba and if he does not free her, he might end up losing everything, including his life. However, Ravana ignored their suggestions and ordered them to fight. Therefore, we thought burning effigies of Meghnad and Kumbhkar is wrong," said Dwivedi. "After a lot of debate and discussion, we were able to convince all members this year that the tradition needs to be discontinued," explained Agrawal. Ramlila and Dussehra celebrations are believed to have been started at Aishbagh by sage-poet Goswami Tulsidas in the 16th century. The tradition to burn effigies was introduced about three centuries ago. Both the traditions were conducted by seers till the 1857 first war of independence. The Nawabs of Lucknow also used to visit the Ramlila. After the revolt, the celebrations were carried forward by social workers.

WEAPONISATION OF SOCIAL MEDIA HANDS BJP CONTROL OF POLITICAL NARRATIVE

BRIJ KHANDELWAL

The recent police complaint by Kerala MP Hibi Eden against the manipulation of the 'Bharat Jodo Yatra' pictures of Rahul Gandhi by the BJP's "online hate factory", has once again put the focus on the use of social media in India for peddling misinformation and hate. Over the years, social media has turned into a battleground of the dirty tricks departments of the major political parties. As per a research paper by S Md. Al-Zaman in 2021 titled "Social Media Fake News in India" published in the Asian Journal for Public Opinion Research, fake news shared on social media has six major themes: health, religion, politics, crime, entertainment and miscellaneous; eight types of content: text, photo, audio, and video, text & photo, text & video, photo & video, and text & photo & video; and two main sources: online sources and the mainstream media. Health-related fake news is more common only during a health crisis, whereas fake news related to religion and politics seems more prevalent, emerging from online media. Text & photo and text & video have three-fourths of the total share of fake news, and most of them are from online media: online media is the main source of fake news on social media as well. The research paper said previous literature hints that online fake news in India serves mainly two purposes -- political and religious, utilized by two groups, the Bharatiya Janata Party's (BJP) digital army and digital archiving as history-making to support the Hindu-nationalist government and gau-rakshaks ("cow protectors" or "cow vigilantes") to harass or lynch the minorities, mainly the Muslims. Four reasons may be helpful to define India's current fake news problem: (a) higher social media penetration, (b) a growing number of internet-illiterate people using social media, (c) the existing law that makes tracing fake news producers difficult (d) the rise of Hindutva (an ideology of Hindu-dominance) and religious nationalism, the research paper said. Social media is used widely in India to mobilize political activists for assembly and/or demonstration, and general public and vigilante groups for religious vigilantism and/or mob lynching, the research paper said.

Religion and politics often intertwine, creating a new type of fake news: religio-political, and WhatsApp is mostly used for such fake news propagation because of its instant messaging capacity, easier usability and wide reach, it added. For example, WhatsApp fake news triggered the Muzaffarnagar riot in Uttar Pradesh in 2017, eight months before the federal election, and had both political and religious purposes, the paper said. Fake news has two main sources, online media and mainstream media. Online media produces almost seven times more fake news compared to mainstream media and previous studies suggested similar results, it added. From 2014 to 2019, the Internet users in India increased by 65%, surpassing the appeal of mainstream media. In addition, thanks to social media's political benefits, the BJP government promotes Internet-based alternative media that helps to reduce the effects of mainstream media to some extent, the research paper said. As per a July article in the Lowy Institute, in May 2021, when the Information Technology Rules came into effect, Twitter again fell foul of the Modi government when the company labelled posts by politicians from the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party as "manipulated media" - the same labelling it had applied to some of US President Donald Trump's tweets while he was still in office. "The problem in India is much bigger: hate speech is rife, bots and fake accounts linked to India's political parties and leaders abound, and user pages and large groups brim with inflammatory material targeting Muslims and other minorities. Disinformation is an organised and carefully mined operation here. Elections and "events" like natural calamities and the coronavirus pandemic usually trigger fake news outbreaks", the BBC reported in October 2021. "With a surfeit of hate speech, trolling and attacks on minorities and women, Indian Twitter is a polarised and dark place. WhatsApp, the Facebook-owned messaging service, remains the largest carrier of fake news and hoaxes in its biggest market", BBC reported. A publication of the Stimson Center, South Asian voices in July 2021 carried an article which said the 2014 general elections -- regarded as the "First Social Media Election" in India's political history -- kicked-off a social media revolution in Indian politics.

The Bharatiya Janata Party's success in mobilizing India's digital generation using social media platforms has forced contending parties to revamp their social media engagement. As a result, millions of politically motivated messages now flood India's digital space, making elections susceptible to social media manipulation, the article said. The BJP reportedly operates around 2-3 lakh WhatsApp groups. The party has developed an effective IT wing linked to disinformation and propaganda, both of which it uses to stoke communal divisions to reap electoral benefits. The spread of disinformation, and polarizing, BJP-led social media campaigns promoting Hindutva, deepen tensions among Hindu and Muslim communities, the article said. According to the 2017 CSDS-Lokniti survey, one-sixth of India's WhatsApp users were part of a WhatsApp group either managed by a political party or its leader. Signifying the volume of politically motivated content, a 2019 CSDS-Lokniti and Konrad Adenauer Stiftung survey determined that one in every three Indian citizens on social media consumes political content daily or regularly, the article said. Political content voters absorb through WhatsApp and other platforms influences political perceptions in a two-step manner. First, political accounts generate an influx of positive narratives concerning a party, drowning out criticism. For instance, widespread nationalist content from BJP-affiliated right-wing groups praised the army and the Balakot air strikes while evading content on rising unemployment and debilitating economic crises in India. Second, disinformation - spread particularly through fake social media handles - consolidates nationalist support against perceived "enemies", the article said. In early 2020, BJP IT wing head Amit Malviya tweeted a fake video of Anti-CAA protestors raising "Pakistan Zindabad" banners. This was intended to deepen Hindu-Muslim communal divisions and advance the BJP's political efforts, the article said. The BJP's social media campaign has evolved significantly since 2014: then it largely focused on highlighting its leader, now it seeks to control the content citizens consume. The core focus of the BJP's social media campaign in 2014, aided by professional agencies, was building the

brand of then Prime Ministerial candidate Narendra Modi, promoting its development agenda and criticizing the ruling Congress government. The BJP's social media campaign adopted more polarizing methods in the 2017 Uttar Pradesh assembly elections and the 2019 general election, it said. The BJP's savvy social media presence and electoral success has created incentives for other parties to expand their presence in the digital space. Faced with continuous electoral setbacks since 2014, and a tarnished image of leader Rahul Gandhi as "Pappu" (a mocking name for an immature and half-witted boy in popular media) by the BJP IT cell, the Congress' social media spending increased tenfold in 2019 compared to 2014. Even the Communist parties, which have a history of opposing computerisation, have begun training their cadres. The BJP has used "anti-national" messaging to delegitimise the farmers' protest, unmasking its weaponisation of digital platforms to thwart voices of dissent, the article said. In November 2020, BJP IT head Amit Malviya shared a video on Twitter countering the allegations of police brutality against protesting farmers. Later, Twitter flagged this video as "manipulated." Then, a host of BJP leaders, including Tajinder Bagga (BJP Delhi spokesperson), Varun Gandhi (BJP MP) and Harish Khurana (Delhi BJP spokesperson), propagated disinformation and linked protesting farmers to the Khalistan movement, the article said. A significant part of the success of the BJP's social media strategy has been its ability to propagate messages that are more personal and thus have greater potential to influence a wide range of citizens' political perceptions. For instance, it employed trolls and campaign ads using memes from the Game of Thrones series. Ample financial resources to set up IT cells, recruit techies, and hire professional agencies, combined with an efficient and vast network of organizational machinery on the ground to ensure the social media campaign reaches ordinary voters, helped the BJP far surpass competing parties in the digital outreach, the article said.

international

TRUMP LIKELY TO ANNOUNCE HIS 2024 PRESIDENTIAL RUN WITHIN WEEKS

Ashe O | Washington

Former President Donald Trump "wants his old job back" and will announce within weeks his run for the presidency in 2024. Trump is eager to get back to the White House, and wants to announce his 2024 run in the coming weeks. Stating this, Kellyanne Conway, his 2016 campaign manager and close ally, said she had advised him to wait until after the midterms in November, according to Business Insider. Speaking on Friday with CBS News, Conway was asked whether Trump would announce his candidacy after the midterm elections and before Thanksgiving. "Well, he would like to," said Conway, as per CBS News. "He's as active as anybody in these midterm elections. That's important to the calculus also, Catherine, because we have the most ironic, if not unprecedented situation right now," Conway continued.



"We have a president, a current president, whose party doesn't really want him to campaign with them." Trump will assess the timing of his announcement after the midterms, which take place on November 8, Conway said. "I

will tell you why he wants to run for president," she said. "Donald Trump wants his old job back." In July, Conway described Trump as "champing at the bit" to announce his third presidential bid. Speaking to CBS News, she said she advised him to wait until right after the midterms. House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy also said he lobbied the former president not to announce a 2024 presidential run before the midterms. "My point to him has always (been), 'Let's go win '22,'" McCarthy told reporters at the Capitol in July. That same month, a top Republican strategist told Insider that a pre-midterm announcement from Trump would be a "train wreck for the party" and "a complete mess." Meanwhile, how Democrats, who aren't named Joe Biden, are running for president - without running for president - Joe Biden plans to seek reelection in 2024, even though voters are souring on him.

PAK CABINET GREENLIGHTS INQUIRY AGAINST IMRAN OVER AUDIO LEAKS ON US CYPHER

Islamabad: The Pakistan federal cabinet has decided to formally launch legal action against former prime minister Imran Khan after the latest audio leaks allegedly featuring him and other PTI leaders in a discussion about a US cypher, the media reported. PTI Chairman Imran Khan, Asad Umar, and then-principal secretary Azam Khan could allegedly be heard discussing the US cypher and how to use it in their interest, in the two audio leaks that surfaced as a shocking revelation, The News reported. In the first audio leak that emerged on Wednesday (September 28), Imran Khan was heard directing Azam Khan to "just play" with the cypher, and responding to this, the latter advised the ex-premier that they can fake the minutes of a meeting with Qureshi and foreign secretary Sohail Mehmood to bring the cypher on record, The News reported. On September 30, the federal cabinet took notice of the matter and constituted a committee to probe the contents of the audio leaks. The committee recommended legal action over the audio leaks purportedly featuring Imran Khan, Azam Khan and others on October 1. Meanwhile, a summary comprising the recommendations of the body was presented before the cabinet. "This is a matter of national security, which has serious implications for national interests and a legal action in this regard is vital," recommended the cabinet committee. The federal cabinet approved the summary through circulation. The probe into the US cypher and the audios allegedly featuring Imran Khan and others will be tasked to the FIA.



Conservative MPs urge Liz Truss's removal after less than a month in office

London: Three-quarters of UK voters, including a staggering 71 per cent of those who backed the Conservatives at the last general election, believe the prime minister, Liz Truss, and the chancellor, Kwasi Kwarteng, have "lost control" of the economy, according to a devastating poll for the Observer on the eve of the Tory conference, local media reported. The survey by Opinium - which also reveals that Labour has extended its lead by a massive 14 percentage points in the last week alone, from five points to 19 points, and that Truss's ratings are now lower than Boris Johnson's at the height of the Partygate scandal - comes as some Tory MPs are beginning to demand the new prime minister's removal from No 10 after less than a month in office. Other senior party figures are warning that the damage to the party's reputation for economic management resulting from Kwarteng's tax-cutting budget, is so serious that it will take many years to repair, The Guardian reported. Tory peer Gavin Barwell, a former MP and chief of staff to Theresa May, writing in Sunday's Observer, says the Truss government "has thrown away the Conservative party's reputation for sound management of the public finances" in its first month in office, adding that "it will take years to undo all the damage". In the last seven days, the Tories have surrendered a narrow one-point lead on the question of economic management and now trail Labour by 19 points. On Saturday night, however, a defiant Truss showed no sign of backing down over her tax cuts, which panicked the markets, sent the pound spiralling downwards and raised the prospect of imminent further rises in interest rates. Speaking before the Tory conference, which opens today in Birmingham, a defiant Truss said the economy needed a "reset" as she vowed to press on.

5.9-MAGNITUDE QUAKE STRIKES JAPAN

Tokyo: An earthquake with a preliminary magnitude of 5.9 struck Japan's southwestern prefecture of Miyazaki and other areas early Sunday. According to the Japan Meteorological Agency (JMA), the quake occurred at 12:02 a.m. local time with its focus at a depth of about 30 kms off the Osumi Peninsula, registering lower 5 on Japan's seismic intensity scale in the city of Nichinan, Xinhua news agency reported. The tremor measured 4 in the city of Miyazaki on the Japanese seismic intensity scale which peaks at 7 and some other parts of the prefecture and 3 in the nearby prefectures of Ehime, Saga, Kumamoto, Oita and Kagoshima, the JMA said. The agency did not issue a tsunami warning as a result of the quake and there have been no immediate reports of accidents or injuries as a result of the quake. No abnormalities were found at Sendai nuclear power plant in Kagoshima Prefecture, the operator Kyushu Electric Power Co. said.

TORRENTIAL RAIN WREAKS HAVOC IN GHANA

Accra | Agencies: Torrential rain hit some parts of Ghana, the capital Accra included, causing flooding in downtown areas and disrupting traffic on major roads. The intermittent rain, which started early Saturday morning, continued through to the afternoon. Many major drains carrying running water were overflowed, while some road potholes were enlarged and deepened. Vehicles and commuters to several places within the city and adjoining communities had to wade through heavy floods to get to their destinations. Some drivers, as a result of poor visibility, had to park their vehicles on the shoulders of roads. Some residents in the affected areas were seen scooping flood waters from their homes and shops. Videos and comments about the flooding situation and its attendant impact were posted on



social media with residents calling on the government to find a permanent solution to their age-old poor drainage challenges. Komla Dodze, a resident of Tema, told Xinhua in an interview how the torrential rain had destroyed his property. "In fact, today's continuous rain has actually destroyed almost everything in my room, including the fridge, furniture, and others, all were flooded," said the resident. The Ghana Meteorological Agency on Saturday warned citizens to be cautious in flood-prone areas.



Threats to CM Shinde from unknown caller, security tightened

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde's security cover was tightened after specific inputs indicating threats to his life through a mystery phone call on Sunday.

The Home Department, handled by Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnis, has also ordered a probe with efforts on to trace the call and the unknown caller.

Simultaneously, security at Shinde's official residence 'Varsha', at Malabar Hill and his private home in Thane city was beefed up with additional forces deployed.

Officials said that the State Intelligence Department (SID) monitored the inputs about the threats to Shinde, who has a Z-category security cover. Earlier, Shinde - who leads the rebel Shiv Sena faction which toppled the Maha Vikas Aghadi govt in June - had been the target of similar threats from Maoists and anti-national elements earlier when he was a minister in the previous government.

Though officials are tightlipped, there's speculation that the latest threats may be linked to the Centre's decision to ban the PFI.

Shinde is presently travelling a lot for the Navratri festivities and will address a Dassehra rally at the



Bandra Kurla Complex ground on Vijaya Dashami. BJP leaders like Pravin Dekar and Minister Sudhir Mungantiwar suspect that certain persons may be upset by the CM's tough decisions in recent times and demanded a full investigation into the matter, including political or international threads.



Muslims to launch campaign to dispel misconceptions about Islam, Prophet

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Prominent Islamic organisations and members of the community will launch a campaign to address misunderstandings and misconceptions about Islam and Prophet Muhammad among people from other religions.

The campaign called 'Prophet for All' will be launched to mark the birth anniversary of Prophet Muhammad on October 9.

More than 200 NGOs and individuals have been roped in for the campaign, which is aimed at dispelling misconceptions about the Prophet and giving a clearer picture about him, a volunteer who is a part of the campaign said. As part of the campaign, community members will celebrate the Prophet's birthday with people of other faiths by visiting their houses

and also by inviting them to their homes, he said.

Prophet Muhammad's message was to feed the hungry, visit the ailing, free those held captive and several such teachings. We want to spread peace among people and resolve misunderstandings. We want to tell people that we respect all religions, spread love and live together in peace, a volunteer said.

Prominent organisations such as Anjuman-e-Islam, Islam Gymkhana, Markazul Maarif, Mahim Dargah Trust and Urdu Headmasters' Association will be part of the campaign and NGOs from Mumbai and Mira Road and Mumbai areas of neighbouring Thane district will also participate.

Community members from different parts of the city and suburbs have started visiting orphanages, schools, hospitals and temples for the

drive, it was stated.

On October 8, volunteers will display placards and banners and distribute pamphlets outside bus stops and railway stations, while a procession will be taken out on October 9. With this campaign, we want to spread Prophet Muhammad's message about peace. Our volunteers will try to reach out to more people through social media as well. We will not only visit masjids, but also temples such as Siddhi Vinayak in the city and other religious places to clear misunderstandings about the Prophet, former Congress MLA Yusuf Abrahami said.

Many events have been planned and are being initiated to start a dialogue among other communities, which are being coordinated by Muslim scholars Amir Edrisy and Sayeed Khan, it was stated.

Meth, cocaine valued at over Rs 1K cr seized in Navi Mumbai

Team Absolute | Mumbai

The Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) on Saturday said it has recovered 198 kg crystal methamphetamine and 9 kg cocaine valued at Rs 1,476 crore in Navi Mumbai.

A DRI official said that it was one of the biggest seizures of methamphetamine and cocaine in the country.

Based on intelligence inputs, surveillance was maintained for 10-13 days looking for the consignment of fruits being cleared from some cold storages. On Friday evening, the team of DRI Mumbai officers inter-

cepted a truck in Vashi, carrying imported oranges. On thorough checking and examination, a huge quantity of drugs was found concealed in the cartons carrying Valencia oranges," the official said.

The official said that the said truck had left the Prabhu Hira Ice & Cold Storage in Vashi along with goods laden.

This is a new kind of modus operandi involving concealment of drugs in the boxes of "Valencia Oranges" imported from South Africa.

After clearance of such oranges from Customs area, the goods used to get stored in some cold storages located



in Vashi. "The importer of the goods has been nabbed and is being questioned. Further search operations for identifying and nabbing the people involved in running this chain of smuggling of drugs is underway," the DRI official said.

Woman burnt alive by husband, dies

Team Absolute | Mumbai

A 35-year-old woman, who was allegedly burnt alive by her husband at their house in Dombivili in Maharashtra's Thane district, died while undergoing treatment at a hospital, police said on Sunday. Preeti Shantaram Patil and her daughters, Sameera (14) and Samiksha (11), had suffered severe burns in the fire at their house in Bopar area on Saturday morning. The girls, who suffered 90 per cent burns, are currently undergoing treatment, senior inspector S R Bagde of Manpada police station said.

The woman's husband Prasad Shantaram Patil (40) is also being treated for burns he sustained during the incident, he said. According to fire officials, the blaze had erupted at 5.30 am on Saturday, but they were informed about it around 8.30 am, which was a delay of three hours. The accused was having an affair with another woman and was harassing his wife and daughters. He hatched a conspiracy and attempted to burn his wife and daughters alive and sustained injuries in the process, the official said. Based on a complaint, the police had initially registered a case under section 307 (attempt to murder) against the accused, which will now be turned into a murder case once the post-mortem report arrives, he said.

MAN ACCUSED OF RAPE, SUICIDE ABETMENT, ARRESTED AFTER 9 YEARS

Team Absolute | Palghar

A 29-year-old man accused of raping a woman and abetting her suicide nine years ago has been arrested by police in Maharashtra's Palghar district, an official said on Sunday.

The accused, Sultan alias Raja Noormohammad Shaikh, had allegedly raped the 19-year-old woman on various occasions in February 2013 after giving her drinks laced with sedatives, Mira Bhayander-Vasai Virar police's senior inspector Pramod Badakh said. The victim became pregnant, but the accused asked her not to inform anyone about it or else he would make her

objectionable video clip public, he said.

The accused also allegedly beat up the victim and abused her, the official said. On April 22, 2013, the woman allegedly committed suicide by setting herself on fire, he said. The Nallasopara police in Palghar had then registered a case against the accused on charges of rape, threat and abetment to suicide.

A police crime unit team worked on various leads, including intelligence inputs, and traced him to a locality in Nallasopara area from where he was arrested on Saturday, the official said. During interrogation, the accused told the police that he had travelled to Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal to evade arrest, he said.

STL unveils new optical solution to help telcos fiberise networks for 5G

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Digital networks integrator STL on Sunday unveiled 5G Cosmos, an optical solution for towers and small cells, to help telecom operators speed up their 5G rollout plans via high-quality and long-lasting fibre infrastructure.

Despite the intent and capital availability, India's fibre space is currently constrained by deployment speed and scale. 5G Cosmos, said the Mumbai-headquartered company, is a patented solution that can solve these challenges and connect every tower, small cell and node.

Tower fibreisation must increase from the current 35 per cent to 80 per cent to provide high quality 5G services.

"We are readying our infrastructure for 5G and fibreisation is a core need. We are happy to see the



use cases that 5G Cosmos can solve for telcos and enable us to deliver a great 5G experience to our customers," said Pankaj Miglani, Director Supply

Chain Management, Bharti Airtel, while launching 5G Cosmos at Indian Mobile Congress (IMC) 2022.

Indian telecom operators are ready to install fibre-dense networks for 5G.

"This will need an integrated and futuristic solution. We have built 5G Cosmos to enable fiberisation of macro and small cells at scale and achieve the full potential of 5G," said Ankit Agarwal, Managing Director, STL.

STL also launched India's first multicore fibre and cable to change the optical connectivity landscape in the country.

This has been conceptualised and developed indigenously at STL's Centre of Excellence in Maharashtra with top interdisciplinary R&D experts.

"STL's multiverse fibre and cable will enable 4 times capacity and play a vital role in 5G scale-up," said Randeep Sekhon, CTO, Bharti Airtel.

Venkaiah Naidu unveils book on Allu Arjun's grandfather

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Telugu star Allu Arjun inaugurated the Allu Studio along with megastar Chiranjeevi to commemorate the 100th birth anniversary of his grandfather, Telugu cinema's celebrated comedian, Allu Ramalingaiah.

The centenary was also marked by the unveiling of a book on Ramalingaiah, who was awarded a Padma Shri and the Filmfare Lifetime Achievement Award-South. Taking to his social media, Allu Arjun shared a picture of himself along with close relatives and the country's former Vice President, Venkaiah Naidu. He wrote in the caption, "Book launch of my Grandfather Shri Allu Ramalingaiah garu on his centenary birthday. I would like to thank Shri Venkaiah Naidu garu for gracing the occasion. #AlluARG100."

Recently, Arjun visited Amritsar with his family to celebrate his wife Sneha



Reddy's birthday. The actor visited the Golden Temple, Attari border and spent time with BSF jawans.

Allu Arjun fans, meanwhile, are eagerly waiting for the sequel to

'Pushpa: The Rise'. The film's makers of 'Pushpa' recently shared the progress of the sequel, marking the start of their work with a puja they organised in the presence of team members.

Fake call centre busted in Thane district, 16 Arrested

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Thane police have busted a fake call centre which allegedly duped US citizens after offering them loans and arrested 16 people in this connection, an official said on Sunday.

Acting on a tip-off, the police raided the call centre located in Wagle Estate area of Maharashtra's Thane city on the intervening night of Friday-Saturday and caught the people working there, including three women, senior police inspector V B Murtadak said.

He said the accused would contact people in the US and offer them loans. After



obtaining their bank account details, the accused would siphon off funds from their accounts, the official said.

An agent coordinating in the US would collect the money and transfer it to India through 'hawala' after taking his share from it, the police said.

Hawala denotes illegal transaction of funds by skirting the legal banking channels.

The 16 people arrested include the call centre owners - Siddesh Sudhir Bhaidkar (33) and Sania Rakesh Jaiswal (26), the official said.

A juvenile was also detained in connection with the offence and later handed over to his parents after completion of legal formalities, the official said.

The police have seized various equipment, gadgets and data from the call centre, he said.

Offences were registered against the accused under relevant provisions of the Indian Penal Code, Information Technology Act and the Indian Telegraph Act, the official said. The accused were on Saturday produced before a local magistrate who remanded them in police custody for seven days, he said.

After ruling state for 52 years, Congress struggles to recapture Maharashtra

Quaid Najmi | Mumbai

One of the few states that was once considered a Congress stronghold, Maharashtra slipped out of the Congress grip first in 1995 and then in 2014, and the party now struggles to make a comeback fighting all odds, within and outside.

The Congress has ruled the prosperous west Indian state for 52 years since it was founded on May 1, 1960 -- either solo, or through alliances, or via one or the other breakaway factions.

It was in 1995 that the sun first set on the party and the first real non-Congress government of Shiv Sena-Bharatiya Janata Party alliance came to power and governed a full term.

The Congress bounced back in the 1999 Assembly elections, with a reduced majority, formed an alliance with the breakaway Nationalist

Congress Party (NCP-1999), and they ruled for 15 years.

During the BJP wave unleashed by Narendra Modi, who became the Prime Minister in 2014, the Congress-NCP government was also washed away.

After five years, in 2019, it rebounded as an ally in the Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) government comprising Shiv Sena-NCP-Congress, which was toppled after two-and-a-half years, while the party grappled with severe 'leakages' at various levels.

"The problems largely started around a decade ago when the BJP took recourse to caste-communal politics, subverting institutions, false narratives, raising irrelevant matters while ignoring the real and burning problems of the economy, inflation, unemployment, farmers, women, youth, etc," said Congress working President Naseem Khan.



He argued that now the people have realised the hollow claims of the Modi regime and are gradually veering

around to clean, ethical, values and issue-based politics that Congress represents.

A former four-time Congress MP feels that the state unit is plagued by infighting -- as in other states or even at the national level -- for which it had to pay dearly in 2014, and joining the MVA in 2019 was a 'compromise' to keep the BJP at bay.

A present state office-bearer confided how the current AICC Maharashtra in-charge, S.K. Patil, is reportedly adapting "a lackadaisical approach, barely communicates in Hindi or rarely goes beyond Mumbai, cutting himself off from the 'actual ground problems' afflicting the party organisation".

Mumbai Congress North Indian Cell Vice-President V.P. Singh feels many 'inefficient or disinterested' persons have been foisted both in the party at various levels, affecting the party workers' morale and creating more rifts that are exploited by the opponents, citing various examples.

Fortunately, most leaders are buoyed by the ongoing Bharat Jodo Yatra led by Rahul Gandhi and the Indian National Congress Presidential elections, with a united chorus that it would do "a sea of good and invigorate the party from bottom to the top" for future challenges.

Several other party leaders at different levels echo similar sentiments, and strongly express the need "to rebuild the party on a war-footing", opening party offices at the village levels (rural) or ward levels (urban), counter or expose the government policies at all levels, aggressively woo the media, and top national leaders should tour different states regularly for feedback.

In conclusion, notwithstanding the conviction by many leaders, the Congress in the state indeed faces a tough challenge to resurrect itself to its preeminent status -- before it 'leaks' afresh.



Kim Kardashian wants Florence Pugh to be her new best friend

Los Angeles | Agencies

Reality TV star Kim Kardashian recently confessed that she is "obsessed" with the 'Don't Worry Darling' star Florence Pugh since seeing her in the psychological drama alongside Harry Styles. Now, it is claimed the reality star is on a mission to hang out with the 26-year-old Pugh, reports femalefirst.co.uk.

An insider told heat magazine: "Kim's been raving about Florence to everyone who'll listen and is now on a mission to bring her into the Kardashians' social circle."

"She'd already heard great things about Flo, and now she's seen 'Don't Worry Darling'. Kim can't stop going on about how she's got it all - talent, charisma, a beautiful hourglass figure, and bone structure to die for. "They have a bunch of friends in common and have attended a few of the same events in the past, but never got the chance to fully hang out. "Kim wants to change that."

She had tweeted about Olivia Wilde's flick: "Harry was so good, and I am now obsessed with Florence Pugh. "She's beyond an amazing actress and she's so pretty, too."

Both stars have recently become single after Kim split from comedian Pete Davidson, 28, and Florence came out of a long-term relationship with 47-year-old actor-and-filmmaker Zach Braff.

And both faced comments on the age gaps between them and their respective partners.

Florence and Zach started dating in 2019 but their age difference has always been a topic of conversation online.

Adele has a fan girl moment while meeting Gabrielle

London | Agencies

British singer Adele had an emotional moment when she met her idol, Gabrielle, who is best remembered for her 'Bridget Jones's Diary' sound track. The 'Rolling In The Deep' hitmaker cried her heart out upon meeting the senior singer and UK chart-topper, reports Mirror.co.uk.

She rushed over to Gabrielle's dressing room in hair rollers. Gabrielle, 53, whose 1993 debut single 'Dreams' was a global hit, was supporting Adele at two sold-out Hyde Park summer gigs.

As reported by Mirror.co.uk, Gabrielle said: "It was amazing. She came

to my dressing room. She was meant to be in hair and makeup, she arrived in rollers looking really cute. She just made my day. She's incredible. She cried. She nearly made me cry because she's phenomenal."

Adele, 34, was five when 'Dreams', which includes the line "dreams can come true", was released and the youngster growing up in Tottenham, North London, longed to emulate the singer.

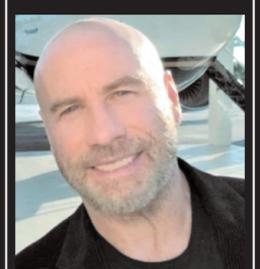
Speaking at Jog-On to Cancer, a charity event in London, Gabrielle said: "We were star



struck around each other but I was more star struck."

Gabrielle, who has a drooping eyelid and covers it in public with shades, an eyepatch or hair, is getting ready to embark on her '30 Years of Dreaming Tour' in 2023.

John Travolta gets woken up by son's pupper



Los Angeles | Agencies

John Travolta is under attack from a pair of paws! The 'Pulp Fiction' star is having a ruff time trying to get any words out. The actor shared a short and sweet clip on Instagram featuring his son's own dog, as it slobbered all over his face, reports People magazine.

"This is how Ben's dog Peanut wakes me up," Travolta wrote alongside a video of the dog licking his face repeatedly. In the video, Travolta uses a bit of a baby voice with the animal, but his words are essentially undecipherable as he gets slobbered on by the aforementioned Peanut. According to People, Peanut appears to be a new name for the dog once known to the world as Mac N Cheese.

Travolta adopted her for his son after Jamie Lee Curtis brought her on stage as she honoured Betty White and her dedication to animal welfare during the Oscars In Memoriam segment this year. The dog, along with a few other pups, was "dumped in a box outside" of an animal shelter, Paw Works co-founder Chad Atkins told People. Travolta's Instagram isn't just full of puppy love. He also shares quite a few clips of Ben, including one of his children practising his parkour skills at an indoor adventure gym. In the clip posted in April, Ben uses monkey bars to swing across platforms, and Travolta appropriately added the caption "My Spider-Man Ben!" onto the video.

'SNL' opens 48th season with Manning Bros sketch, John Hamm cameo

Los Angeles | Agencies

'Saturday Night Live' flagged off its 48th Season by poking fun at both frequent target former US President Donald Trump, and its own rebuilding period after a summer filled with cast exits and goodbyes, reports Variety.

The sketch starred the premiere's host Miles Teller and cast member Andrew Dismukes as sports stars and brother's Peyton and Eli Manning, in a parody of their 'Monday Night Football' commentary show 'Manningcast'.

Instead of analysing a football game, the two turned their insight into the opening sketch of the new season of 'Saturday Night Live'.

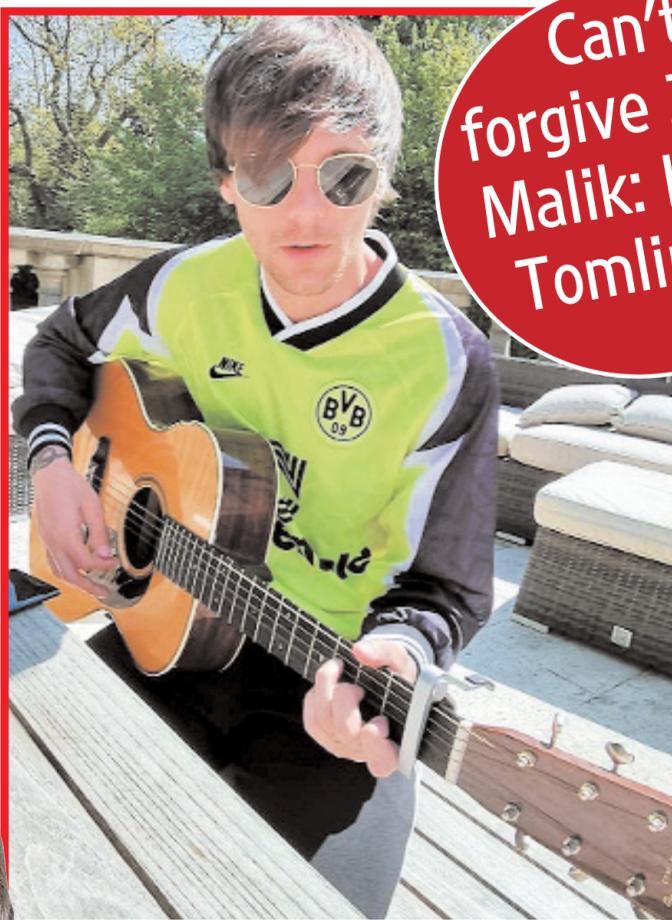
According to Variety, at the top of the sketch, Teller as



Peyton addressed the shake ups that the series has gone through other the summer, which saw eight cast members - Chris Redd, Alex Moffat, Aristotle Athari, Melissa Villaseñor, Pete Davidson, Kate McKinnon, Aidy Bryant and Kyle Mooney - announce their departures from the long-running sketch comedy series.

"There are a lot of changes at the show, which could be exciting," Teller said, quoted by Variety. "Let's see what they came up with."

But the sketch-within-a-sketch proved to be a typical opening for the programme, with James Austin Johnson reprising his role as Donald Trump in a sketch located at the Mar-a-Lago club during Hurricane Ian.



Can't forgive Zayn Malik: Louis Tomlinson

Los Angeles | Agencies

Singer Louis Tomlinson has yet to make up with Zayn Malik following their falling out seven years ago.

In a new interview, Louis Tomlinson said that he still wasn't over "his frustration" with his former One Direction bandmate, who left the boyband in March 2015, reports aceshowbiz.com.

During his appearance on the 'Zach Sang Show', Tomlinson was asked if he was still friends with the "Pillowtalk" singer. To that, the "Bigger Than Me" singer responded: "You'd have to ask him."

The 30-year-old continued: "I could be wrong, but I believe I said, when you asked me a similar question [last time] I believe I said I don't think I'm mature enough to get over what's

frustrated me in that relationship." He added: "I don't know if I'm mature enough now, but I'm definitely closer to being over all that."

Back in 2015, Tomlinson and Malik got into a heated argument on Twitter after the latter left One Direction. At the time, Louis threw shade at Zayn by writing: "Remember when you were 12 and you used to think those Mac filters for your pictures were cool haha! Some people still do HA!"

In response to that, Malik wrote back to Louis: "remember when you had a life and stopped making b***hy comments about mine?" In a separate tweet, the musician penned, "Don't know why I'm being attacked for defending myself, people got it twisted! I love my fans ?? Every single one of you x." Tomlinson, however, later claimed that he has "tried to get in touch" with Malik. "There's been numerous times over the last couple of years where I've thought about him and hoped he's alright," he divulged. "But it's hard. I definitely wish him well," he elaborated.

'I don't want to be known for my clap backs on Twitter'

Maren Morris addresses speaking out against racism and homophobia as a country music artist

Los Angeles | Agencies

In a sense, singer-songwriter Maren Morris has felt like she's among only a handful of artists in the country music genre that speak out against topics like racism and anti-LGBTQ rhetoric. But with that being said, the I Could Use A Love Song star also confessed during an interview with Apple Music's Proud Radio With Hunter Kelly that she doesn't want to just be known for her 'clap backs on Twitter', instead she'd like to have people take notice of her songs, reports dailymail.co.uk.

"I can't just be this merch store on the internet that sells you songs and t-shirts," Morris, 32, said, while taking her personality and personal ethics into consideration, in reference to her decisions to speak publicly on hot topic issues. Morris continued, "I have to let people know, because the real human aspect of this is when I go on tour, and I see the people in my crowd. That is not the internet, that is real," she said, adding, "And you see how your crowd starts to change the more that you let people know where you stand."



ABSOLUTE PIC OF THE DAY



Kylie Jenner



IND v SA, 2nd T20I

INDIA CLINCH SERIES WITH A 16-RUN WIN

David Miller hit a whirlwind second T20I century, but it went in vain as India clinched their first-ever T20I series win at home over South Africa with a 16-run victory in the second T20I at Barsapara Cricket Stadium in Guwahati on Sunday.

Team Absolute | Guwahati

After the collective batting effort led by fifties from Suryakumar Yadav and K.L. Rahul took India to 237/3, Miller hit an unbeaten, brilliant 106 off 47 balls, laced with eight fours and seven sixes, to also become the leading run-scorer for South Africa in T20Is. He also shared a 174-run stand off 90 balls for the fourth wicket with Quinton de Kock (69 not out). But with de Kock struggling to break free early in the innings, South Africa fell short by 16 runs.

Arshdeep Singh had Temba Bavuma and Rilee Rossouw dismissed for successive ducks in his first over. While Bavuma was caught at mid-off, Rossouw's top-edge was taken by cover holding on to a juggling catch on the third attempt.

Aiden Markram stepped up to be the aggressor for South Africa, looking gorgeous in steering and punching through the off-side while pulling crisply through mid-wicket to take the visitors' to 45/2 in power-play. His promising knock was cut short by Axar Patel, who got some dip to turn it



away from Markram's attempted cover drive and hit the top of off-stump. From there, Axar and Ravichandran Ashwin continued to put a squeeze on the scoring and pushed the required run rate very high. But Miller had other plans, taking successive boundaries off Harshal Patel. In the next over, he took two sixes off Ashwin before ending the over with a pulled four-through square leg. After lofting flat over long-off for six off Arshdeep Singh, Miller reached his fifty in 25 balls.

De Kock broke the shackles of finding the ideal timing by slamming Axar Patel for two sixes and a four on three successive deliveries. Miller continued to take a brace of fours off Harshal while de Kock's improved timing saw him get his fifty in 39 balls. Miller then unleashed carnage on Arshdeep, hitting sixes over deep mid-wicket twice while nailing fours through backward point and bisecting long-on and deep mid-wicket to perfection to take 26 runs off the 19th over.

With India fielding with an extra fielder in the 30-yard circle in the final over, Miller hit back-to-back sixes over long-on and deep mid-wicket to get his century in 46 balls. De Kock finished the innings with a six over square leg, but it was not enough for South Africa to avoid conceding the series to India.

Brief scores

India 237/3 in 20 overs (Suryakumar Yadav 61, K.L. Rahul 57; Keshav Maharaj 2/23) beat South Africa 221/3 in 20 overs (David Miller 106 not out, Quinton de Kock 69 not out; Arshdeep Singh 2/62, Axar Patel 1/53) by 16 runs

Dhawan to lead India in ODI series against South Africa, maiden call-ups for Patidar, Mukesh

New Delhi | Agencies

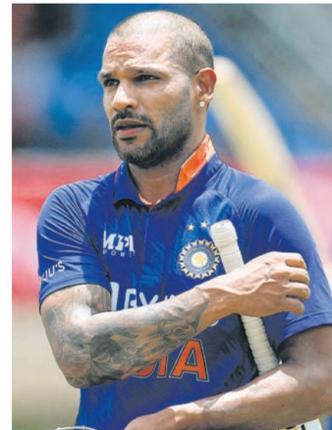
Senior left-handed opener Shikhar Dhawan on Sunday was named captain of India's squad which will play three ODIs against South Africa on October 6, 9 and 11 in Lucknow, Ranchi and New Delhi respectively.

The All-India Senior Selection Committee has also given maiden ODI call-ups to middle-order batter Rajat Patidar and pacer Mukesh Kumar. Patidar's career has been on an upswing since making a breathtaking 112 for Royal Challengers Bangalore in IPL 2022 Eliminator against the Lucknow Super Giants at Kolkata.

Patidar went on to score 122 and 30 not out in Madhya Pradesh's Ranji Trophy final win over Mumbai at Bengaluru. Recently, he scored two centuries. He also made 45 not out and 20 in one-day matches against New Zealand A in Chennai.

Mukesh, the right-arm medium pacer who represents Bengal in domestic cricket, picked up nine wickets at an average of 21.78 in the multi-day series against New Zealand A, including taking 5/86 on day one of the series.

India's ODI squad: Shikhar Dhawan (cap-



tain), Rituraj Gaikwad, Shubman Gill, Shreyas Iyer (vice-captain), Rajat Patidar, Rahul Tripathi, Ishan Kishan (wicket-keeper), Sanju Samson (wicket-keeper), Shahbaz Ahmed, Shardul Thakur, Kuldeep Yadav, Ravi Bishnoi, Mukesh Kumar, Avesh Khan, Mohammed Siraj, Deepak Chahar

Nishioka sinks Shapovalov to win Korea Open title



Seoul (South Korea) | Agencies

Producing a stunning counter-attack display, Yoshihito Nishioka defeated Denis Shapovalov at the Korea Open Tennis Championships to claim his second ATP Tour title in style here on Sunday.

The 26-year-old Japanese downed the fourth seed 6-4, 7-6(5) with a performance full of blistering shotmaking from deep.

Despite Shapovalov finding improved rhythm behind his serve and powerful forehand as the match wore on, Nishioka's

movement and stoic defence proved key as he rallied from a 1-3 deficit in the second set before staying solid in the tie-break to secure a one-hour, 55-minute victory.

A pivotal hold from 0/40 in the seventh game of the match was an early demonstration of the sort of resilience that had taken Nishioka past Daniel Evans and Casper Ruud en route to the final in Seoul.

The Japanese appeared to garner confidence from that recovery as his lightning movement around the court made it difficult for Shapovalov to hit through him.

Barca struggle in Mallorca, Atletico win away to Sevilla in La Liga

Madrid | Agencies

Robert Lewandowski's goal after 20 minutes was enough to give FC Barcelona a 1-0 win away to Mallorca that lifted them to the top of La Liga late on Saturday.

Lewandowski curled the ball home after receiving a pass from Ansu Fati, who started the game in the Barca attack, while Gerard Pique was also included in defense and Franck Kessie in midfield.

Mallorca had chances to level through Jaume Costa and Vedat Muriqi, and Lee Kang-in saw his effort in injury time saved by Marc-Andre ter Stegen as Barca limped to the full-time whistle, reports Xinhua. Atletico Madrid produced an assured display to win 2-0 away to Sevilla, who continues to be unable to turn things around at the start of the campaign. Marcos Llorente scored in the 29th minute after finding space at the edge of the area, and Alvaro Morata



ended a good week when he netted the second with just over half an hour to play. Cadiz produced a disciplined display to hold Villarreal to a 0-0 draw, with the help of some excellent saves from keeper Jeremias Ledesma.

Cadiz had defender Iza Carcelan sent off in the last minute for a foul as Arnaut Danjuma went through on goal, but Dani Parejo hit the resulting free kick into the defensive wall.

Valladolid claimed a much-needed 3-2 win away to Getafe after a very entertaining game. Sergio Leon's penalty put Valladolid ahead in the 19th minute, before Borja Mayoral and Damian Suarez turned the game around.

Leon's second of the game made it 2-2 in the 36th minute and Oscar Plano put the visitors back in front in the 48th minute. Getafe had the chance to level from the penalty spot, but Enes Ulal saw his spot kick saved by Valladolid keeper Jordi Masip.

Athletic Club Bilbao continued their excellent start to the season on Friday night with a 4-0 win at home to Almeria that lifts them up to third in the table. Inaki Williams opened the scoring after heading home a cross from his brother Nico and Oihan Sancet doubled the lead before halftime.

Inaki then returned the favor for Nico to add the third in the second half and Mikel Vesga rounded off the win from the penalty spot.

NATIONAL GAMES

TEENAGER ANTIM TAKES GOLD ON GAMES DEBUT IN WRESTLING

Team Absolute | Ahmedabad

Reigning World under-20 champion Antim Panghal made a superb start in the National Games, winning the gold medal on debut in the 36th edition of the Games here on Sunday.

The 18-year-old from Hissar defeated Madhya Pradesh's Priyanshi Prajapati by fall in the women's 53kg wrestling event to enhance her reputation as the top talent in the country with a dominant display on Sunday.

Antim, who relies on meticulous homework on her opponents going into her bouts to dominate them, was her usual self in the National Games too.

Gujarat's Khalifa Hina and Maharashtra's Swati Sanjay grabbed the bronze medals on offer in the category.

In other categories, seasoned Maharashtra grappler Narsingh Pancham Yadav had to settle for the bronze in the men's freestyle 74kg division, in which Delhi's Yash took the gold. In men's 86kg, Uttar Pradesh's Jyoti Kumar took the gold after defeating second-seeded Vetal Audamb of Maharashtra.

In the women's 57kg category, Haryana grappler Mansi registered a thumping win over Chandigarh's Neetu by fall to pocket the yellow metal. Preeti Kumar of Rajasthan and Sonali Mandlik of Maharashtra took the bronze medals after winning their respective bouts.

In Greco Roman, Gyanender of the Services took the gold medal while Haryana's Vikas took



home the silver in the 60kg category, while in the 130kg class, Haryana's Satish bagged the gold after Services grappler Naveen skipped the final due to an injury. Gursewak Singh of Punjab and Yatendra of Uttar Pradesh bagged the bronze medals in the category.

TELANGANA SURVIVE MAHARASHTRA SCARE, GUJARAT BAG BRONZE IN BADMINTON

Surat: Top seeds

Telangana had to dig their heels in to edge out Maharashtra 3-2 in the semifinals of the badminton mixed team championship in the 36th National Games here at the PDDU Stadium on Sunday.

They will now face the H.S Prannoy-led Kerala team, which got the better of hosts Gujarat 3-1, in the summit clash. The Telangana-Maharashtra match, expectedly, was a fascinating clash. Men's doubles specialist Chirag Shetty teamed up with Ritika Thaker to beat Vishnuvardhan Goud and Gayatri Gopichand 21-13, 16-21, 21-15 in 49 minutes to put Maharashtra in the lead. B. Sai Praneeth, former World Championship bronze medallist, then routed Varun Kapur 21-10, 21-14 to restore parity for Telangana. Earlier, Kerala dashed Gujarat's hopes of reaching the final. Prannoy was impressive in his 21-15, 21-14 win over Aryamann Tandon after Kerala's mixed doubles duo of M.R Arjun and Treesa Jolly had beaten Dhruvkumar Raval and Aesha Gandhi 21-13, 21-12 in the first match. Arjun then combined with Shankarprasad Udayakumar to defeat Purushottam Awate and Bhavi Jadhav 21-12, 21-15 in 25 minutes to wrap up the semifinal.



Indian men, women register wins over Germany, Czech Republic

Chengdu (China) | Agencies

The Indian men's and women's table tennis teams registered wins over Germany and the Czech Republic in their respective matches at the ITTF World Team Championships Finals 2022, here on Sunday. The Indian men's team, unseeded in the competition, were led by Sathiyam Gnanasekaran, who pulled off two wins over higher-ranked players in the tie, to give his side 3-1 over second seeds Germany in their Group 2 tie. World No.37 Sathiyam, a Commonwealth Games 2022 bronze-medallist, came back from being two games down to beat Benedikt Duda, ranked one spot

above him, 3-2 (11-13, 4-11, 11-8, 11-4, 11-9) and gave the Indian team a 1-0 lead.

However, Germany made a comeback into the tie in the next match as world No.9 Qiu Dang beat Harmeet Desai 3-1 (7-11, 9-11, 13-11, 3-11).

World No.142 Manav Thakkar then rose to the occasion for India, upsetting Ricardo Walther, who sits 68 spots above him, 3-1 (13-11, 6-11, 11-8, 12-10). Thereafter, in-form Sathiyam beat Qiu Dang 3-2 (10-12, 7-11, 11-8, 11-8, 11-9) to win India the match in thrilling fashion.

Like in his first match, the 29-year-old Indian was 2-0 down in the rubber at one point. The final game was an end-to-end

affair as G Sathiyam and Dang constantly traded points, neither giving the other an inch. The Indian won the final two points under pressure to eventually secure the tie for his team. The Indian men now sit second in Group 2 with four points and will next face Kazakhstan on Monday.

Meanwhile, the women's team won its first tie of the tournament after a 3-0 win over the Czech Republic.

World No.44 Manika Batra won the first match 3-1 (11-6, 11-6, 10-12, 11-8) over Hana Matelova. National champion Sreeja Akula then gave India a two-match lead with a 3-0 (11-5, 11-3, 11-8) win over Marketa Sevcikova. Teenager Diya Chitale secured



the full two points for the team with a 3-1 (11-13, 15-13, 12-10, 14-12) win over Katerina Tomanovska. The women's team now sits second in Group 5 and will face Egypt next. India needs to finish in the top two in their group to progress to the round of 16.

WOMEN'S ASIA CUP

Spinners dominate in Pakistan's nine-wicket win over Malaysia

Sylhet (Bangladesh) | Agencies

On the back of a dominant show by spinners, Pakistan opened their account in the Women's Asia Cup by defeating Malaysia by nine wickets at the Sylhet International Cricket Stadium (SICS) on Sunday.

After Malaysia barely managed to post 57/9 in their 20 overs, Pakistan chased down the total with 11 overs to spare.

After opting to bowl first in overcast conditions, Pakistan bowlers made full use of the conditions as pacer Diana Baig struck on



the second ball of the innings - getting Malaysia's captain Winifred Duraisingam out caught behind for a duck. The spinners then joined

in and dominated the Malaysians. Omaima Sohail (3/19), Sadia Iqbal (1/8) and Tuba Hasan (2/13) shared six wickets between themselves. Malaysia's Elsa

Hunter was the only batter of note for the side, making an unbeaten 29 off 51, which included three fours to help her side avoid ignominy of being bowled out and score 57/9 in 20 overs.

Chasing a modest 58-run target, Pakistan's opening batters provided a 45-run start to the run-chase in the batting power-play.

Brief scores

Malaysia 57-9 in 20 overs (Elsa Hunter 29 not out; Omaima Sohail 3-19, Tuba Hasan 2-13) lost to Pakistan 61-1 in nine overs (Sadia Amin 31, Muneeba Ali 21 not out; Mahirah Izzati Ismail 1-8) by nine wickets

SUZIE BATES' HALF-CENTURY HELPS WHITE FERNS LEVEL SERIES VS WEST INDIES

St Johns (Antigua): New Zealand Women, aided by a half-century from Suzie Bates, pulled off a thriller to win the second T20I against the West Indies Women by six wickets with one ball remaining and level the series, at the Sir Vivian Richards Stadium on Sunday (IST). Batting first, the West Indies had a difficult time getting the scoreboard moving as New Zealand bowlers were much more consistent in their line and length. The hosts finally managed a below-par 107/5 in 20 overs.

Kyshona Knight and Chinelle Henry struck a 31-run partnership when the home side needed it the most. Knight fell eight runs short of a half-century.

In reply, Suzie Bates smashed six fours on her way to 54 off 61 balls, and was well supported by Amelia Kerr with 21 from 25 balls. The visitors looked set for victory before two wickets from Cherry-Ann Fraser in the 18th over swung the match back in the West Indies; favour. However, the 19th over went for 10 runs which meant New Zealand needed seven runs in the last over, which they achieved with one ball to spare. Fraser had the best bowling figures, finishing with 2.5-0-13-1 followed by off-spinner Karishma Ramharack 4-0-23-1. The teams will return to the same venue on Sunday for the third T20I in the five-match series.



Malaika's relationship with Arbaaz improved post divorce

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Malaika Arora revealed that her relationship with Arbaaz Khan has improved significantly since they decided to divorce. The former couple married in 1998, and their divorce was finalised in 2017. They co-parent their son, Arhaan, amicably. Both parties are in separate relationships, with Malaika dating Arjun Kapoor and Arbaaz Khan dating Giorgia Andriani.

Malaika revealed to a leading Magazine that she and Arbaaz have a 'better' equation now. "We are far more mature. We're just happier, calmer people. He's a wonderful man, I only wish him the best in life. Sometimes, people are wonderful but they just aren't great together. That's just how it is. I would always wish him well." She also discussed her decision to end her marriage. She stated that she decided to 'put her-

self first,' which resulted in her becoming a happier person. "I have a better relationship with my son; he sees that I am much happier. I have a much better relationship with my ex-husband. I'm happy I made these decisions and I stood up for myself. So, for women out there, don't be scared. Don't be afraid to follow your heart. Yes, you will ruffle feathers but life is not easy. You can't make everyone happy," she said. Arjun and Malaika made their relationship public in 2019, but fans had already concluded that they had been dating for several years prior. Arjun stated on Koffee with Karan that they wanted to take small steps at a time before making a public declaration because they didn't want anyone to be hurt.



Navratri 2022 Special

Manit Jaura: We as a family maintain discipline for these nine days

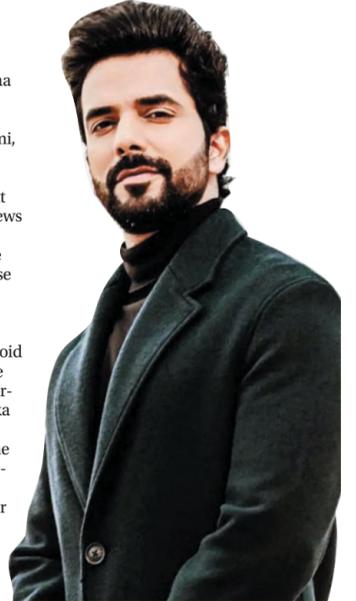
Shachi Chaturvedi | Mumbai

As the 9 days of Navratri are about to end. Today On the 8th day, people worship Maa Mahagauri, who is known for bestowing wealth and an opulent lifestyle on her devotees and removing all their sufferings. During Ashtami, praying to Maa Durga can help one get rid of all their problems and sins.

On this occasion, Kundali Bhagya fame, Manit Jaura in an exclusive chat with absolute India news shared his beliefs and tradition that he follows.

While talking about his way of celebrating the auspicious occasion Manit said, "Basically, these nine days are considered very auspicious in Hinduism and we as a family maintain discipline for these nine days, especially the food habits. My parents are very religious they avoid eating onions and garlic. We have the same habit. We usually perform pooja and I personally love 'aloo ka halwa', and 'Suji ka Halwa' on the ninth day."

While sharing his beliefs and if he fast the actor said, "There is a special significance to fasting in Navratri that's why I try to fast for at least 3 days. We also buy new things as this month is considered a good time to buy new things. I am usually very excited about Navratri."



Anaya Soni's health condition critical due to kidney failure and needs transplant soon. She also shared her health update and said, "Condition is serious"

PRAY FOR ME GUYS...

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Anaya Soni, an actress, has shared a health update with her fans on social media, informing them that her kidneys have failed and she has been placed on dialysis. "Condition is serious... pray for me guys... but this too shall pass soon have to go with my kidney transplant.. will apply for kidney post dialysis," she wrote in a long note. According to reports, Anaya, who has appeared in shows such as Naamkarann, Mere Sai, and Ishq Mein Marjawan, recently passed out while filming and was rushed to the hospital. In July 2021, the actress was hospitalised and sought financial assistance because her kidneys were only two percent functional. Six years after her father had donated a kidney to her, the actress experienced serious health problems and required a transplant yet again.



AJAY DEVGN'S UPCOMING TO HAVE PRE-BOOKING WITH A SPECIAL OFFER

Team Absolute | Mumbai

The days of October 2nd and 3rd have been immortalised in the blockbuster Drishyam. Everyone remembers the trip Vijay Salgaonkar and his family took to Panjim on these dates, and we remember the family on these iconic dates every year since the film's release.

Drishyam 2 creators have created a first-of-its-kind collaboration to commemorate the 2nd of October this year. The makers have partnered with multiple chains to offer a 50% discount on booking tickets for Drishyam 2 on the cinema chain's app on the release day (18th November). For the first time, movie theatres will accept advance reservations for any film with a special offer like this.

Drishyam has a devoted fan base, and the build-up to Drishyam 2 has already heightened the excitement. An offer like this will pique the interest of the audience in seeing the case reopened. Make sure to take advantage of your special offer on October 2nd. Drishyam 2, directed by Abhishek Pathak, will be released in theatres on November 18, 2022.



ASHA PAREKH OPENS UP ABOUT HOW HEROES WERE AFRAID OF HER



Team Absolute | Mumbai

Asha Parekh recalls that heroes who would star opposite her were frequently terrified of her. At the height of her career, Asha was known for her collaborations with Dev Anand, Shammi Kapoor, and Rajesh Khanna, among others. Asha recently stated that while heroes would gradually become friends with her, they would be terrified at first.

Asha has previously stated on several occasions that her reputation for being unapproachable has caused people to be hesitant to ask for her hand in marriage. In a recent interview, she stated that her mother may be the source of her bad reputation.

She said in a chat, "My mother was the main support, and the backbone of my life. She was everything to me. And being the only child, I was a little spoiled also." Asked how her mother protected her in the film industry, the actor said, "My mother was a very strict mother. She never allowed anybody to come near me."

The veteran actor was recently honoured with the prestigious Dadasaheb Phalke Award, India's highest honour. President Droupadi Murmu presented her with the award at the 68th National Film Awards ceremony on Friday in Delhi. The actor expressed gratitude for receiving the award just one day before her 80th birthday.

INSTAGRAM PIC OF THE DAY



Nora Fatehi



Team Absolute | New Delhi

Richa Chadha and Ali Fazal are all set to tie the knot in Mumbai on 6th October 2022. Currently, the couple is enjoying their pre-wedding festivities in Delhi. They have been treating their fans with a glimpse of the same and have got us gushing over them.

The actors are now in Lucknow to celebrate another intimate get-together with a party being hosted to celebrate their union. Now, Richa has taken to her Instagram to share glimpses of their Sangeet and Mehendi ceremonies.

For the celebrations, reportedly, the couple did a fun Phoolon Ki Holi as their friends and family showered flower petals on them in a customary way. This was followed by Mehendi for Richa and her friends in a colourful setup. The evening was followed by performances by the couple's friends and cousins. Richa's best friend did a fun surprise performance for the couple, while her brother sang her a song and did a bhanga performance too. The cutest part was the couple dancing to two of their songs, one of them being Ambarsariya from their film, Fukrey.

RICHA, AND ALI SHARE PICS FROM MEHENDI AND SANGEET

