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IN 2023-24

UGC ALL SET TO UNVEIL FRAMEWORK FOR 4-YEAR UG PROGRAMS

Team Absolute | New Delhi

The University Grants Commission (UGC) has finalised the framework for the four-year undergraduate program (FYUGP) that will be implemented in all higher education institutions from the upcoming academic session 2023-24.

According to the UGC, next week, these rules for four-year undergraduate courses will be shared with all universities across the country.

Besides all 45 central universities, the FYUGP will also be implemented in most of the state and private universities from the next academic session. Apart from this, many deemed universities are also going to give consent to implement the program.

From 2023-24, where all new students will have the option to opt the four-year undergraduate courses, the FYUGP would likely to get the UGC's approval for old students as well. This means that the students who have taken admission in normal three-year undergraduate courses this year may also get an opportunity to join the four-year degree program from the next session.

The UGC chairman has said that students already enrolled in universi-



ties will also get an opportunity to be a part of four-year undergraduate courses. "Such students who are in first or second year, if they wish, they can also be provided with the option of four-year undergraduate courses. However, it will start only from the new session starting next year i.e. 2023-24." The UGC will also give freedom to various universities to make some rules and regulations. "Necessary rules can be fixed in this regard in the academic council and executive council of universities. If the university wishes, students studying in the final year can also be given the opportunity to be a part of 4-year undergraduate courses," he added.

Explaining the reasons for these important changes, the UGC chairman said that if only new students would be given the chance to enroll

under FYUGP, then its results will be known after four years. On the other hand, if old students get a chance to join it, results would be visible earlier.

After four-year undergraduate courses, it will be mandatory for students pursuing two-year post-graduation and M.Phil to score 55 per cent marks for admission to PhD. However, the M.Phil program will not be continued for much longer. Also many big universities will not offer M.Phil course in the coming years. This is being done due to the changes made under the new education policy. While the UGC is fully prepared for the FYUGP, many teachers and teacher organisations have registered their objections on this. They argue that it will put additional financial burden of one year on students.

According to the UGC, a four-year undergraduate course will be provided for all students, but students will not be forced to opt it. If a student wishes, he can continue with the three-year undergraduate course. According to UGC chairman M. Jagadesh Kumar, the complete scheme of four-year undergraduate courses will be made public soon.



DARUL ULOOM ASKS STUDENTS TO ATTEND WEDDINGS ONLY DURING HOLIDAYS

Saharanpur: Students at the Darul Uloom in Deoband will, henceforth, be able to attend weddings and other functions in their families, only if the events are held at a time when the seminary is closed.

Darul Uloom has "advised" the students' families to plan marriages only when the seminary is closed for holidays.

Education department head, Hussain Ahmad, said: "If families feel the students' presence is important in marriages, they must plan the weddings when the seminary is shut for holidays, otherwise it affects their studies a lot. We have a provision of at least 75 per cent attendance." The order has been put up on the seminary bulletin board. Students have also been asked to discuss with their guardians the "academic reasons behind the directives". The education department had earlier issued an order prohibiting student from carrying out any commercial activity or part-time businesses or else "facilities such as education grants, free food and lodging will be immediately suspended and they may even face expulsion from the seminary"

GUJARAT ASSEMBLY POLLS: BJP SUSPENDS SEVEN REBELS

Gandhinagar | Agencies

In the poll-bound Gujarat, state BJP Chief C.R. Patil on Sunday suspended seven rebels from Saurashtra and South Gujarat for filing their nomination as independent candidates.

Party media coordinator Yagnesh Dave said the party has suspended Harsad Vasava (Nandod constituency-Narmada district), Arvindbhai Ladani (Keshod-Junagadh), Chhatrasinh Gunjarsaria (Dhramgadhra-Surendranagar), Ketan Patel (Pardi-Valsad), Bharat Chavda (Rajkot rural - Rajkot), Uday Shah (Veraval - Gir Somnath) and Karan Baraiya from Rajula



in Amreli district for anti-party activities.

This time the BJP is facing more revolts on many seats as compared to the Congress, said Dilip Patel, a political analyst.

Madhu Srivastav is contesting from Vaghodia (Vadodara), Dinesh Patel from Padra,

Dhavalsinh Zala from Bayad and cooperative leader Mavji Desai from Dhanera.

On many seats, workers are contesting against party candidates like Rajulben Desai has filed nomination from Deesa seat, Alpesh Thakor from Gandhinagar South, Shankar Chaudhary from Tharad, V D Zala's from Himatnagar.

The rebels are calling them parachute candidates and are of the view that the party should have fielded only local candidates.

Some more suspensions are likely this week, as those who are contesting as independent and have not resigned from the BJP, are likely to face action, said sources.

4 killed in clash with security forces in Dhanbad

Dhanbad | Agencies

Four people were killed in a gunfight between security forces and coal thieves in Baghmara police station area of Jharkhand's Dhanbad district late on Saturday night, officials said. Six other were injured in the firing, out of which two have been referred to RIMS, Ranchi for treatment.

All the killed and injured are said to be locals, while the deceased have not been identified yet. Tension prevailed in the area after the

news of the incident spread and many locals have gathered at the spot to protest.

According to sources, around a dozen men on two-wheelers reached the Block-2 Benidih Coal Siding of Bharat Coking Coal Ltd (BCCL) with the intent of stealing coal.

However, the Quick Response Team of the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) tried to stop them but they started pelting stones at the jawans, said sources.

At this, the jawans fired around thirty rounds in retal-

iation, in which four people died on the spot.

The CISF, in a statement, said that attempts were made to snatch the jawans' rifles in an encounter to prevent coal theft, due to which four people were killed.

It described those killed as "anti-social elements".

Dhanbad SP Sanjeev Kumar said that four people died in an encounter in order to stop coal theft. He added that a SIT will be constituted to probe the matter. The locals blamed the local police for the coal thefts.

TERRORIST KILLED IN ENCOUNTER HAD ATTACKED MIGRANT LABORERS: J&K POLICE

Srinagar | Agencies

Hybrid LeT terrorist who was accompanying a police search party at the site of encounter between terrorists and security forces at Cheki Dudoo area of Bijbehara in Anantnag district killed in terrorist firing had attacked two migrant laborers earlier this month that left one laborer dead and the other seriously injured, officials said on Sunday.

"During investigation, hybrid terrorist Sajjad Tantray, who was earlier a terrorist associate of LeT and released from PSA, revealed that he had attacked two laborers on 13/11/2022 at Rakhmomen, Bijbehara in Anantnag in which they got seriously injured," police said.

"Later on, laborer namely Chota



Prasad, succumbed to injuries on 18/11/2022 at Hospital. Weapon of offence (pistol) and vehicle used in terror crime were also recovered on his disclosure. Investigation is going on vigorously to arrest more terror associates of this module."

The encounter had started on the basis of a specific input about the presence of terrorists in the area.

Police said that when the search party reached towards the suspected hideout, terrorists opened fire which hit one accused, hybrid terrorist of LeT Sajjad Tantray of Kulgam, who was with search party for identification of hideout.

Police said he was rushed to hospital where doctors declared him brought dead.

3 hybrid terrorists arrested in Srinagar

Srinagar: Jammu and Kashmir police along with the Army in a joint operation have arrested three hybrid terrorists in Central Kashmir's Srinagar district along with a large quantity of arms and ammunition, officials said on Sunday.

"Srinagar Police along with Army (2RR) arrested three hybrid terrorists along with a huge consignment of arms and ammunition including three AK rifles, two pistols, nine magazines, 200 rounds and other incriminating materials from outskirts of Srinagar," police said.

Further investigation is underway.

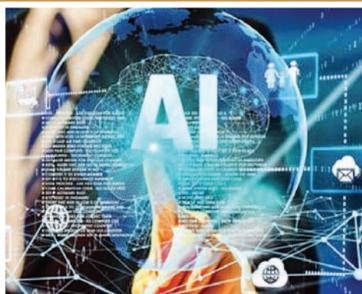
INDIA TO TAKE OVER AS CHAIR OF GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP ON ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Team Absolute | New Delhi

India will take over as the chair of the Global Partnership on Artificial Intelligence (GPAI), an international initiative to support responsible and human-centric development and use of Artificial Intelligence (AI), once it assumes G20 presidency on December 1.

Minister of State for Electronics and IT Rajeev Chandrasekhar will represent India at the GPAI meeting to be held in Tokyo on November 21, for the symbolic takeover from France, which is the outgoing Council chair.

In the election to the Council chair, India had received more than a two-third majority of first-preference votes while Canada and the US ranked in the two next best places in the tally - so they were elected to the two additional government seats on the Steering Committee.



For the 2022-2023 Steering Committee, the five government seats will therefore be held by Japan (as Lead Council Chair and Co-Chair of the Steering Committee), France (Outgoing Council

Chair), India (Incoming Council Chair), Canada, and the US, official sources said. GPAI is a congregation of 25 member countries, including the US, the UK, EU, Australia, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Mexico, New Zealand, South Korea, and Singapore. India had in 2020 joined the group as a founding member. According to Ministry of electronics and IT, AI has been catalysing the tech landscape and pushing further the envelope of human possibilities.

AI is expected to add \$967 billion to the Indian economy by 2035 and \$450-500 billion to India's GDP by 2025, accounting for 10 per cent of the country's \$5 trillion GDP target, official sources said.

Artificial Intelligence is a kinetic enabler for growth of India's technology ecosystem and a force multiplier for achieving \$1 trillion digital economy goal by 2025.

Mehrauli murder: Skull parts, more remains of Shradha recovered from forest, say police

Team Absolute | New Delhi

Parts of the skull, jaw, and other bones of the murdered 27-year-old Shradha Walkar were recovered from Mehrauli forest on Sunday, Delhi Police sources said.

"We again went to the Mehrauli forest and have recovered base of a skull, parts of jaw and bones. After recovering the remains, we have sent them to a forensic lab to get a proper report," a source said. The police team also went to a pond in Maidangarhi to search for remains after its water level was reduced.

The source also said that accused Aftab Amin Poonawalla, confessed during the interrogation, that he burnt pictures of Walkar after murdering her.

"After killing Walkar on May 23, he tried to destroy all the evidence and burnt her photos too," said the source. Poonawalla (28) had strangled his live-in partner Walkar in May and then chopped her body into many pieces for easier disposal.

"Following up on the disclosures by Poonawalla, various combing operations have been carried out at various places, including some forest areas, from where severed

bones have been seized," a senior police official said.

To ascertain that the bones belong to Shradha, the blood samples of the father and her brother have been collected for DNA analysis. The DNA test to establish whether the body parts found in the forest are of the victim will take 15 days. "Police teams are also carrying out search operations to recover the missing skeletal parts. Several interdisciplinary teams are working round the clock for documenting, finding discrepancies and further refining the versions and the motives being put forth by the accused," said the official.



MCD POLLS: DELIMITATION, RECORD NUMBER OF WOMEN CANDIDATES TO DRIVE OUTCOME

Team Absolute | New Delhi

A close competition between Delhi's ruling Aam Aadmi Party and the Bharatiya Janata Party is on the cards in the coming Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) elections, with the participation of women candidates and delimitation will have a big impact on the elections.

Many women candidates will be competing in the elections from both the parties. The number of women candidates contesting from the AAP is 150 out of its total of 250 candidates. The BJP has not been seen lagging in this regard and has fielded 136 women candidates.

The reduction in the number of wards due to delimitation will directly affect the chances of many candidates. The caste equation will also play a key role.

The areas of many wards have been increased or reduced after the delimitation. The number of voters has also decreased in 23 wards, which include only 7 of the West Delhi constituency. A neck to neck competition



is expected owing to the changes in ward areas, number of voters and caste equation. The candidates will also have a hard time converting the appeal into votes from the designated wards. In the 150 women candidates from the AAP, 21 are from the Scheduled Caste. The efficacy of the strategy used by both the parties of giving maximum representation to women will only be proved in time.

This was not the scenario in the 2017 elections and it is expected to make the upcoming elections more decisive. Both AAP and BJP have issued the least number of tickets to their sitting corporators. Out of the saffron party's first list of 232 candidates, the tickets of many present corporators have been cancelled.

In the 2017 MCD elections, only 61 corporators out of 182 got tickets from

the BJP.

The Aam Aadmi Party has changed all the candidates except one for the upcoming elections. The party also sent a clear message of showing confidence by providing tickets only to the workers who were active on the ground level in the last 5 years.

Several new candidates contesting in the elections will also make the competition more interesting.

Punjab Police arrest sixth shooter in targeted killing case

Chandigarh | Agencies

Punjab Police's Anti-Gangster Task Force (AGTF) on Sunday arrested the sixth shooter involved in the targeted killing of shopkeeper Pardeep Singh after a brief encounter in Jaipur, officials said.

In a conspiracy hatched by the Canada-based terrorist Goldy Brar, Pardeep Singh was killed by six shooters outside his shop in Kotkapura on November 10.

Director General of Police Punjab Gaurav Yadav identified the arrested accused as Ramjan Khan, alias Raj Hooda. He said police teams have also arrested his two accomplices -- Happy Mehla (19) and Sahil Mehla (18), both resident of Hanumangarh in Rajasthan.

The police have also recovered two pistols, including a Chinese-made Star .30 caliber and .32 caliber, from their possession, he added.



The development came three days after Punjab Police had arrested three persons -- Manpreet Singh, alias Mani, Bhubinder Singh, alias Goldy, and Baljit Singh involved in the targeted killing. DGP Yadav said acting on intelligence, teams from AGTF headed by ADGP Pramod Ban under the supervision of AIG Sandeep Goel followed the trail of the accused Khan.

After collecting vital clues, the police teams of AGTF led by DSP Bikram Brar and DSP Rajan Parminder managed to trace his location in a build-

ing at Vinayak Enclave Colony in Jaipur, where he was holed up with his two accomplices in a rented accommodation.

The DGP said in a well-coordinated operation with central agencies & Rajasthan Police, the AGTF team has managed to zero in Khan at his rented accommodation.

"When police teams tried to arrest Ramjan, he opened fire at the police party and in retaliatory firing, he got injured," said the DGP, adding the accused has been admitted to a hospital in Jaipur.

Right-wing leader shot dead in UP

Badaun | Agencies

The district president of Hindu Seva Dal has been shot dead by armed assailants in Uttar Pradesh's Badaun. The body of Pradeep Kashyap was recovered with the murder weapon.

An FIR has been registered against five people in the case.

Kashyap had written a letter to Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath against "police inaction" in a brawl case.

According to the victim's kin, the same accused had thrashed Kashyap over a dispute related to a government ration shop on November 16. Badaun SSP O.P. Singh said: "We recovered Kashyap's body near an SUV outside the village. He was shot in his head. It is a case of murder and we have started our investigation."

A few days earlier, the suspects had "threatened to kill Kashyap", and when police allegedly refused to register his complaint, he wrote a letter to the chief minister and Bareilly IG for help. Hindu Seva Dal president's brother, Umesh Kashyap, said: "My brother was returning home in his SUV, he was stopped



outside the village by Dharendra Kumar Singh and his brother Phulwari who were accompanied by three other men. They opened fire at Kashyap and fled."

Moosajhag station house officer, Rajesh Yadav said: "We have registered an FIR under the relevant sections of the IPC against Dharendra Singh, Phulwari Singh and three others. The body has been sent for post-mortem examination. The accused are absconding, but we will arrest them soon."

Shia clerics seek PM's intervention in renaming of Muslim sites

Lucknow | Agencies

Shia religious leaders will write to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, seeking restoration of the original names of Muslim historical and heritage sites in Lucknow.

Shia cleric Mohammad Mirza Yasoob Abbas made the announcement after the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) put up a signboard mentioning the name of Imambara Shahnajaf as the tomb of Ghazi-ud-Din-Haider.

While the cleric termed the act as an attempt to "destroy Muslim history and heritage", the ASI authorities in Lucknow claimed that Shahnajaf Imambara was mentioned as Ghazi-ud-Din Haider's tomb in the Ancient Monuments Preservation Act, 1920, and they had only put up the signboard with the correct name.

Maulana Yasoob Abbas, who is also the general secretary of the All-India Shia Personal Law Board, said: "There is a continuous attempt to destroy our (Muslim) history and heritage. Heritage sites such as Bara Imambara, Hussainabad Imambara, Imambara Shahnajaf, Picture Gallery, Safed Baradari and other monuments are generating crores of rupees in revenue for the government every year from tourism. ASI has failed to maintain or restore dilapidated structures. Now, they have



started changing names of Muslim religious sites.

The Shahnajaf Imambara, located at Rana Pratap Marg, was constructed by Nawab Ghazi-ud-Din Haider, the last nawab wazir and the first king of Awadh in 1816-1817.

Besides Nawab Ghazi-ud-Din, his three wives, Sarfaraz Mahal, Mubarak Mahal and Mumtaz

Mahal, are also buried here.

Superintendent ASI, Lucknow, Aftab Hussain, said: "In the Ancient Monuments Preservation Act, 1920, the name of Shahnajaf Imambara has been mentioned as Ghazi-ud-Din-Haider's tomb. As part of heritage site restoration, we have put up a signboard with its correct name."

"We have undertaken several measures to restore heritage sites. Inside the Shahnajaf Imambara, there is the tomb of Ghazi-ud-Din-Haider. Similarly, Bara Imambara (Asafi Imambara) has the tomb of Nawab Asaf-ud-Daula, and Chhota Imambara (Imambara Hussainabad Mubarak) is the tomb of Muhammad Ali Shah. If there is objection to the names of sites, we will take appropriate measure."

Responding to the ASI contention, Maulana Yasoob Abbas said: "The names given by ASI remain on papers only. For centuries, heritage sites have been known by their original names. It is a place of worship and ASI wants to designate it as a tomb."

"In December, Shia clerics will participate in a session of the All-India Shia Personal Law Board. We plan to launch a campaign to restore the original names of Muslim heritage sites. We will also write to Prime Minister Narendra Modi in this regard."

TWO UP COPS ARRESTED FOR RAPING COUSIN SISTERS

Hardoi | Agencies

After being pulled up by the Allahabad High Court, the Hardoi police arrested two constables for allegedly raping two cousins, aged 18 and 19, in April 2022.

A third accused in the case, a sub-inspector (SI), is still absconding.

According to reports, the survivors had moved the High Court alleging police inaction. The court took note of the matter and directed police to initiate appropriate action in the complaint and apprise the court.

The arrested constables have been identified as Manoj Singh and Himanshu Singh while the absconding sub-inspector is Sanjay Singh.

Hardoi superintendent of police Rajesh Dwivedi said



that an FIR was registered on the directions of the court on August 21. He said, "We had formed an SIT comprising a CO-rank officer to probe the

matter and it is still under investigation." Dwivedi also said a non-bailable warrant has been issued against the third accused and teams have

been formed to nab him at the earliest.

The parents of the girls (both adults) had alleged that on April 14, 2022, the accused cops had gone to a roadside eatery where the cousins used to work and they raped them there. "We ran from pillar to post but the cops did not register a case. We also met the then Hardoi SP, but our complaint went unheard. Thereafter, we lodged a petition in the local court," they told reporters.

Later in August, the court gave an order for an FIR and action, but the police lodged a final report in the case.

"The victims against moved the court which then directed the Hardoi SP to ensure arrest of the accused officers and apprise it of the action," he further said.

K'TAKA MAN TRIES TO RETURN TO FAMILY AFTER CONVERSION, KIDNAPPED

Yadgir, (Karnataka): Police in Karnataka on Sunday said that it has launched a probe into the alleged kidnapping of a man who attempted to return to his family after religious conversion.

The man's wife Ambika and her family members have lodged a complaint in this regard with Yadgir police. According to the police, Ambika and Sharanappa from Kalaburagi, had married on April 20, 2018. It is alleged that when Ambika had gone to her parents' house for the delivery of their baby, Sumaiyya Afreen, who worked together with Sharanappa at an x-ray centre, had forcefully converted him into Islam.

It is also being alleged that his name had been changed and Afreen also got married to him. However, Sharanappa came back to his family and started living with Ambika.

Ex-Congress MP Mahabal Mishra joins AAP ahead of MCD polls

Team Absolute | New Delhi

Former Congress MP Mahabal Mishra on Sunday joined the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) in presence of Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal.

Mishra, who hails from the Purvanchal community, joined the party ahead of the December 4 MCD polls during a public rally in Paharganj. Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia was also present on the occasion.

"I welcome Mahabal Mishra, a popular leader of the Purvanchal community in Delhi, to the AAP family. Together with your experience among the people and the society, we will take the country forward," said Kejriwal.

"Don't vote for those who want to stop the development and welfare work in Delhi," the AAP convenor added.

The Chief Minister further alleged that the BJP wants to stop the free sup-



ply of power in Delhi but will not succeed in doing so.

While Sisodia said that the AAP family was getting stronger day by day, the former MP's "induction into the party will strengthen its resolve to provide world-class education, health facilities to every section and to make Delhi clean and tidy", he said in a tweet.

Voting for the 250 MCD wards will be held on December 4 and counting of votes will take place on December 8.

KERALA BOAT TRAGEDY: TWO MORE BODIES RECOVERED, DEATH TOLL REACHES FOUR

Thiruvananthapuram: With recovery of two more bodies from Bharathapuzha River on Sunday, the death toll in the Kerala boat tragedy has mounted to four.

The deceased were identified as Abdul Salam and Aboobacker. A country boat had overturned in the Bharathapuzha River in the Chamravattam area in Malappuram district on Saturday evening.

The bodies of two others Rukhiya and Sainaba were fished out from the river on Saturday night itself.

Rescued women Beevathu and Rasiya are recovering at the Alathiyur government hospital. The six people on board the boat were mussel collectors and were returning home after their catch.

Lucknow to get Happiness Park



Lucknow | Agencies

The people of Lucknow have something to be happy about.

The musical Happiness Park will soon come up near the Gomti riverfront, while the UP Darshan Project, another park, will come up in a vacant area behind Hotel Taj in Gomti Nagar.

The Happiness Park will

come up inside the Buddha Park opposite the Scientific Convention Centre where children will be able to play forgotten games like Gullidanda, Kancha (marbles) which were once popular but vanished as computer games took over.

Lucknow Divisional Commissioner, Roshan Jacob, said that the proposal for both parks had been discussed in detail.

"In the Happiness Park, there will be a number of funny sculptures on which the children can pose for photographs. Many of these will be created with waste material," she said.

"A musical park will come up all along the Gomti River Front where musical instruments and murals of our maestros will be placed. Those interested and skilled people can even

play those musical instruments." Another park, UP Darshan will come up in a vacant area behind Hotel Taj in Gomti Nagar, where the popular items of every district will be displayed like Lucknow's Chikankari. She said all these projects will be developed under a public-private partnership model and will come up under Smart City Project.

Power connections provided to 21 ST families in TN free of cost

Chennai | Agencies

Tamil Nadu Forest Minister, K. Ramachandran, who is also the Member of the Legislative Assembly (MLA) from Conoor constituency, inaugurated free power connections for 21 Scheduled Tribe Irula families in the Nilgiris district.

The Minister said that the power connection to the 21 families was provided by taking great efforts by the district administration along with Tangedco officials.

He said that 2.8 km power lines were installed using 38 electricity poles to provide the power connection to these families in the remote Mel Sembukurai in Burliyar panchayat of the Nilgiris district of Tamil Nadu. The cost of installing the power connection was Rs 7.8 lakh and the cost was borne by the Nilgiris district administration.

K. Ramachandran said that this was following several requests received by Chief Minister, M.K. Stalin that the power connections be provided to the Irula tribal families. He said that he has directed the district administration to expedite the requests received from the tribal community for infrastructure facilities and that the Chief Minister was keen that the Irula community is provid-



ed with all facilities and that they should be brought to the mainstream of social life of Tamil Nadu.

He also said that the state government will fulfill all the demands of the Irula community and requests for roads and other facilities that are pending with the district administration would be completed soon.

The plight of the Irula community has been depicted in the award-winning movie, 'Jai Bhim' in which Super Star of the Tamil movie industry, Suriya played the role of Justice Chandru, the crusader who took up the cause of Irula community.



MADHAVRAO SCINDIA'S LIFE-SIZE STATUE BRUISES EGOS, SETS OFF LEGAL BATTLE

Team Absolute | Bhopal

A life-size statue of Congress leader and former Union Minister late Madhavrao Scindia at historical building of Circuit House in Madhya Pradesh's Tikamgarh district has bruised the ego of local people who are raising questions on legality of its installation and have made their mind to move the high court.

The localities have termed it as an attempt to "destroy" Tikamgarh's history. "Madhavrao Scindia had no role in the development of the city. So the statues of local heroes should be installed," they said.

Madhavrao Scindia's statue, which was installed in March this year by a group of supporters of his son and Union Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia, is yet to get unveiled.

The individuals are opposing the statue, citing the March 2021 order of the Jabalpur bench of the High Court which directed for removal all statues erected on or after 18.01.2013 on public roads, pavements, sideways and any other public utility place at any village, town or city situated within the state. The court had also instructed that in future, no statue should be installed on the roads or land of



public importance in Madhya Pradesh.

The people associated with Kshatriya Mahasabha of Tikamgarh claimed that Madhavrao Scindia's statue was installed all of sudden on the direction of a local BJP MLA in an attempt to appease ex-Congress leader Jyotiraditya Scindia, who switched to the BJP, ending his years long association with the Congress in 2020.

"The money was sanctioned for

establishing only a 'chabutara' (platform) under MLA funds within the premises of Circuit House. But, it turned out to be a statue of Madhavrao Scindia and within fortnight, the proposal was passed. They (Scindia's supporters) not only installed the statue of their leader, but also removed the photos of (Orchha) Tikamgarh's Bundela king Rudra Pratap Singh from the Circuit House, which was built by Maharaja Veer Singh Judeo," said

Pushpendra Singh Chouhan, head of Akhil Bharatiya Kshatriya Mahasabha of Tikamgarh district.

"There have been many great men in Tikamgarh's history, and only they deserve a place at this historical building," he claimed.

"People of Tikamgarh are demanding to install a life-size statue of Maharaja Chhatrasal, who founded this city. It is an attempt to destroy our great history of Tikamgarh. Madhavrao Scindia had no role in the development of the city. So the citizens here demand that statues of local heroes should be installed," Singh added.

"It has become a prestige issue for Tikamgarh people and therefore, even those associated with the BJP or the Congress are watching it closely but are keeping mum for two reasons -- If they oppose Madhavrao Scindia's statue, their political future will be in danger, if they speak in its favour, it will go against the sentiment of the locals," a resident of Tikamgarh, who is associated with a national newspaper, said on condition of anonymity. The issue has created a buzz in the political circle, especially when both the ruling BJP and the opposition Congress are gearing up for assembly elections in 2023.

Sangh means not PM Modi or VHP, all are part of it: Mohan Bhagwat

Team Absolute | Bhopal

Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) chief Mohan Bhagwat said Sangh does only work to organise Shiksha, influence people to work for nation. "Sangh ka kam hai aadat dalna" (RSS' job is to make a habit).

Meanwhile, Bhagwat also said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi "is a swayamsevak and pracharak, and even today he is working as a pracharak."

"Whenever the name of Sangh comes, you take Modi's name. Yes Modi has been a Sangh swayamsevak and also a pracharak. The VHP too is run by our Swayamsevaks. But the Sangh in no way directly or remote controls them, they work independently. We can only give consultations and advice, but can never control them," the RSS chief said while addressing an event in Jabalpur on Saturday.

Addressing a gathering of intellectuals and prominent people in Jabalpur (Madhya Pradesh), Bhagwat said "India didn't become one nation on the basis of lan-



guage, trading interest, political power and thought. It has become one nation on the basis of unity in diversity and Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam (world is one family)."

He also asserted that one person or one organisation or one political outfit cannot make big change. "Hindutva means the philosophy of embracing all, the Preamble of Indian Constitution is the prime spirit of Hindutva only," he further added.

Stressing on the need for public discipline, the RSS chief said Dharma doesn't mean religion or worship sys-

tem, instead it implies to performing the duties in disciplined manner.

He also called for extensive nature conservation efforts. "We should religiously do tree plantation and water conservation, as we take so much from nature," he said.

He added that it's not language or worship system which forms a society. People with a common objective build the society. "Diversities are welcome and acceptable, but diversities should in no manner become the basis of any discrimination," RSS chief added.

Law to regulate online gaming soon: Narottam Mishra

Team Absolute | Bhopal

Madhya Pradesh Home Minister Narottam Mishra on Sunday said that the state government is preparing to bring a law to regulate online gaming. "We are going to bring an Act in Madhya Pradesh to regulate online gaming. The draft is ready and will be brought to the Cabinet for final approval," Mishra said while speaking to reporters on Sunday.

He said that the state government is also considering forming a regulatory body to control online gaming. Taking note of rising incidents of children getting addicted to online gaming, the Madhya Pradesh government in



January this year made the announcement about bringing a law to regulate gaming applications on mobile phones. The announcement was made after the alleged suicide of an 11-year-old boy while playing a game online. "We will be making amendments in the public gambling act and a law to regulate online gaming platforms will be introduced soon," Mishra

pointed out.

Mishra while commenting on the alleged death of a farmer in Madhya Pradesh's Sehore district while standing in a queue to buy fertilisers, said that the farmer died due to cardiac arrest.

"The farmer was already given the receipt and he was going to get fertilisers when he suffered a cardiac arrest. We have also spoken to his family on this," claimed Mishra. Mishra spoke to reporters on a series of issues including action against terrorists and terror organizations. "The government has adopted a Triple-T formula, and curb terror activities with the help of three Ts - test, target and terminate," he asserted.

Strange meeting of NAPA in Neemuch, President-officer in cage and councilor out

Team Absolute | Neemuch

The meeting of Nagar Palika Parishad in Neemuch district of Madhya Pradesh is in discussions. The Municipal President and the officers sat in the iron cage, while the councilors were made to sit outside it. Not only there was ruckus in this meeting, but many members including many women councilors also crossed the 10 feet high iron wall. The second meeting of the Municipal Council was stormy. The view of this meeting was different from the other meetings because Municipal President Swati Chopra was sitting on one side with the officers and on the other side a 10 feet high iron net was placed between the councilors.



In this meeting, 55 proposals were approved in a few minutes, this angered the councilors and they

raised other issues including the city's drinking water distribution system and also shouted slogans with plac-

ards in their hands. Not only this, many councilors climbed on that iron net, while many councilors crossed that net and reached in front of the mayor and officials.

Senior advocate of the city Mahesh Patidar has said that the Municipal Council Neemuch has put up a cage in the form of a net to stop the corporators, putting up a cage or netting in the council hall is not a normal phenomenon. It cannot get the support of any rule, law and order.

He further said, the power of the Municipal Council is in the council and the power of the council is in the councilors, in such a situation, stopping the councilors by forging them is not a proper step for the democratic system.

4 km long water tunnel will bring prosperity in Vindhya

Team Absolute | Bhopal

The happiness of life is hidden in the water. Availability of water changes life. The path of bringing prosperity has also progressed in the Vindhya region of Madhya Pradesh. Under the Baan Sagar Multipurpose Irrigation Project here, there has been great success in constructing a 3.79 kilometer long short tunnel in the Bahuti Canal Project. According to the information received from the Water Resources Department, the work of day breaking i.e. tunnel matching has been completed to connect the tunnel from both sides to take the water of the dam further and through this the water will be distributed soon. Where this tunnel is 3.79 kilometers long, it is about seven meters wide. After the completion of this project, about 65 thousand hectares of five tehsils of Rewa and two tehsils of Satma will be irrigated and three lakh farmers will get its benefit. Earlier this project had a length of 14 km, but it was changed to 18 km



to benefit more areas. In this, it was decided to make a tunnel of about four kilometers. Due to this new proposal, the flow of water will also increase by one million cubic meters. Apart from this, decisions have been taken keeping in mind the problems faced in the summer season. The water level in the Bansagar project gets reduced in summer.

At that time also a feeder pump is being installed near Aamghori Ramadin village to maintain the flow in the canal. Due to this, the flow of water will remain 54 lakh cubic meter for about 21 kilometers including canal and tunnel.

The executive engineer of the Bahuti project, P.K. Tripathi has said that the length of the project under me is about 21.6 km. The tunnel in this is 3.79 km long. It has been physically through, excavation has been completed at both ends and both ends have been found. This is a big achievement, it will irrigate a large area as 54 cumic of water per second will come out of this tunnel.

9-year-old raped & killed, body thrown in forest by uncle

Team Absolute | Indore

A surprising incident has come to light on Friday from the Narmadapuram district of Madhya Pradesh. Here, a 9-year-old girl was first raped and then murdered by one of her relatives.

After killing her, he threw the dead body in the forest. According to reports, a relative had come to the girl's house. When the family members were worried when they couldn't find the girl child, he too expressed concern and was also helping in finding the girl child. When the police came to know that the girl was last seen with the same relative who had come to her house. The

police strictly interrogated him, and he broke down and confessed his crime. The girl's body was discovered at 4 am.

According to the police, the accused is the husband of the girl's aunt who lives in another district. He had come here a few days ago from Narmadapuram to meet the family. On Friday, when both the parents of the girl had gone to work, at the same time the accused took the girl to a deserted place on the pretext of giving her chocolates. The accused raped and killed the girl child at that secluded place. After committing the murder, the accused threw the dead body of the girl child in the forest. According to reports,

when the girl's parents returned home in the evening, the girl was not found at home, after which the family members started searching for the girl.

When the family asked about the girl, the accused said that he did not know anything about her. After searching till evening, when the girl was not found, the family members informed the police. When the police inquired around, it was found that the girl was last seen with a relative who had come to her house. When the police strictly interrogated the accused, he broke down and confessed that he had dumped the body in the forest after raping and killing the girl.

VILLAGE LEADER CUTS CAKE WITH ILLEGAL PISTOL, CASE FILED

Bhind: A case was registered against a village sarpanch and two others for allegedly cutting a cake with a country-made pistol during a birthday celebration in Bhind district and live-streaming it on social media, police said on Sunday. The alleged incident took place in Gona Haridaspora village on November 16, sub-divisional officer of police (SDOP) Arvind Shah said.

The village sarpanch allegedly live-streamed the celebrations on Facebook while cutting the cake with an illegal country-made pistol, the official said.

An offence was registered under relevant provisions of the Arms Act against the three accused, he said, adding that the illegal weapon and two cartridges were seized from them.

CM Chouhan will inaugurate the Jal Mahotav on November 28

Team Absolute | Bhopal

The 7th edition of 'Jal Mahotsav', one of the major events of Madhya Pradesh Tourism Board, will start from November 28, 2022. Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan will inaugurate the 'Jal Mahotsav' at Hanuwantiya island in Khandwa district. Tourism, Culture and Religious Trust and Endowment Minister Usha Thakur will also be present. The festival will end on 28 January 2023.

Principal Secretary Tourism and Culture and Managing Director Madhya Pradesh Tourism Board Shekhar Shukla said that Jal Mahotsav has established itself as an ideal destination for adventure lovers of the country. The Tourism Board constantly strives to enhance the enthusiasm and enjoyment of the tourists through new innovations. In



this series, flying inflatable boat activity is being done at Hanuwantiya Island located on the backwaters of Indira Sagar dam. Tourists will enjoy it for the first time in the country.

Adventure activities like scuba diving, night safari at Boriyama Island, luxury regal series boat, 40 feet high rope swing, zip cycle, paramotoring, parasailing, speed boat, jet sky, hot air

ballooning, motor boat riding etc. will be the major attractions in Hanuwantiya.

Tent City in Hanuwantiya Island is being operated by the Tourism Board in association with Sunset Desert Camp. It will have AC conference hall facility for corporate conferences with 104 luxury Swiss tents. Many activities like wellness spa by the famous

Kairali group of Kerala, three day angling sports event by national international anglers, music festival, kite festival will be there for the entertainment of the tourists.

Achievements of Jal Mahotsav

- Awarded India's Unique Water & Adventure Carnival in Spain in January 2022.
- The most unique and remarkable innovative tourism product awarded for the year 2015-16 by the
- Union Ministry of Tourism in the year 2017.
- During the 60 days of Jal Mahotsav, more than 2 lakh 40 thousand tourists took part in the year 2021.

In Go-Blue campaign, Earth colored in Blue

Team Absolute | Bhopal

The world is celebrating World Children's Day today, on this occasion, where programs related to children are being organized, UNICEF is celebrating this day on the theme of Go Blue. On this occasion, many important places of Madhya Pradesh have been painted in blue color and it is felt as if these areas have been painted in the color of the sky. World Children's Day is being celebrated for the purpose of better education and health of children. Children's charity UNICEF's World Children's Day theme is Go Blue, this year with an emphasis on children's play and inclusion.

In the Go-Blue campaign, various institutions and common people are playing

their part. While the state tourism department has painted many places blue like the sky, the All India Archaeological Survey has supported the rights of children by drenching Rani Roopmati Mahal and Jahaz Mahal in blue. Apart from this, the Stupa of Sanchi has also been drenched in blue light.

Apart from many buildings of the state, tourist places are drenched in blue light, it seems as if the blue color of the sky has descended on the ground.

On the occasion of World Children's Day, buildings around the world are painted blue to show commitment to children, while there is an initiative to drench with blue light. In this sequence, many places in Madhya Pradesh have also been painted blue.



EDITOR'S SPECS

FACTION RISING IN KERALA CONG, THAROOR AS ITS LEADER

Shashi Tharoor, who had received a drubbing in the AICC presidential polls, is now trying to emerge himself as a new power centre in Kerala's Congress party. As part of this move, Tharoor has commenced a whirlwind tour of North Kerala with a section of Congress leadership supporting his initiative. Tharoor, who has never been given any mantle of responsibility in the organisational hierarchy of state Congress, has received the support of Kozhikode MP, M.K. Raghavan who is also not in the good books of the state leadership. Tharoor, a three-term MP from Thiruvananthapuram Lok Sabha constituency, has been receiving flak from the local Congressmen due to his unavailability in the routine party affairs, leaving much of the communication to his team. With the state Congress slowly showing a revival after the heavy loss it faced in the 2021 assembly elections, a group of leaders led by M.K. Raghavan is trying to catapult Tharoor into the top position if the party comes back to power in the 2026 assembly polls. Tharoor is trying to get the blessings of Indian Union Muslim League (IUM), the powerful political party in Kerala, aligned to the Congress and will be meeting the supreme leader of the party, Syed Sadikali Shihab Thangal, who is the state president of the party. Interestingly, Tharoor received a red flag in Kozhikode when the district Youth Congress committee backed out from his seminar against the Sangh Parivar. Even as most of the state Congress leaders are shying away from Tharoor, the three-term MP is aiming at the educated middle class to support him and to get ample of media support in the state to catapult himself in the big league. However with K.C. Venugopal, as the powerful organising secretary of the AICC and close to Gandhi family, it has to be seen as to how far Tharoor will be able to move ahead in the Congress' organizational hierarchy. Meanwhile, after reports of several DCCs keeping a distance from Tharoor's North Kerala tour, the AICC has clarified that it had not given any directive to the district Congress committees to refrain from participating in Tharoor's function.

IT ALL STARTS WITH DOMESTIC ABUSE; SPEAK UP BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE

SUPRIYA RAMESH

The New Year is just around the corner and as we all gear up to enter 2023, the brutality in the air is impeding our high hopes. Phrases like 'love is blind', 'all's fair in love and war', 'love makes the world go round' etc. seem to take a bad turn these days, costing us innocent lives.

Looking back, there has been a surge in murders that were motivated by romantic relationships. Now, the appalling and blood-curdling killing of partners in India -- Shradha Walker in Delhi, Shipra Jharia in MP, Krutika Baranda in Gujarat, Anitha in AP, Rukhsar in UP, and more -- have caused fear among people.

With people now learning to speak up and take strong decisions, a few seem to have a problem with it. However, a controlling mindset, strong patriarchal setup, substance abuse, financial issues, suspected infidelity, etc. are some of the most common reasons found in these cases. We talk to experts to know more. It would be difficult to put a number to the number of cases that are seen every day. We come across new murder cases every day, but those are cases that are being reported. What about the ones not getting reported? Domestic abuse is grossly underreported and the rates are much higher than seen in usual practice.

"According to National Family Health Survey (NFHS), approximately 30 per cent of women between the age of 18 and 49 years have had to face such abuse.

"In my clinical practice, domestic abuse is seen in 3-4 couples per week," said Paramjeet Singh, Senior Consultant Psychiatrist, PSRI Hospital, New Delhi.

There could be several reasons that drive the perpetrators to take such gruesome steps and it all starts with being mildly violent at home. The reason, however, can be very



diverse for these people who find themselves in this situation. It may not involve a real rational reason as well a lot of times.

Instead of trying to resolve or work through problems or situations that they find themselves in with more healthy adaptive behaviors, they tend to have a more aggressive approach.

"Having or being in a relationship where there is infidelity, financial concerns, concerns which happened at the level of the larger family or an individual that you are with could have temperament or personality issues," said Kamna Chibber, Head of Department, Mental Health & Behavioral Sciences, Fortis Memorial Research Institute, Gurugram.

"However, what has been found common in the victims is their tendency to keep quiet, seeing this as socially acceptable, submissive traits, financially and emotionally

dependent, poor support from paternal family, etc.," added Singh.

Domestic abuse is seen in all strata, educational and social backgrounds. It is a rampant problem and can be happening around us without us being aware.

It is only rarely that the abuser ever stops abusing. Jaya Sukul, Clinical Psychologist, Marengo QRG Hospital, Faridabad, said that the form and degree of abuse changes but doesn't entirely stop in most cases. It could vary from person to person. The abuser needs to work actively and have the willingness and motivation to get rid of one's abusive behavior.

"The individual should be willing to work with an expert in order to be able to determine what could be the ways forward," Chibber said.

She said that for a victim, it is extremely important to try and look at whatever is the earliest stage at which she can start seeking help.

Talking and sharing experiences are very crucial. Ensuring that they do not end up allowing themselves to submit when they see their personal space or boundary is getting breached is important.

They should not try and believe that there's something that they have done, which is causing this kind of behavior or this kind of action.

"Do not allow yourself to believe that this is something which will change on its own, that maybe this was just a one-off if you see that there is a pattern emerging. Don't ignore that pattern. If your partner is not someone who is willing to work on his bad side, seek support for your own self," Chibber said.

It is for the betterment if we talk more and more about these things and spread awareness. Reaching out and

sharing your support with someone you think might be a victim of domestic abuse, and being active in encouraging them to be able to stand up for themselves becomes important. Also, a lot of these things need to start at a very early age.

Working with children and adolescents within schools and colleges becomes extremely important because that is where a lot of shaping is happening.

"Talking about the consequences and bringing about changes even in how the justice system tends to function so that more and more people become aware of what is going to be the consequence of having committed a certain crime or having acted in a certain way becomes really important," Chibber concluded.

international

S.KOREA, US CONDUCT JOINT AIR DRILLS INVOLVING B-1B BOMBERS

Seoul: A US B-1B Lancer strategic bomber joined a South Korea-US joint air drill on Saturday, one day after North Korea fired an inter-



continental ballistic missile (ICBM) toward the East Sea, South Korean military officials said.

The supersonic bomber made a sortie over South Korea's air defence identification zone (KADIZ) escorted by South Korea's F-35A jets and US F-16 fighters, Yonhap news agency reported, citing the Joint Chiefs of Staff (JCS).

On Friday, North Korea fired a Hwasong-17 ICBM, which is known to carry multiple warheads and have a range of around 15,000 km, long enough to cover the entire US mainland.

"Through this drill, we have once again demonstrated the joint military capacity of the South Korea-US alliance and Washington's commitment to protecting the Korean Peninsula and providing extended deterrence," the JCS said.

The JCS also said Seoul and Washington will closely cooperate to monitor North Korea's military actions and improve their joint response to the North's provocations.

CONSEQUENCES IF PRESIDENT ALVI HINDERS COAS APPOINTMENT, WARNS BILAWAL BHUTTO

Islamabad | Agencies

Chairman of the Pakistan Peoples Party, Bilawal Bhutto Zardari, made it clear that the country will only accept the appointment of Chief of Army Staff (COAS) made by the Prime Minister, who is the only one constitutionally empowered to do so.

Bilawal, who is also the Foreign Minister, said the President has the last chance to be on the right side of history by upholding the Constitution but will suffer the consequences if he tries to block the Prime Minister's summary, reports The News International.

"This is PPP's considered view, and we will support the constitutional and legal appointment made by the Prime Minister," he said.

Bilawal said it is legally the prerogative of the Prime Minister.

"The country will only accept the appointment made by the Prime Minister, and the PPP is of the same view and will support the constitutional and legal



appointment made by Shehbaz Sharif," The News International quoted the PPP Chairman as saying.

In a response to a question, about if President Arif Alvi blocks the premier's summary regarding the COAS appointment, Bilawal said it needs to be seen how he decides to go down in history, whether by

upholding the Constitution or violating it and showing loyalty to his friend, in which case he will suffer the consequences.

"If he opts to block the PM's summary, it will have consequences," he said.

The President, Bilawal said, tried to dissolve the National Assembly unconstitutionally during the no-trust motion.

"Now he has the last chance, and hopefully he will follow the law and the Constitution, and hopefully he will abide by them," he said.

The PPP Chairman said Imran Khan's long march does not have a democratic goal, as he has only done politics on the shoulders of undemocratic forces.

Bilawal said that if "Haqeeqi Azaadi" and democracy are Khan's goals and he does not want to obstruct the transition, then why has he chosen to prevent the passage of appropriate files to the relevant ministries for the nomination of the new chief of army staff?

"Why has Rawalpindi been chosen if the goal is not to push Pakistan towards dictatorship?"

Student killed in shooting at US university campus

Washington: A student was killed and another was injured in a shooting at a university in Albuquerque, the largest city in the US state of New Mexico, said authorities.

The incident took place on Saturday at the University of New Mexico (UNM), reports Xinhua news agency.

The 19-year-old casualty was a UNM student and the 21-year-old injured is a basketball player of the New Mexico State University (NMSU), said local media.

The shooting happened near Alvarado Hall, a student dormitory on its main campus, according to the UNM.

There was an altercation between the victim and the injured player at about 3 a.m. on Saturday, and both sustained gunshot wounds, said the local media.

"This is not an active shooter," said the Albuquerque Police Department, adding that the shooting was "a singular incident" and not a threat to other students on campus.

The universities and Albuquerque police are investigating the shooting.

US varsity updates policy, allows Sikh students to wear kirpan on campus

New York | Agencies

The University of North Carolina, Charlotte, has updated its 'Weapons on Campus' policy to allow Sikh students to wear a kirpan, a religious expression of faith, on campus.

The move comes about two months after a Sikh student at the university was arrested on campus for wearing the ceremonial dagger.

According to the updated policy, the university will allow students to wear kirpans on campus as long as the blade length is under 3 inches and is "worn close to the body in a sheath at all times".

The university also said other religious accommodations, including a request to wear a larger kirpan, can be made to the Office of Civil Rights and Title IX and evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

"The Office of Diversity and Inclusion, with support from Institutional Integrity, also conducted additional awareness training this week with our police department and will continue its work to expand our cultural education and training opportunities for all of campus," a university statement, released this week, read.



In its statement, the university thanked Sikh leaders, including nonprofit organisations -- The Sikh Coalition and the Global Sikh Council -- who provided expertise and perspective to help with the policy change. "We will continue to use this incident as an opportunity for learning and growth for our community," said the statement, signed by Chancellor Sharon L Gaber and Chief Diversity Officer Brandon L Wolfe.

The ruling was effective immediately, the university, which had apologised for the incident, said.

A week after the September 22 incident,

the university had shared a list of planned actions, including providing support and resources to the students affected by the event.

It had mentioned changing the school's policy and providing additional education and training.

The matter first came to light when the student uploaded a video on Twitter and said that the police had handcuffed him for refusing to let the officer remove his kirpan.

Describing his suffering, the student wrote: "I wasn't going to post this, but I don't think I will receive any support from @unccharlotte. I was told someone called 911 and reported me, and I got cuffed for 'resisting' because I refused to let the officer take my kirpan out of the miyaan."

The video, which was seen by more than 21,00,000 people, amassed 56,000 likes and several comments in support on social media.

The amritdhari, or baptized, Sikhs are required to carry five articles of the faith -- kesh (uncut hair), kara (steel bracelet), kanga (small comb), kachera (under-shorts) and a kirpan (resembling a knife or sword).

NEPAL VOTES IN GENERAL ELECTIONS

Kathmandu | Agencies

People across Nepal went to the polls on Sunday to elect a new 275-seat House of Representatives of the federal parliament and seven provincial assemblies. About 17.988 million voters are eligible to elect 275 members to the lower house and 550 members to the seven provincial assemblies, reports Xinhua news agency. Polling began at 7 a.m. and will end at 5 p.m.

"The voting has commenced peacefully across the nation," Surya Aryal, deputy spokesperson for the Election Commission, told Xinhua. "We expect the voting to continue smoothly the whole day," he added.

Nepal has adopted a mixed electoral system, in which 60 per cent of



the representatives to the lower house and the provincial assemblies are elected through the fast-past-the-post voting system, while the remaining 40 per cent are filled through the proportional representation system.

As many as 2,412 candidates are in the race for the 165 seats in the lower house under first-past-the-post, and 2,199 for the 110 seats under the proportional representation system.

Similarly, 3,224 candidates are competing for

330 seats to seven provincial assemblies under first-past-the-post, and 3,708 for the 220 seats under the proportional representation system.

The Nepali Congress and the Communist Party of Nepal (Maoist Centre) from the ruling alliance have formed a five-party electoral alliance for the elections, while the Communist Party of Nepal (Unified Marxist Leninist), the largest opposition, has also joined hands with others for some seats.

Altogether 7,219 observers are monitoring the elections.

Home Secretary Binod Singh said that all required security arrangements are in place to ensure free, fair and transparent elections and urged the voters to cast their ballots without any fear and intimidation. Around 300,000 security personnel including those from the Nepal Army, Armed Police Force, National Intelligence Department and temporary police have been deployed across the Himalayan nation, according to the Home Ministry.

It is expected that results under the FPTP system will be announced within a few days, while vote count of proportional representation is expected to take some time, according to the Election Commission.



EFFORTS TO BE TAKEN TO IMPART EDUCATION IN MARATHI: DEEPAK KESARKAR

Team Absolute | Maharashtra

Maharashtra Minister Deepak Kesarkar on Saturday said all efforts would be taken to impart education in the state in Marathi and also translate books into the language. Speaking at a Zilla Parishad school in Kalher in Thane's Bhiwandi area, Kesarkar said children like being educated in their mother tongue. "The state's school education and Marathi language minister also said people should talk in their mother tongue." The state govern-

ment will stress on imparting education henceforth in Marathi. Books too will be



translated into Marathi," he said. Kesarkar said his department will try to resolve all issues related to teachers, including filling up vacant posts.

DEEPAK KESARKAR SCOLDS OFFICIALS ON STAGE FOR SPEAKING DURING HIS ADDRESS

Deepak Kesarkar on Saturday became angry during his speech as some senior officials present on the stage in Thane were speaking among themselves. He took exception to an IAS officer who was talking to other officials. In a video of the incident which has gone viral, the School Education Minister turned to the officer and said, "You were talking to our CEO. The CEO should also follow discipline. You may be an IAS officer or the officer of the state government. I will not tolerate such behaviour henceforth." "I am a minister who works sincerely and I want to deliver to the state and children. We are responsible for the future generation," he added. Kesarkar, a leader of the 'Balasahebanchi Shiv Sena', also said officials should remove the barrier in the spoken language. "Once that barrier is removed, the people of Maharashtra will consider you their own. This attachment should happen," he added.

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Shiv Sena (Uddhav Thackeray's faction) leader Sanjay Raut on Sunday demanded the removal of Maharashtra Governor Bhagat Singh Koshyari over an "old idol" remark on Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj. He also demanded Chief Minister Eknath Shinde's resignation. Speaking to the media, Raut asked Shinde if he has the "self-respect" that he had cited while rebelling against Uddhav Thackeray. Raut's remark came after Koshyari triggered a controversy on Saturday by calling the Maratha ruler an "old idol". Slamming the Maharashtra government for



keeping "silent" on the issue, Raut said, "The Governor has insulted Shivaji Maharaj four times in one year. Still, the government is silent. Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah consider Shivaji Maharaj an

idol and their national spokesperson said that Shivaji Maharaj apologized to Aurangzeb five times. Is this the BJP's official stand? BJP should apologise to Maharashtra and remove the Governor right away." Accusing the BJP of "insulting" Shivaji Maharaj openly, Raut asked Shinde to step down as the Chief Minister. "I am surprised that the Chief Minister, who gave the slogan of self-respect, broke Shiv Sena and formed the government with the BJP, where has your self-respect gone now? The BJP is openly insulting Shivaji Maharaj. You should resign. If you have any respect for Shivaji Maharaj, why are you in the government with them?" he said.

Twins for Anand Piramal, Isha Ambani-Piramal

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Its double celebration time for the country's top industrial families - the Ambani and the Piramal groups. Their scions Anand Piramal and his wife Isha have been blessed with a set of twins on Saturday, November 19, the two excited families announced here on Sunday. They are - a baby girl named Aadiya and her twin brother Krishna. Both the infant siblings are doing well, said the two elated families, rejoicing over the happy development. "We seek your blessings and good wishes for Aadiya,



Krishna, Isha and Anand in this most important phase of their life," said the proud grandparents Nita and Mukesh Ambani, and Swati and Ajay Piramal. The heirs of the two lead-

ing business families, Isha Ambani and Anand Piramal got married in Mumbai in a high-profile wedding ceremony that was attended by the country's who's who in December, 2018.

Raj Kundra, others made porn films for OTT media: Maha Cyber Police

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Businessman Raj Kundra - husband of Bollywood actress Shilpa Shetty - and others have been charged with making pornographic content in a couple of deluxe hotels which was distributed by OTT platforms for monetary gains, the Maharashtra Cyber Police have said. Kundra, along with models Sherylin Chopra and Poonam Pandey, a film producer Meeta Jhunjhunwala and cameraman Raju Dubey, allegedly shot the obscene or porn videos in two suburban five-star hotels, as per the Cyber Police's charge-sheet filed before a court last week. Earlier in 2021, the Mumbai Police Crime Branch had filed its separate chargesheet in April, followed by a supplementary chargesheet in September in the sensational pornographic racket case that came to light after a raid at a bungalow in Madh Island bungalow in February (2021). The Cyber Police, which had filed a case in 2019, have claimed that Kundra, Director of Armsprime Media Ltd. was engaged in producing and distrib-



uting obscene videos on certain websites. In the 450-page charge sheet, others named include Banana Prime OTT's Suvajit Choudhary, and a staff member of Kundra, Umesh Kamath, for allegedly producing a web series 'Prem Paglani' containing porn content and uploaded on the OTT. Pandey is also accused of developing her own mobile App, 'The Poonam Pandey', getting her videos shot, uploading and circulating them with

the help of Kundra's company. According to the Cyber Police, Dubey had also shot Chopra's videos, while Jhunjhunwala is accused of aiding and abetting by scripting and directing stories for her (Chopra). The Cyber Police has claimed that Kundra's company "aided and abetted the crime" as it derived financial benefits from all the other co-accused though aware that such things are illegal, even as they are on the lookout for some other "missing" models who acted in the porn videos or web series. After the high-profile case was exposed in the swoop by the Mumbai Police Crime Branch, in which several of the accused were nabbed, Kundra was sent to two months custody before getting bail in September 2021. The Mumbai Police, which accused Kundra of producing around 100 porn movies, had also frozen the bank accounts of Thakur with a sum of Rs 6.50 crore in it, and recorded the statements of 43 witnesses in the case, as per its supplementary chargesheet in September 2021.

Aditya Vikram Birla award for yesteryear's heroine and ex-MP Vyjayantimala Bali

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Veteran Bollywood actress, dancer and former MP Dr. Vyjayantimala Bali was conferred the 'Aditya Vikram Birla Kalashikhar Puraskar' by the Sangit Kala Kendra, officials said here on Sunday. The SKK President Rajashree Birla conferred the award on Dr Bali, 86, at a glittering function held here late on Saturday, attended by Chief Minister Eknath Shinde, Kumaramangalam Birla, Neerja Birla, Ananya Birla, Aryaman Birla and Vasavadatta Bajaj. The annual award has been instituted in 1996 in memory of the SKK founder, the late Aditya Vikram Birla to perpetuate the rich legacy in the domain of performing arts. Besides, two other maestros, Satriya danseuse Dr Anvesa Mahanta of Assam and Kathakali



exponent Kalamandalam Adithyan of Kerala were honoured with the 'Aditya Vikram Birla Kalakiran Puraskar'.

Recalling her husband's work, Rajashree Birla said that the late industrialist Aditya Vikram Birla had an amazingly positive outlook on life

and said that the performing arts like music, dance, theatre help shape the contours of happiness in a person's life. She also praised Dr Bali as not only being the doyen of dance, but unmatched at the top, a versatile actress and a multifaceted personality who had performed an Indian classical dance for Pope Pius XII at the Vatican City in 1940, when she was just seven years old. Some of the previous recipients of the award include Guru Kelu Charan Mohapatra, Mrinalini Sarabhai, Pandit Birju Maharaj and Dr Kanak Rele. The SKK awards jury for this year comprised Dr. Kanak Rele, Chitra Visweswaran, Darshana Jhaveri and Jayant Kastuar, and the function included a dance performance by actress Madhuri Dixit and Arijit Singh.

Man commits suicide after friend's death, was depressed

A 42-year-old car dealer was found hanging from the ceiling fan at his residence in Mulund.

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Family members told cops that the deceased Mayur Thakkar-Khant was in depression over the death of his close friend recently. The incident occurred when he was alone at home. Concluding it was death by suicide, the police ruled out any foul play. The deceased lived with his wife Jyotsna and their son. He worked as a dealer in both new and pre-owned cars but had suffered a hit because of the pandemic. As per the cops, on Friday night, Khant sent off his son to his aunt's house. The

following morning, Jyotsna stepped out of the house at 7.30am to run some errands while Khant was still asleep. She returned at 8.30am and rang the bell but got no response. "After ringing the door bell for some time, Jyotsna thought Khant is still asleep and opened the door with her pair of keys. As soon as she opened the door, she found Khant hanging from the ceiling fan with a bedsheets. Her wails alerted neighbours who rushed in to help," told an officer from Mulund police station. "He was rushed to MT Agarwal Hospital where doc-

tors declared him dead on arrival," he added. Jyotsna told police, "His close friend Nilesh Mali died of a heart attack 12 days ago and it left my husband in deep shock. He had been depressed since then. It could be the reason he took his life." Cops registered an Accidental Death Report in the matter. Kantilal Kothimbire, Senior Inspector of Mulund Police station said, "There is no suicide note left by deceased. The family has also not spoken of any other reason. Preliminary investigation has not revealed any foul play."

BMC LOSES OVER RS 3,000 CRORE IN FDS

Mumbai: The fixed deposits of the BMC fell to Rs 89,353 crore at the end of September from Rs 92,636 crore at the end of January. Earlier, the FD amount had increased by 18 per cent during the last year, after the corporation had given a 50 per cent concession on development premium. The FDs of the richest municipal corporation has always been in the limelight. In the last financial year, the fixed deposits of the BMC touched the Rs 90,000 crore mark after remaining stagnant for years. But as per the latest figures, it reduced in the last eight months by more than Rs 3,000 crore. The fund was majorly used for the coastal road, construction of various bridges, stormwater projects etc. The BMC's 2022-23 budget increased by 17 per cent from the previous year to Rs 45,949 crore with the help of Rs 30,743 crore revenue from various sources and internal loans of Rs 14,704 crore. The major sources are compensation in lieu of octroi at Rs 952 crore per month and income from property tax at Rs 7,000 crore. But the BMC was able to collect only Rs 904 crore property tax till the end of October. The internal loans come from the FDs. This means the BMC uses the amount from FDs over and above the income from the other revenue sources.

ELDERLY WOMAN LOSES RS 3.14CR

Team Absolute | Mumbai

44-year-old share trading agent from Delhi was arrested by Borivli police on Saturday for duping an elderly woman of Rs 3.14 crore. The man diverted complainant Celino Pinto's (77) funds to a fake demat account. Police sources said accused Naresh Bharat Singh allegedly confessed to the crime. He was struggling to make ends meet after losing a job to the pandemic. According to the police, the complainant is a senior citizen identified as Celine Pinto (77) lives in Shimpoli in Borivali West. She owns shares worth Rs 3.14 crore of 16 different companies and has demate accounts in Share Khan trading company, police said. A letter from the share trading company about a change in name and address alerted Pinto about a possible fraud. She then approached police. A fake Aadhar card was also made in her name by Singh. We have registered the case under sections 465, 468, 471, 419, and 420 of IPC and the investigation is underway, the officer said. During the investigation, the police found that the shares were transferred to another demate account of the Global Capital Marketing company. From there

the accused sold all the shares and was preparing to transfer the entire amount to the demate account of Chandrakant Shah, a Vile parle resident. When we approached the above address revealed Chandrakant Shah has died in the year 2017 and someone made demate account in his name using fake documents, the officer added. A police team went to the Share Khan office in Kanjurmarg and took the CCTV footage of May month. We got the photos of the accused. During the investigation, one person from the office recognized the accused, Naresh Bharat Singh, the officer said. Under the guidance of DCP Ajaykumar Bansal Zone XI, Senior Inspector Ninad Sawant and PI Vijay Madya, API D. Chauhan and his team including head Constable RS Gosavi and PC Vijay Lahange reached Delhi and caught Singh. During the interrogation, Singh confessed to the crime and revealed the name of another accused Rajan Singh. Section 467 of IPC was added in the FIR as he used fake documents to open the account. Singh was produced before the court and has been remanded in police custody till November 26, said another officer.

First Park for specially abled children opens in Bandra West



Team Absolute | Mumbai

A new park has been inaugurated in western suburb Bandra near the Joggers Park which is designed for children on the autism spectrum and those specially-abled. The park is an initiative by I Love Mumbai Foundation and was reportedly inaugurated by former Minister Aaditya Thackeray. It was built under Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR). A report in the Indian Express quoted Rahul Kanal, chief of I Love Mumbai foundation saying

that the park, exclusively developed for disabled persons, has 32 different types of rides as swings, slopes and hand balls and designed for specially-abled persons. The play area also has sensory play items like wind chimes and arc ball facility with basket balls which is aimed to enhance motor skills of the children. The park also has rubber padded flooring and playing apparatuses which are wheelchair friendly. Kanal was quoted by IE saying that this is the first park which is exclusively designed

for persons with special needs. Bandra resident and mother of a child on Autism spectrum that the park soothes her son. The report also quoted Frank Soares, BMC-appointed caretaker and in-charge of the joggers Park that the park also presents special schools in the city an opportunity to bring the children to play in the open. Soares further said that a few of the institutes have already brought the students to the park and that it is most crowded on Sundays. He said that the section gradually is becoming popular among people.

MAN HELD FOR POSING AS COP AND CHEATING TEEN STUDENT

Thane: A 41-year-old man was arrested in Thane for allegedly posing as a police personnel and making an online transfer of Rs 5.72 lakh from the account of a student after snatching his mobile phone, an official said on Saturday. The 19-year-old boy was stopped by the accused while travelling in a rickshaw on November 13 and asked to delete several messages from his phone, Senior Inspector Manohar Awhad of Kalwa police station said. "The accused was clad in the uniform of a sub inspector. He snatched the teen's phone and used an app to transfer Rs 5.72 lakh from his account. The accused has been involved in other such cases as well. We have recovered Rs 1.4 lakh cash, a car and his fake police uniform," the official said.



Kim Kardashian shared a cryptic quote

Los Angeles | Agencies

Reality TV star Kim Kardashian shared a cryptic quote from Manifest Now author Idil Ahmed. "One thing I realized is that everything always ends up working out," it read, as per the reports. "Sometimes even better than you can imagine. Remember this when you feel like you're in a hard place or you feel like you're being challenged the most. Believe in where you're headed. See the bigger picture." Kim posted the quote days after it was learned that her ex-boyfriend Pete Davidson has begun dating model Emily Ratajkowski. However, Kim, who has been involved in divorce proceedings with rapper-ex Kanye West for more than a year and a half, has never commented about the new romance.

Pete and Emily first sparked dating rumors earlier this month when they were spotted out together in New York City. On November 16, the Saturday Night Live alum's 29th birthday, the model spent time with him at his apartment.



LETITIA WRIGHT SOUGHT THERAPY AFTER BOSEMAN'S DEATH

Los Angeles | Agencies

Actress Letitia Wright sought therapy following death of Chadwick Boseman. The Hollywood actor died in August 2020, aged 43, and his 'Black Panther' co-star admits to being "devastated" by his death, reports. "I was devastated, as you can imagine. I've had to process it through therapy. It's not like I had a two-year break to process it and then came back into the film. We had to start six months after Chad died," shared Letitia, who stars in 'Black Panther: Wakanda Forever'.

Wright's entire life outlook has been changed by Chadwick's death, with the movie star admitting she's become "afraid to lose people". She told: "You don't know until something happens how it will affect you. You think you have time, and that's the thing I've learned."

These things make you realise it's important to reach out to people you love."

"The amount of times I text my cast members to tell them I love them, especially Dana'i (Gurira). I'm always texting Ryan (Coogler, the director of the 'Black Panther' films) that I love him, and asking him how he is."

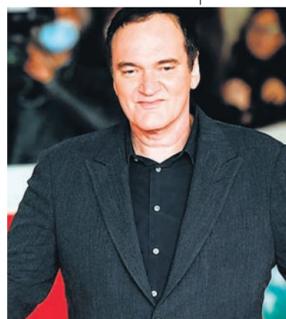
"I'm not going to delay that anymore because tomorrow's not promised. Since Chad died, I'm so afraid to lose people."

Letitia also turned to Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie's 'Notes on Grief' to help her deal with the situation. She explained: "She describes how when you go through grief, nothing soothes the pain. You're just furious you've lost this person. All you want is them back."

"Grief comes like a thief in the night, and it just stays there. And you have to deal with it. You can't kid yourself that you're OK today."



QUENTIN TARANTINO IS QUITTING FILMMAKING



Los Angeles: Quentin Tarantino is quitting filmmaking after his 10th movie. In a new interview, he declared that he will stop making movies after helming his next project, which will serve as his tenth film. "I've been doing it for a long time; I've been doing it for 30 years. And it's time to wrap up the show," says reports.

"I'm an entertainer. I want to leave you wanting more."

Tarantino previously teased his retirement in June 2021. When appearing on "Real Time with Bill Maher", he confirmed he's bowing out to focus on writing.

"I know film history and from here on in, filmmakers do not get better," he said.

"Don Siegel - if he had quit his career in 1979, when he did escape from Alcatraz, what a final film! What a mic drop," the Tennessee native added. "But he dribbles away with two more other ones."

During the chat, he declared that 'Once Upon a Time in Hollywood' is his "best movie" to date.

"For years people used to ask me stuff like that," the Oscar winner said. "And I would say something like, 'Oh, they're all my children.' Then I would change it to, 'Well, it kind of depends on when you ask me. If you ask me one year, or one moment, I could say, oh, 'Kill Bill.'"

"Another one I could say something else.' (But) I really do think 'Once Upon a Time in Hollywood' is my best movie."

Duncan Jones has slammed Donald Trump



Los Angeles | Agencies

Duncan Jones has slammed Donald Trump after the former President used one of his father music icon David Bowie's old records during a political rally.

The former U.S. President recently announced his third bid for the White House, and Duncan Jones - who is an outspoken critic of Trump - has expressed his frustration at his dad's music being played at Trump's rallies, reports.

The film director - who has previously tried to block Trump from using his dad's records, including his hit single 'Heroes' - said on Twitter: "Pretty sure he's just doing that now to wind me up." However, Duncan also said that he's virtually powerless to do anything about it. He said: "I have been told there is little we can do about it." Meanwhile, Elon Musk has put Trump's potential Twitter return to a public vote. The businessman recently acquired the micro-blogging platform in a \$44 billion deal, and he's now said that the former U.S. President could return to twitter, after he was suspended in 2021. Above the voting buttons, Elon wrote: "Reinstate former President Trump (sic)" The Tesla boss followed his initial tweet with a Latin expression that translates to "the voice of the people is the voice of God." Elon later added: "Trump poll getting 1M votes/hour! (Sic)" The Tesla boss has recently approved the decision to reactivate the Twitter accounts of Kathy Griffin and Jordan Peterson. However, he claimed at the time that the "Trump decision has not yet been made."

Trump was suspended from the platform in January 2021, following the attack on the Capitol Building in Washington.

The micro-blogging platform explained that the account was being suspended due to "the risk of further incitement of violence." Twitter said in a statement: "After close review of recent Tweets from the Donald Trump account and the context around them - specifically how they are being received and interpreted on and off Twitter - we have permanently suspended the account due to the risk of further incitement of violence."

Michael J. Fox, Diane Warren, Peter Weir honored at Governors Awards

Los Angeles | Agencies

Michael J. Fox, Diane Warren, Euzhan Palcy and Peter Weir were honored at the Academy of Motion Pictures Arts and Sciences Governors Awards. Viola Davis introduced Palcy, whose film 'A Dry White Season' earned Marlon Brando his final Oscar nomination. "Vulnerable, yes. A victim, never. An inspiration, always and the living breathing symbol and singular voice to help advance progress toward a cure. The Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's research so far has raised over \$1 billion for the cause. Michael J. Fox sets the ultimate example of how to fight and how to live, and today he is as beloved for his activism as he is for his acting," Harrelson said.

"It is a wholly unexpected honour and I'm truly grateful," Fox said upon accepting the award. Cher introduced Diane Warren, who has been Oscar nommed 13 times but never won until her Governors award. Warren, who teared up when talking about her late parents, said: "I just love that I get to do this, that I get to write songs, that I get to write a song from a movie that can make someone cry, give someone hope, make someone feel something, make a memorable moment, something they might remember their whole life - this is what I was born to do. This is what I just love to do. I'd like to say one more thing," Warren concluded. "One more time the words I thought I would never get to say but always dreamed I would: I'd like to thank the Academy." Jeff Bridges introduced Weir, and recounted some anecdotes about their time working on "Fearless." "I love you so much man and I admire you so much," Bridges said.

"It was amazing to watch him when there wasn't a crowd around, just two or three people, when he would be seized by this inspiration and become this sort of extraordinary character," Weir said of Williams.



Mindy Kaling has confessed to being a "prude"



Los Angeles: Actress Mindy Kaling has confessed to being a "prude" despite co-creating 'The Sex Lives of College Girls'.

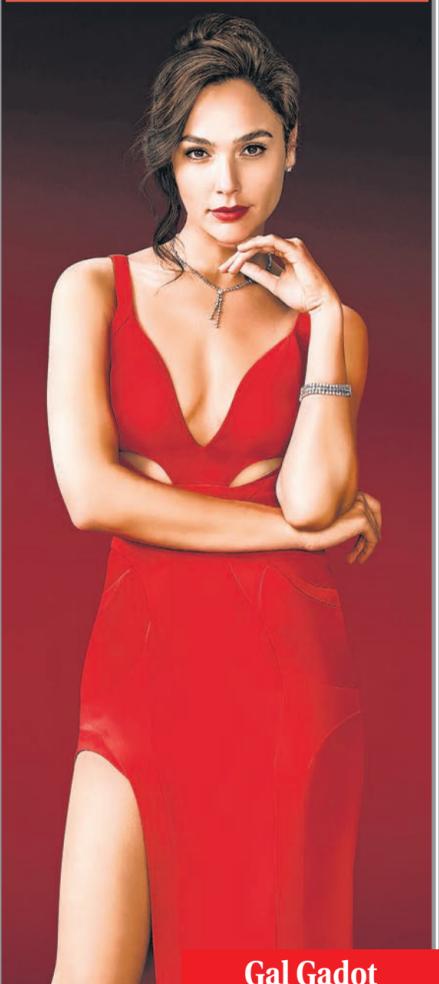
The star co-created 'The Sex Lives of College Girls', and Mindy admits that the show actually helped her to feel more comfortable with the topic, says reports.

She said: "I think I had to get cool with being cool with sex. I feel like I am sex negative. I'm like very much of a prude."

The hit series stars the likes of Pauline Chalamet, Amrit Kaur, Renee Rapp, Alyah Chanelle Scott, and Gavin Leatherwood. Pauline revealed that the sex scenes aren't as racy as they might seem. The actress told: "I think the sexual scenes that we play on the show are actually quite safe."

"We see a lot of post coital sex. We see tops on, you know? There's no objectification, I don't believe, of women on the show. So I think I have at least always felt very safe and I found it to be fun to learn what it is to be playing this in a comedy."

ABSOLUTE PIC OF THE DAY



Gal Gadot



IND V NZ T20 SERIES

INDIA THRASHED NEW ZEALAND BY 65 RUNS

Mount Maunganui | Agencies

India's stand-in skipper Hardik Pandya was one pleased man after thrashing New Zealand by 65 runs in the second T20I at Bay Oval in Mount Maunganui on Sunday, calling it 'a complete performance'.

India's huge victory to go 1-0 up in the three-match series was set up by top-ranked T20I batter Suryakumar Yadav hitting 11 fours and seven sixes all over the park at a strike-rate of 217.65 to be unbeaten on 111 off 51 balls. His second T20I century, which came in 49 balls, propelled India to a challenging 191/6 in 20 overs. In reply, New Zealand just never got going with the chase and were bowled out for 126 in 18.5 overs.

While Deepak Hooda took four wickets, including three in the 19th over, Yuzvendra Chahal and Mohammed Siraj starred with two wickets each while Bhuvneshwar Kumar taking a scalp too.

"A complete performance absolutely can't get better than us. Suryakumar put us 30 runs forward. After that the bowlers were very clinical. Being aggressive does not mean you take every ball on, its about body language."

"Looking at all those, we ticked all those boxes, especially with the water due to the rain. It was quite difficult to bowl but they stuck to their plans," said Hardik in the post-match presentation ceremony.

Hardik further highlighted that players in the Indian camp were in a happy atmosphere. "I expect them to be professional that they are. People were backing each other that are what I am looking for. Give them the opportunity to enjoy themselves."



Suryakumar, who got the Player of the match award, credited the clarity in mind and work done in practice sessions for making a sizzling century in front of a sell-out crowd. "The plan was clear when we came to bat. The plan was for me to bat till the end to reach par score of 170. Secret I feel for such kind of format you have to have good intent



irrespective of situation." New Zealand skipper Kane Williamson praised Suryakumar's knock, but admitted that his batters were just not at their best. "It was not our best effort, have to say that. That was one of the best knocks I have ever seen. Some of those shots I have never seen. That was next level."

ALWAYS TRY NOT TO GET AHEAD OF THE GAME: SURYAKUMAR YADAV

Mount Maunganui | If AB de Villiers is defined for bringing the 360-degree style of play into cricket, then Suryakumar Yadav is taking that definition to another level with every belligerent outing in T20Is.

On Sunday, in front of a sell-out crowd at Bay Oval in Mount Maunganui, Suryakumar was on song in being promoted to number three, hitting 11 fours and seven sixes all over the park at a strike-rate of 217.65 to be unbeaten on 111 off 51 balls, his second T20I century to set the base for India's 65-run win. He credits his great run in T20Is this year to not ever getting ahead of the game. "I always try not to get ahead of the game and think that I am getting runs, so I will make these many runs because at that time, being in the present is important." "If you think for a short period of time that I am ahead of the bowler or game, then a mistake can happen in planning. Human brain does think ahead, but I think of being in present and try to do that things in the moment," he said in the post-match press conference. Along with his trademark strokeplay, it was the inside-out shots going over extra cover or using the pace of Lockie Ferguson which left the fans in awe both at the stadium and streaming the match from India.

Asia Road Racing

Top 10 finish for Indian racer Rajiv Sethu



Buriram (Thailand) | Agencies

Making a significant mark on international soil, the IDEMIT-SU Honda Racing India - a solo Indian team in FIM Asia Road Racing Championship (ARRC) finished the 2022 season on a positive note.

Showcasing consistent performance and brining laurels to the country, India's ace rider Rajiv Sethu finished the final race of Asia Production 250cc (AP250cc) class of ARRC in top 10.

After 18th position start on the grid, Rajiv moved up by a position in lap 1 itself. Taking advantage of the wet race and few crashes, he continued to gain positions and reached at 10th spot in Lap 8.

From thereon, he maintained positive momentum and crossed the chequered line at 10th position, thus adding 6 points in his kitty.

Meanwhile, today was a day of struggle and then a massive recovery for Senthil Kumar who after his 7th position start went out of track in

Lap 2. But Senthil showed his determination and came back on track with more power and a challenging spirit. Competing fiercely with the international riders, Senthil finished today's race at 14th position, achieving 2 points.

After the final round, Rajiv Sethu closes the 2022 championship with 37 points finishing in the top 15, while Senthil closes it with 13 points. Overall Honda Racing India closed 2022 season in Top 10.

Expressing his views on the performance India rider Rajiv Sethu said, "Today was the final race and I had no option other than delivering my best. With the wind and rainy weather, all our proportions and mathematics got changed. My focus was not to rush but maintain a steady position in the race. From my previous experience and training, I countered all the challenges and achieved points and positions for the team. Taking all the learnings home, I shall be practicing more and creating new strategies to mark another achievement for the team."

Youth World Boxing

Vishwanath Suresh, Vanshaj among 8 to advance into quarters



Team Absolute | New Delhi

Eight more Indian boxers, led by reigning Asian Youth Champions Vishwanath Suresh and Vanshaj progressed into the quarterfinal on the fifth day of the 2022 IBA Youth Men and Women's World Boxing Championships in La Nucia, Spain.

Vishwanath (48kg) was up against Attravito Salvatore of Italy in the pre-quarterfinal bout. Chennai boy Vishwanath produced a clinical performance and showed his smart footwork and speed to convincingly win the bout 5-0.

Vanshaj (63.5kg), who hails from Sonipat was facing Spain's Kakulov Enrique in the round-of-16 match. The Indian boxer displayed his power and technical superiority to blank his opponent 5-0 and move to the next round. Jadumani Singh (51kg), Ashish (54kg) and Deepak (75kg) were the other three men boxers to win their bouts unanimously and

move to the last-8 stage. Jadumani and Ashish got the better of Spain's Jimenez Asier and Pamisa Eijay of Philippines respectively while Deepak defeated Argentina's Leiva Antonio.

In the women's section, Bhawna Sharma (48kg) and Asian Youth Champion Tamanna (50kg) won their respective bouts against Poland's Oliwia Zuzanna and Finland's Pia Jarvinen by RSC verdict and advanced to the quarter-final. In the 54kg pre-quarterfinal bout, Griviya Devi overcame Romania's Ana Maria Romantov's challenge to secure a 5-0 verdict in her favour.

Aman Rathore (67kg) was the lone Indian pugilist to end up on the losing side as he lost 2-3 to Iraq's Yousif Hussein in a close bout.

Five Indians, including two men, will be in action in the last-16 stage on the sixth day of the tournament. Devika Ghorpade (52kg), Preeti Dahiya (57kg) and Mahak Sharma (66kg) will fight in the women's section.

FIFA World Cup

Messi, Ronaldo come together for first-ever joint promotion



Doha (Qatar) | Agencies

Considered to be two of the greatest players of this generation Cristiano Ronaldo and Lionel Messi joined forces to produce one of the most iconic images in football history.

The image was shared by both the footballers on the eve of the start of the 2022 FIFA World Cup in Qatar, through their Instagram accounts.

While some social media users called it "iconic", others hailed it as the "picture of the century".

With both of them sharing 12 Ballon d'Or's between them, Ronaldo and Messi came together for a promotion campaign by Louis Vuitton ahead of the FIFA World Cup 2022 in Qatar.

Many view the 2022 World Cup in Qatar to be the final one for both players with the Argentinian great already confirming it. However, the Portuguese star has said he wants to play for a few more years.

On Saturday, the fans of both players were in for a treat as Louis Vuitton released their new campaign featuring both of them. The two legendary footballers can be seen playing chess together in the picture with both deep in concentration on what their next move would be.

The Louis Vuitton briefcase on which Ronaldo and Messi are playing chess was part of the 2018 World Cup in which the FIFA World Cup trophy was presented ahead of the opening fixture and the final.

BENZEMA RULED OUT OF THE WORLD CUP

Doha | French striker Karim Benzema has been ruled out of the FIFA World Cup in Qatar with a muscle injury, the French Football Federation (FFF) said on Sunday.

"Due to an injury in the quadriceps of the left thigh, the Real Madrid striker is forced to give up participating in the World Cup," the FFF announced.

The FFF announcement revealed that Benzema was forced to cut short the collective training session after feeling pain in the quadriceps of his left thigh. He went for an MRI at a hospital in Doha and was confirmed to receive a femoral rectus injury, which will require three weeks to recover, reports Xinhua. It is a huge blow to Les Bleus, who are aiming to defend the title four years after they were crowned in Moscow.

"I am extremely sad for Karim who made this World Cup a major goal," France coach Didier Deschamps said. "Despite this new blow for the French team, I have full confidence in my group. We will do everything to meet the huge challenge that awaits us."

It was also a massive disappointment to the striker, who missed France's triumph in 2018 after being excluded from the squad in 2015.

"I've never given up in my life but tonight I have to think of the team, as I have always done. So reason tells me to give my place to someone who can help our squad have a great World Cup. Thanks for all your messages of support," Benzema said on his Instagram account.



SHWETA SEHRAWAT TO LEAD INDIA U19 WOMEN'S TEAM AGAINST NEW ZEALAND

Mumbai | The All-India Women's Selection Committee on Sunday named Shweta Sehrawat as the captain of India's U19 women's team in a five-match home T20 series against New Zealand from November 27 to December 6.



All five T20 matches will be played in Mumbai's Bandra-Kurla Complex (BKC). The series is part of the preparations for the Indian team ahead of the inaugural U19 Women's T20 World Cup, to be held in South Africa from January 14-29. Prior to the series against India U19, New Zealand U19 will take part in a two-match T20I series against West Indies U19 team, to be played at the D.Y. Patil Stadium, Mumbai, on November 22 and 24. After the series against New Zealand, the India U19 side will take on South Africa U19 team in a five-match away series. The series will be held at the Tuks Oval in Tshwane, from December 27, 2022 to January 4, 2023. India is in Group D of U19 Women's T20 World Cup with Scotland, South Africa and United Arab Emirates. India and South Africa U19 teams will also play in the opening World Cup encounter at Willowmoore Park, Benoni January 14. India had kickstarted their preparation for U19 Women's T20 World Cup with the U19 Women's T20 Challengers in Goa, where 52 players were divided into four teams. India also fielded U-19 A and B sides in a quadrangular series alongside West Indies and Sri Lanka U19 teams in Visakhapatnam.

ISL 2022-23

CHENNAIYN FC BEAT JAMSHEDPUR FC BY 3-1

Chennai | Agencies

Chennaiyin FC earned their first victory at home this season with a 3-1 win over Jamshedpur FC in an Indian Super League (ISL) 2022-23 match at the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium, here on Saturday.

Petar Sliskovic broke the deadlock in the first half before Ishan Pandita equalised in the final quarter. Substitutes Vincy Baretto and Abdenasser El Khayati struck late for the Marina Machans as Jamshedpur fell to their third consecutive loss for the first time since the 2020-21 season.

Both sides made four changes to their respective lineups. Anirudh Thapa, Rahim Ali and Jiteshwar



Singh dropped out of the squad for the hosts, while El Khayati dropped to the bench. Vafa Hakhamaneshi returned in the heart of defence as Jockson Dhas, Sajal Bag, and Sourav Das were given their first starts.

Daniel Chukwu, Laldinpuia Pachau and Laldinliana Renthlei were all

off. To make things worse, Jamshedpur FC went behind in the 27th minute. Julius Duker played a through ball to Dhas, who galloped forward in acres of space before getting his shot away. The midfielder's attempt was parried by the keeper straight to Sliskovic, who stayed alert and headed the ball home from close range.

The game burst into life in the final quarter of the match. In the 76th minute, Sawyer flicked the ball on with his head towards the box as Pandita met it with a well-struck volley to level the score.

The lead did not last long as Chennaiyin substitutes -- El Khayati and Baretto -- combined in the very next minute to put the Marina Machans ahead again.

PKL 9

TELGU TITANS DEFEAT U MUMBA



Hyderabad | Agencies

Siddharth Desai was the star for the home side with 9 points, the Telugu Titans produced a fantastic performance to defeat U Mumba 32-26 and ended their 12-match losing streak in the Pro Kabaddi League (PKL) Season 9.

Spurred on by their home fans, the Titans fought back from an early deficit to win the match held at the Gachibowli Indoor Stadium here on Saturday. U Mumba was off to a flyer in the early exchanges with Guman Singh and Kiran Magar leading the charge. And without much ado, the U-Mumba side kept the Titans at

arms' length, holding on to the lead, especially with the defensive unit chipping in as well. Midway through the first half, Guman got in a Super Raid, which further strengthened their dominance in the contest, even though Abhishek Singh was doing all he could with his raids for the Titans.

However, Siddharth Desai in attack and Ankit in defence started the fightback for the home side, squaring up scores with less than 3 minutes to go in the first half. Mohsen Maghsoullou added more bite to the Titans' attack, but it was U Mumba who led by one point at the break, with the score reading 15-14.



Aishwarya and Abhishek celebrated Aaradhya's 11th B'day

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Aishwarya Rai Bachchan and Abhishek Bachchan celebrated their daughter Aaradhya Bachchan's birthday at their Mumbai bungalow. Several celebrities were spotted at the birthday party, including Genelia D'Souza and Sonali Bendre with her husband-filmmaker Goldie Behl. Aishwarya and Abhishek both came to see off their visitors at the main gate. Aaradhya's 11th birthday was celebrated a few days after she turned 11.

In a video shared by paparazzi, Aishwarya came to see off her mother Vrinda Rai to the car, dressed in a white shirt and black tights. Aishwarya hugged and kissed her mother after assisting her in getting into the car. Abhishek, who was dressed in a white sweatshirt, beige pants, and sneakers, greeted his mother-in-law before she left. Aishwarya recently sent a priceless photo to her daughter Aaradhya for her birthday. The actress was seen kissing her daughter. She penned, "MY LOVE... MY LIFE... I LOVE YOU, MY AARADHYA." However, the actress was mercilessly trolled on social media for kissing Aaradhya on the lips. A troll commented, "Kissing on a child's lips is just weird." Aishwarya was recently seen in Mani Ratnam's magnum opus period drama film 'Ponniyin Selvan - 1', which received rave reviews from critics and audiences alike. The film grossed a lot of money at the box office. Her next film will be Jailer, in which she will star alongside Rajinikanth, Ramya Krishnan, Priyanka Arul Mohan, and Shiva Rajkumar.

Meanwhile, Abhishek recently appeared in Amazon's 'Breathe: Into The Shadows,' alongside Amit Sath, Nithya Menen, and Saiyami Kher.



Ayushmann shared how he got permission to do theatre

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Bollywood actor Ayushmann Khurrana revealed how he convinced his parents to allow him to do theatre during his college days. He said that his parents asked him to score good marks and have full attendance in class and then only would he be allowed to opt for theatre.

He said: "In 11th and 12th I had taken medical PCB (Physics, Chemistry, and Biology) so I had not cleared CET (Common Eligibility Test) with that great numbers and because of that, I had to

take arts. I studied English Honours and wanted to do theatre so my parents put forth a condition."

Born in Chandigarh to Poonam and P. Khurrana, it was not easy for Ayushmann to pursue his dreams, and he agreed to everything his parents asked him to do for achieving his goal.

"The condition was that if I wanted to do theatre then I should have full attendance and should score good marks in college then only they will allow me to opt for theatre. So I maintained full attendance and for three years I was one of the toppers and that's how I got permission

to do theatre."

Ayushmann started doing theatre during his college days and became a founding member of the college theatre group also and continued to perform plays for several years. The actor made his film debut with 'Vicky Donor'.

Ayushmann further shared that he is finally doing an action film after the wait of almost ten years, he said: "I have got the chance to do an action film after 10 years. I was waiting for the correct script. A script that will have good lines, scenarios, and circumstances that can be enjoyed."

Shehnaaz Gill dedicates her award to late actor Sidharth Shukla

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Shehnaaz Gill, who recently won an award, dedicated it to her rumoured boyfriend, late actor Sidharth Shukla. On Saturday, Shehnaaz attended the Filmfare Middle East Achievers Night in Dubai. When she accepted the Rising Star of Bollywood award, she thanked the late actor. "Investing in her". In a viral clip shared on Twitter, Shehnaaz can be heard saying, "Main apne family, apne friends aur meri team ko bilkul bhi nahi dedicate karungi kyuki yeh meri mehnat hai." Looking at the award, Shehnaaz added, "Aur tu mera hai aur mera hi rahega, theek hai?"

Later, Shehnaaz Gill added, "Ek cheeze aur. Main ek bande ko thank you bolna chahti hun. Thank you mere life mein aane k liye aur mere pe itna invest kiya ki aaj main yahan pe pahuchi hun. Sidharth Shukla, this is for you (award)." Soon after, she thanked Sidharth, and we can hear a loud cheer in the background.

Fans flooded the Twitter comment section shortly after the video was posted. That's so a sweet moment I watched rewinding that part again and again She thanked and dedicated to him her success after achieving what she dreamt of and what he would have been proud of."

Sidharth Shukla, died in September of last year from a cardiac arrest. When Sidharth and Shehnaaz Gill were in the Bigg Boss 13 house, they came close. The reality show, hosted by superstar Salman Khan, was won by the actor.

Meanwhile, Shehnaaz Gill will make her Bollywood debut in Salman Khan's next film, Kisi Ka Bhai Kisi Ki Jaan, alongside Pooja Hegde and Venkatesh Daggubati.



Madhur Bhandarkar received a Filmfare Achievers Award in Dubai for his recent film *Babli Bouncer*. He thanked his audience for their love and appreciation towards the film. *Babli Bouncer* was a drama movie starring Tamannaah and was released on 23 September 2022.

PREITY ZINTA LEFT MOVIE'S CLIMAX SHOOT MIDWAY FOR EXAMS

Team Absolute | Bangalore

Actress Preity Zinta penned a heartfelt note for the makers of her film 'Soldier', which released in 1998, and shared anecdotes from the shoot of the film.

She took to Instagram, where she shared a clip of the title track of 'Soldier', picturised on herself and Bobby Deol.

She wrote: "Soldier was my second release but the first film I signed. I was so confused that I would be working with two directors with one name. Thank you Abbas Bhai & Mustan Bhai for never letting me falter."

"Thank you Rameshji for this opportunity & for not getting upset with me for leaving set for more than a week to take my psychology exams during the climax shoot in Rajasthan."

She then thanked Bobby for bringing her into the movies.

"Thank you Bobby for being you & for bringing me into the movies & thank you to the entire cast n crew for so much fun during the Australia, New Zealand & Rajasthan schedules. I will always miss you Saroj ji you taught me how to be a Heroine she concluded.



INSTAGRAM PIC OF THE DAY



Shivani Narayan