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NATION

**Congress model means** "Corruption", "Nepotism", it...



**HOLLYWOOD** 

06

**Kourtney Kardashian has son Reign's** 



**SPORTS** 

I have succeeded because my



**▶ INDICES LIKE FREEDOM IN** THE WORLD INDEX, V-DEM INDICES AND EIU DEMOCRACY INDEX HAVE PLACED INDIA AT THE SAME LEVEL AS DURING THE EMERGENCY OF THE 1970S.

► MOREOVER, INDIA HAS BEEN PLACED BELOW COUNTRIES LIKE NORTHERN CYPRUS.

> THE GOVERNMENT HAS TERMED THESE AS "PERCEP-TION-BASED INDICES".

hair in her 'secret drawer'...



daily routine is monotonous...

# Govt punches holes in global indices ranking India poorly on democratic parameters

Team Absolute New Delhi

he government on Tuesday raised serious doubts over a clutch of studies, which have indicated that India's rankings have declined on a number of global-based indices like democracy, freedom, civil liberties and political culture among others, in recent years.

It has come out with a working paper titled "Why India does poorly

on global perception indices", which is part of a working paper series prepared by the prime minister's economic advisory council (PMEAC), where it has raised questions about the methodology used by the three

analysis of the methodology used by the three indices. "The first index in this paper is the

The paper is a point by point

Freedom in the World Index which has been published since 1973 by

Freedom House. India's score on Civil Liberties was flat at 42 till 2018 but dropped sharply to 33 by 2022; that for Political Rights dropped from 35 to 33. Thus, India's total score dropped to 66 which places India in the 'partially free' category - the same status it had during the Emergency," the paper has noted.

On the second index, the working paper said: "The second index we look at in this paper is the Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU) Democracy

Index. This index is published by EIU, which is the research and consulting arm of the firm that publishes the Economist magazine. India is placed in the category of 'Flawed Democracy' and its rank deteriorated sharply from 27 in 2014 to 53 in 2020 and then improved a bit to 46 in 2021. The decline in rank has been on account of decline in scores primarily in the categories- Civil Liberties and Political Culture. The maximum decline has been in the

category Civil Liberties, for which the score declined from 9.41 in 2014 to 5.59 in 2020. In the same time period, India's score for Political Culture declined from 6.25 to 5.0. India's rank then recovered marginally to 46 in 2021, primarily on grounds that the government rolled back farm-sector reforms, which lead to improvement in scores on the categories - Civil Liberties, Functioning of Government and Political participation.'

#### **NEED A CEC WHO CAN EVEN TAKE ACTION AGAINST PM: SC**

# Not a 'YES MAN'

**THE SUPREME COURT ON WEDNESDAY SAID TO ENSURE** INDEPENDENCE OF THE POLL PANEL, THE CHIEF JUSTICE OF INDIA (CJI) COULD BE INCLUDED IN THE CONSULTA-TIVE PROCESS FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF CHIEF **ELECTION COMMISSIONER** (CEC).

► A FIVE-JUDGE BENCH IS HEARING A CLUTCH OF PETI-TIONS SEEKING A COLLEGIUM-LIKE SYSTEM FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF ELECTION **COMMISSIONERS (ECS) AND** THE CEC.

► THE TOP COURT SAID ANY **RULING PARTY LIKES TO PER-**PETUATE ITSELF IN POWER AND CAN APPOINT A 'YES MAN' TO THE POST UNDER THE CURRENT SYSTEM.

Team Absolute New Delhi

he Supreme Court on Wednesday orally observed that the need is for a Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) who can even take action against the Prime Minister and also asked the Centre to show the mechanism adopted in the appointment of an Election Commissioner (EC) last week.

A five-judge Constitution bench headed by Justice K.M. Joseph said:



New Delhi: The Supreme Court on Wednesday told the Centre that it wants to see the files relating to the recent appointment of Arun Goel as Election Commissioner and emphasised that it wants to see by up", and "there is no danger to produce it (files)".

Advocate Prashant Bhushan, representing a petitioner, raised the issue in connection with the appointment of Goel. He said Goel was a sitting Secretary, was given voluntary retirement on Friday, the appointment was issued on Saturday, and on Monday, he started working as EC.

Bhushan said he had filed an appli-

cation in connection with the appointment and the court was hearing the matter, yet the government made the appointment. Pointing out that the Centre appointed someone in a single day, what proce followed and what are the safeguards?

Justice Joseph told Attorney General R Venkataramani: "Produce the files of appointment of this officer... you say there is no hanky-panky in this. Was he appointed on the basis of voluntary retirement... how was he appointed, what is the mechanism by which he was picked up... the matter is being heard".

Suppose for example, there is some allegation against the Prime Minister and the CEC has to act, but the latter is weak-kneed and does not act.

Supreme Court

"We need a CEC who can even take action against a PM.

The bench queried the Centre's counsel that was it not a complete breakdown of the system. The CEC is supposed to be insulated from political influence and should be independent.

It further added that these are aspects on which "you (the Centre's counsel) must delve into, and why we require an independent larger body for selection and not just Cabinet".

The bench orally observed that committees say dire need for changes, and politicians also shout from rooftop but nothing happens.

The bench said it understands that CEC is appointed from amongst the ECs, but then there is no basis, and why is the Centre only confined to civil servants?

## RECEIVED 55,497 REQUESTS FOR USER DATA FROM INDIAN GOVERNMENT: META

India with 55,497 requests was once again second only to the US in terms of asking Meta to provide user data in the first half of this year, and the social network restricted access in India to 597 items in response to directions from the IT Ministry in the reporting period. In the second half of 2021, India had made 50,382 requests to Meta for user data.

Team Absolute New Delhi

ccording to Meta, the access to 597items was restricted for violating Section 69A of the Information Technology Act, 2000, including content against security of the state and public order.

Meta also restricted six items in response to directions from the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting for violating Rule 16 of the Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines & Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules, 2021.

"We restricted access in India to 23 items reported by the Election Commission of India relating to electoral complaints under the Indian Penal Code, Representation of the People Act, including spreading candidate misinformation and promoting sectarian violence," Meta said in its latest transparency report. Of these, 19 items were restricted only temporarily (during the designated blackout period) in the country.

"We also restricted access to 71 items due to other court orders, to 13 items for IP infringement, and to two items in response to private reports of defamation," said the



company. As the Centre notified amendments in new IT Rules, 2021 to put more obligations on social media platforms, Meta took down over 30.7 million pieces of bad content across 13 policies for Facebook and over 3 million pieces of such content across 12 policies for Instagram in India in September. According to Meta, during the first six months of 2022, global government requests for user data increased 10.5 per cent from 214,777 to 237,414.

Of the total volume, the US continues to ubmit the largest number of requests followed by India, Germany, Brazil, France and

#### **3 UKRAINIAN NUKE PLANTS CUT FROM GRID AFTER FRESH** RUSSIAN STRIKES

Kyiv: All three nuclear power plants still under Jkrainian control were disconnected from the electricity grid, Ukraine's nuclear operator said Wednesday, after fresh Russian air strikes hit the

country. Energoatom said in a statement that the strikes had activated emergency protocols at the Rivnenska,

Pivdennoukrainska and Khmelnytska nuclear power plants and that "as a result ... all reactors were automatically disconnected" from the electricity grid, the company said on social media.

#### 1971 was not military but political failure: Pak Army Chief

Rawalpindi | Agencies

akistan Chief of Army Staff (COAS) General Qamar Javed Bajwa on Wednesday said that East Pakistan debacle was political failure not a military one, the media reported on Wednesday.

Touching upon history during his address, the outgoing army chief said that he wanted to "correct" some facts regarding the events of

1971, ARY News reported. "1971 was not a military. but a political failure. Our army fought courageously in East Pakistan," the COAS highlighted.

General Bajwa, during his address, said that the basic job of the armed forces is to



protect the geographical boundaries

'No single party can take Pakistan out of the current economic crisis," he said, adding that lessons should be learned from such mistakes so the nation could move forward, Geo News reported.

The COAS went on to say that a true democratic culture has to be adopted in Pakistan by eradicating the climate of intolerance.

#### ENSURE NAME IN VOTERS' LIST TO AVOID DETENTION UNDER NRC: MAMATA BANERJEE Kolkata | Agencies process will continue till December



hief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Wednesday cautioned the people of West Bengal, especially those having their original roots in erstwhile East Bengal presently Bangladesh, to get their names checked in the electoral rolls to avoid any kind of detention under the garb of National Register of Citizens (NRC).

"The process of revision in the election rolls is currently on and this

5, 2022. I will advise everybody to personally visit the camps set up for that purpose and check whether your names are in the electoral rolls. Also check whether the spellings of the names are correct. If not, get them rectified. Otherwise, you might be sent to the detention camps under the garb of NRC," the Chief Minister said while addressing a government function on the occasion of distribution of land deeds to marginalised families in the state.

Claiming that sending people to detention camps under the garb of NRC is a matter of utter shame, she said the people should take all possible precautions on their part to avoid harassment on this count.

Speaking at the function, Banerjee specially referred to those people who had come as refugees from neighbouring Bangladesh losing everything in different phases starting from the time of participation till the time of Bangladesh liber-

#### **RAHUL GANDHI LOOKS** LIKE SADDAM HUSSAIN **NOW: ASSAM CM**

Ahmedahad: Addressing a public meeting in Ahmedabad for a BJP candidate ahead of next month's Assembly elections in



Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma said on Tuesday that nowadays Rahul Gandhi looks like Saddam Hussain.Questioning Rahul Gandhi's few visits to Gujarat ahead of the elections, Sarma said, "He is invisible in Gujarat. He comes to the state like a visiting faculty... He also did not campaign in Himachal Pradesh. He is visiting only those places where there are no elections... May be because he is scared of defeat."The Assam Chief Minister also alleged that the Congress must have paid Bollywood stars to join Rahul Gandhi's Bharat Jodo yatra, in an indirect reference to actors Pooja Bhatt

and Amol Palekar who had joined the Yatra.

#### FOUR CAR-BORNE WOMEN ALLEGEDLY ABDUCT MAN, SEXUALLY ABUSE HIM IN PUNJAB

Team Absolute Chandigarh

our women, all in their early 20s, in Punjab's Jalandhar city allegedly abducted a man, who works as a labourer in a leather factory, on the pretext of asking for an address and sexually abused him. However, no police complaint has been

lodged by the victim. The victim claimed the women made him unconscious and abducted him when he was showing them the address.

He said he was abducted in a white car after some chemical was sprayed in his eyes. Later, he was dumped at a secluded spot late in the night.

The man said he has not complained about the crime to the police. He, in fact, narrated the

sequence of the crime with the local media. However, the authenticity of the victim's video cannot be verified. Even senior police officials said if he was sexually abused, he should lodge a complaint with the police. In an interview with a vernacu-

lar daily, the victim claimed his wife asked him not to file a complaint. He alleged that the kidnapping by four car-borne women was done for sexual abuse.

As the car stopped, one of the girls asked about an address written on a slip. As he was reading the address, one of them allegedly sprayed something in his eyes, after which he was blinded. The women took him to a

secluded location where they

drugged him, he alleged.

serious note of complaints of bottled water or packaged food items and drinks being sold at prices higher than the MRP. **▶** The Consumer

▶ The government had taken

**Affairs** Department had earlier said that it keeps receiving complaints of products being sold at a price higher than the MRP.

### Outrageous popcorn, cold drinks prices baffle movie goers



Noida Agencies

he exorbitant prices of eatables in cinema halls have been burning a hole in the pockets of patrons with many claiming to shell out more money on eatables than on movie tickets

Most of the movie goers prefer watching the latest releases on the big screen while munching on popcorn and sipping cold drinks.

However, a massive difference has been noticed between the prices of cold drinks, popcorn and other food items available in the cinema halls compared to the general marketplace or shops.

The manager of Carnival Cinemas in Noida's GIP Mall said the prices of eatables are decided at the 'head office' and the rates are displayed on boards at the counter.

Cinema halls that were closed during the Covid pandemic have been receiving footfalls

Even as cinema halls and multiplexes are facing competition from the OTT platforms, the films of big production houses are still screened there.

However, the sky-rocketing price of eatables are coming as a spoiler to many.

# CONGRESS MODEL MEANS "CORRUPTION", "NEPOTISM", IT HAS "RUINED" GUJARAT: PM

Mehsana Agencies

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday said the "Congress model" meant casteism, division, and vote bank politics which has "ruined" Gujarat and the entire country.

Canvassing for BJP candidates at Mehsana in poll-bound Gujarat, Prime Minister Modi said the Bharatiya Janata Party never endorsed the policy of "favouritism and discrimination" which is evident in youths reposing faith in the ruling party. "Congress model means corruption, nepotism, dynastic politics, sectarianism, and casteism. They are known for indulging in vote bank politics and creating rifts between people of different castes or even in different districts to be in power," Prime Minister Modi said.

"This model has ruined not just Gujarat but also India. This is the reason why we have to try hard today to take the country ahead. We (BJP) have never endorsed such a policy of favouritism and discrimination. That is why youth are reposing their trust in us," the prime minister said.



Earlier in the day, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi targeted the ruling party after 'Bharat Jodo Yatra' led by him entered Madhya Pradesh and alleged the BJP "first spreads fear in the minds of youth, farmers, and labourers and when it sets in, they convert it into violence".

Polling for 182 Assembly seats in Gujarat will be held in two phases on December 1 and 5. The counting of votes will be taken up on December 8. The north Gujarat region will vote during the second phase.

"They (Congress) always wanted to keep people poor so they remain

dependent on government," the prime minister said while addressing a rally in the north Gujarat town.

He said youngsters are confident that BJP's policies will create more opportunities for them in the future.

The PM said youths in the age group of 20 to 25 years may not even know the kind of hardships faced by the people of Mehsana district in the past including acute shortage of water and electricity.

"Droughts were also common in those days. We (BJP) had put Gujarat on the path of prosperity amid natural calamities and using limited resources. In the past, water and electricity used to be the major issues during polls. Today, the opposition can't speak on these issues because such issues are resolved by us," said Prime Minister Modi, who had served as the chief minister of Gujarat before assuming the office of the Prime Minister in 2014.

The PM recalled several farmers including youngsters had been killed in police firing for demanding electricity connections when Congress was in power. "People have to pay bribes to get electricity connection in the Congress rule. To change the situation, we started reforms in the power sector by laying new transmission lines and setting up transformers. From just 5 lakh agricultural connections two decades back, Gujarat now has 20 lakh such electricity connections," he added.

The prime minister also said the solar power generation in Gujarat has gone up to 8,000 MW while the windbased power generation has touched the 10,000-megawatt mark.

During the day, the prime minister is scheduled to address poll rallies at Dahod, Vadodara, and Bhavnagar.

# DA ARREARS: SCUFFLE BETWEEN STATE GOVT STAFF AND POLICE CREATES RUCKUS OUTSIDE BENGAL ASSEMBLY

Kolkata | Agencies

A major ruckus broke out in front of the Assembly premises and adjoining areas in Kolkata on Wednesday following a scuffle between police personnel and state government employees after the latter staged a protest march over pending dearness allowance (DA) arrear payments.

The matter of DA arrear payments is currently in the Supreme Court after the state government had challenged an earlier order of the Calcutta High Court directing it to clear the pending DA arrears within a specific period.

On Wednesday, large number of state government employees started marching towards the Assembly, protesting against the delay in DA arrear payments, which the Calcutta High Court has already described as the employees' 'right'.

A huge police contingent was present there to stop them reaching near the Assembly gates.

However, as the protesters started approaching the Assembly, breaking through the police barricades, a scuffle broke out between the agitators and the security personnel.

Soon the police resorted to lathi charge, causing injuries to many protesters. Some police personnel, including a deputy commissioner, an inspector and an assistant sub-inspector, were also injured in the clashes.

Recently, the Union government had approved DA at the rate of 34 per cent of

the basic pay for Central government employees as per the Seventh Pay Commission. However, the West Bengal government is paying DA at the rate of just three per cent of the basic pay, thus making the payband of state government employees much lower compared not just to the Central government employees, but also to that of their counter-

The West Bengal government has repeatedly cited cash-strapped exchequer as the reason for delay in DA arrear payments.

parts in other states.

### Bengal's 'biggest thief' will be nabbed in Dec: Suvendu Adhikari

Kolkata | Agencies

Suvendu Adhikari, the leader of opposition in West Bengal Assembly, on Wednesday triggered speculations about December becoming a crucial game-changer in state politic as he claimed that the state's "biggest thief" will be nabbed and put behind bars next month.

His comments came 24 hours after BJP legislator Agnimitra Paul claimed that December will be a "crucial" month for state politics, as more than 30 Trinamool Congress MLAs are in constant touch with the saffron party.

Talking to mediapersons outside the Raj Bhavan after meeting new Governor C.V. Ananda Bose, Adhikari said,



"I am not saying that the state government will topple in December. But it is for sure that the biggest thief in the state will be nabbed and put behind bars in December.
BJP does not want to come to power in the state through backdoor. We will come to

power after getting elected democratically with popular mandate," Adhikari said.

Mandate," Adhikari said.
Adhikari also reacted to the allegations of Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee that he was instigating the Centre to stop payment of central dues to the state.

# Cyber criminals use Dawood Ibrahim's name to threaten, dupe Patna woman

Patna | Agencies

yber criminals duped a Patna woman of Rs 20 lakh and also used her bank accounts for the RTGS and NEFT transactions to the tune of Rs 3 crore after using the name of underworld don Dawood Ibrahim to terrorise her.

They have threatened to kill the husband and children of the woman, who is a resident of New Chitragupt Nagar in Kankarbagh. An FIR has been registered against 19 persons in Patrakar Nagar police station her.

The victim, in a complaint to police, said that her children are living in Mumbai and Delhi.

"Every time the accused called me, they threatened to kill my children. They also informed me about the clothes my children were wearing when they contact me over the



phone. When I contacted the children in Delhi and Mumbai and asked them what they were wearing, they

shirts. I realised that the accused have a big nexus," the victim said in a complaint

plaint.
"The accused formed me to open

two accounts in ICICI bank, apart from my own account. They did the transaction of Rs 3 crore from my bank account and also took away my personal savings of Rs 20 lakh. I stayed silent in fear that my sons would get killed by them," she said.

The incident came to light when the Income Tax Department served notice of the huge transaction to the victim and her husband on email and text messages (SMS). When her husband enquired, she revealed her ordeal before him.

"Based on the complaint of the victim, we have registered an FIR against 19 persons and are scanning the bank accounts where the transaction had taken place in the past. The matter is under investigation. Senior police officers have been informed on the incident," SHO, Patrakar Nagar police station, Manoranjan Bharti said.

# Rs 75 lakh in cash seized from car in poll-bound Gujarat

Surat | Agencies

The Static Surveillance team has recovered Rs 75 lakh in cash from a car here days before Gujarat goes to poll in two phases -- December 1 and 5, sources said on Wednesday.

On Tuesday night, the team intercepted a car with three occupants and on searching, it found Rs 75 lakh in cash. While two persons -- Uday Gurjar and Mohammad Faiz -- were detained and questioned by the police, the third -- Sandeep -- managed to escape.

Income Tax department will be joining the investigation.

Though the Surat police did not issue any statement regarding the seizure, sources from the department



said that the car occupants had collected Rs 75 lakh in cash from one R.R. Angadia Pedhi and were returning when the surveillance team intercepted their vehicle. While searching. the team found leaflets on Congress Rahul Gandhi's Surat rally from the vehicle besides a VIP car pass bearing the name of B.M. Sandeep, the AICC secretary and in-charge of South Gujarat region of Congress, triggering a political slugfest. BJP media coordinator Yagnesh Dave said that the recovery of Congress leaflets indicates the involvement of a Congress leader. There are all chances that the cash also belongs to Congress, he alleged, adding that investigation will reveal whose money is it and the reason for such huge amount being transported in Surat.

Refuting the allegations, Surat Congress leader Naisadh Desai termed it a "conspiracy" to frame his party. Another party spokesman Hemang Rawal asserted that there is no evidence to prove that the cash belongs to the Congress. "Let the investigation unveil the truth," he said, adding that his party has full faith in law of land

## Satyendar Jain gets relief from Delhi court on food issue

Team Absolute New Delhi

Pollowing Delhi Minister Satyendar Jains plea against the Tihar jail authorities for not providing him basic food items, a Delhi court has given him relief in this matter. Jain will continue to get food as per his religious beliefs. The court said that this arrangement will continue till it decides on the matter.

Jain had earlier appealed against the Tihar jail authorities for not providing him food items as per his religious beliefs and not allowing any medical check-up, which is said to be due since last month.

He said that he is still an undertrial prisoner and not a convict, and he cannot be treated this way and made to starve or relinquish his religious beliefs and be denied his basic medical needs. The Delhi court has sought a reply from the Tihar Jail authorities and will hear the matter at 2 p.m. on Thursday.

His application also stated that for the last 12 days, the jail authorities have stopped serv-



ing him raw fruits, vegetables and dry fruits, prescribed by his doctors.

Jain, who was arrested in a money laundering case and charged with corruption in May this year, was denied bail last week.

# Husband, friend held for killing wife, cutting body into pieces

Sitapur | Agencies

The Sitapur police have arrested the man, who allegedly strangled his wife and cut her body into pieces before disposing it off in a field with the help of a friend.

Police say that the accused, Pankaj Maurya, 46, has confessed to his crime. The wife's body was found on November 8.

The police have also arrested the friend, who helped the accused.
Pankaj was married to Jyoti, 38, of

Barabanki for 10 years. Recently he started suspecting Jyoti of infidelity and planned to eliminate her.
Sitapur Superintendent of Police (SP), G. Sushil Chandrabhan said that body ports of a woman which

(SP), G. Sushil Chandrabhan said that body parts of a woman, which were later identified as that of Jyoti, were recovered from a field in Gulheria village under the Rampur Kalan police station on November 8.

"The police recovered the woman's torso, right hand and legs from the field. Forensic experts said that the body parts were of a woman but we had to ascertain her identity,"



the SP added.

A few days later, when a disfigured face of a woman was recovered, the police called experts to make a sketch, copies of which were distributed in Barabanki, Sitapur, Hardoi, Rae Bareli, Lucknow and Sultanpur to ascertain the woman's identity. Yadhvendra Yadav, Circle Officer,

Sidhauli, said, "After some days, one Malti Singh of Barabanki, who claimed to be the mother of the deceased, contacted us. When we showed her clothes recovered from the body, she immediately identified them as that of her daughter Jyoti. We traced her husband Pankaj on November 20, who was missing since

November 15. "When Pankaj was asked about her wife's whereabouts, he could not give any valid reason for her disappearance. During questioning, he confessed to having killed her.

On Tuesday, a police team raided his house and recovered bloodstained clothes and a sharp edged knife after which he was formally arrested.

Pankaj told the police that he worked at a medical store and used to return home late at night.

"I got to know from neighbours that Jyoti was often spotted with men and had also started taking drugs. I tried to reach out to her family, but they, too, were helpless," Pankaj said, adding that on the night of November 8, after an argument he killed Jyoti and hacked her body in several pieces with the help of his friend Dujan Pasi.

The body parts were dumped in a field about seven-km away from home. Pankaj had sent his two daughters and son to his uncle's place before executing the crime.

### No negotiation over 'Naga National Flag', says NSCN-IM

Kohima | Agencies

The National Socialist
Council of NagalandIsak Muivah (NSCNIM) has said the 'Naga
National Flag' has a huge
sentimental value attached
with the Naga people and
the flag is all about the 'God
given history' and identity
of the Naga people.

"What God has given cannot be a topic of bargaining on the negotiating table," the NSCN-IM said in its November issue of the monthly mouthpiece, 'Nagalim Voice'.

The NSCN-IM said "the principle of one people one nation as symbolised by Naga National Flag is being targeted desperately".

After over 80 rounds of talks between the Central government and the Naga groups, dominated by the NSCN-IM, there is still a stalemate over the contentious issues of separate Naga flag and constitution.

The NSCN-IM has been

demanding a separate flag and constitution, which the former government interlocutor and then Nagaland Governor R.N. Ravi had rejected on a number of

occasions.

"Ironically, the overindulgence by the Government of India in playing delaying game is something that is getting into the nerves of the NSCN Talk Team.

Nevertheless, we shall hold the ground though we found Government's cynicism wearing at

times."

It said that considering the complexity of the Naga political issue, it is not surprising that it has dragged on for more than 25 years.

"However, the complexity should not be used for any dirty play," the mouth-piece noted.

The principle of "one people one nation" that has guided the Naga political movement cannot be compromised under any circumstances, the NSCN-IM reiterated.

**ाएं एरिए जिंदा** मैं HARPREET SINGH LAMBA सर्वसाधारण को सूचित करता हूं कि कि

सर्वसाधारण को सूचित करता हूं कि कि मेरी पुत्री की अंकसूची में उसका नाम SAVITOJ KAUR LAMBA लिखा है। जबिक आधार कार्ड और पासपोर्ट में उसका नाम SAVITOJ KAUR लिखा है। ये दोनों नाम मेरी पुत्री के ही हैं। अतः मेरी पुत्री SAVITOJ KAUR D/O HARPREET SINGH LAMBA से जाना /पहचाना जाए। पता: म. नं. 869, बस स्टैंड के पास, गुरु नानक आइरन, राम मनोहर लोहिया वार्ड, मुरवारा, कटनी, (म.प्र.) — 483501

#### नाम परिवर्तन

विवाह पूर्व मेरा नाम Namrata Tiwari D/o Devesh Tiwari था। किंतु मैंने हिन्दू से मुस्लिम धर्म अपना लिया है। विवाह पश्चात धर्म परिवर्तित होकर मेरा नाम Iqra Khan W/o Taha Ahmad Khan हो गया है। अतः अब मुझे मेरे नए नाम Iqra Khan W/o Taha Ahmad Khan से जाना व पहचाना जाए। पता: 30, बढ़ई पुरा, गली नं. 2, नूर महल रोड, भोपाल (म.प्र.) — 462001



## madhya pradesh

#### **Govt shelves proposal to appoint bureaucrats BJY ENTERS MP, RAHUL GANDHI TO ADDRESS MAHASABHA IN UJJAIN ON NOV 29**

Team Absolute Bhopal

fter winding up its Maharashtra leg, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi-led Bharat Jodo Yatra (BJY) on Wednesday entered Madhya

The foot-march began around 6.30 a.m. after Maharashtra Congress president Nana Patole handed over yatra flag to Madhya Pradesh Congress chief Kamal Nath at a village in Burhanpur district around

Of the total 120 people, who are marching along with Rahul Gandhi from Kanyakumari (Tamil Nadu) and will be part of the entire 3,070 km yatra (from Kanyakumari to Srinagar), 11, including four women, hail from Madhya Pradesh. The list excludes two-time former chief minister Digvijaya Singh, who is the convener of the Yatra.

During a press conference at Burhanpur, Congress general secretary and in-charge of communication, publcity and media department Jairam Ramesh said that the yatra will cover around 21-22 km every day in two parts.

"Padyatra will start every day between 6 a.m. to 6.30 a.m. and continue till 9.30 a.m. During this period, it will cover 14-15 km and second part of the yatra will begin at 3:30 p.m. covering around 8-10 km till 7.30 p.m.," Jairam Ramesh said.

He added that the schedule for yatra will remain the same for next 11 days in the state, except days fixed for rest for yatris.

Giving further details about some other programmes in the state, Jairam Ramesh said on November 26, Rahul Gandhi is scheduled to visit Mahow -- the birth place of Dr. Bhimrao

Rahul Gandhi is expected to attend



a public rally on November 28 in Indore and address a mahasbha in Uijain on November 29.

leaders how to hold the tricolor flag.

protocol to hold the tricolor flag.

Burhanpur: Rahul Gandhi appeared in the role of a

Burhanpur district of Madhya Pradesh, as he taught these

Rahul Gandhi's Bharat Jodo Yatra yesterday entered

one person has a big tricolor in his hand. When Rahul

Burhanpur district. In this journey, a large number of people

are walking holding the tricolor in their hands, out of which

Gandhi was on the dais with all the big leaders of the state, the young man holding the tricolor was called on the dais

and Rahul Gandhi handed over the tricolor to the Congress

When Rahul Gandhi handed over this tricolor to the

Congress leaders, there were many leaders who were holding the tricolor like a party flag pole, this thing did not go

down well with Rahul Gandhi, then Rahul Gandhi holding

the tricolor flag pole Caught it and told those leaders how

the pole of the tricolor flag is grabed. In fact, there is also a

During this, none of the Congress leaders present on the

dais expressed any reaction, but everyone kept on watching

the lessons being taught by Rahul Gandhi with a surprised

teacher for Congress leaders during their entry into

"A press conference will also be organised on November 28 in Indore, the seventh time when Rahul Gandhi

will answer the media persons' queries since the Yatra started on September 7," Jairam Ramesh added.

Jairam Ramesh also informed that November 30 has been fixed as the rest day."Here, I would like to make it clear that Rahul Gandhi will rest in Madhya Pradesh, during which he will also meet with people, but will not go to Delhi. Bharat Jodo Yatra will enter Rajasthan on December 4," Jairam Ramesh added.

Digvijaya Singh, meanwhile, took dig at the BJP-led Madhya Pradesh government, saying, "Today, when yatra began in Burhanpur, the entire area was filled with dust from damon roads issue, but this is the real condition of roads in Madhya

#### aged road. The BJP always target me

#### nanimous opposition from the medical fra-

ternity on the proposed appointment of an administrative officer in all 13 state-run medical colleges on Tuesday prompted the BJP-led Madhya Pradesh government to step back and put the controversial

Praveen Dwivedi | Bhopal

proposal in cold storage. Sources privy to the matter told correspondent that the proposal of appointing Deputy Collectors/SDMs in each state-run medical college was to be put before the state cabinet for approval on Tuesday, but the meeting was suddenly cancelled, due to some ministers being busy in Gujarat elections.

However, later, a message was conveyed to Gandhi Medical College teachers association here that the proposal has been stayed, and it would not be brought before the cabinet in future.

This was the third occasion within the span of a

year that the government had to step back on its proimplemented anywhere in posal, as every time, the the country medical fraternity rose up in

medical fraternity, would thank Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan and state Medical Education Minister Vishwas Sarang for taking the proposal back. Today, we were informed that the proposal has not only been postponed, but it will not be brought again before the cabinet," Gandhi Medical College Teachers

"We, along with the entire

According to doctors in Gandhi Medical College in Association President Dr. Bhopal, the biggest medical institution of the state, this Rakesh Malvia said.

### Sehores Gaurav Diwas will be celebrated on 29 November

arms against the measure,

arguing the medical institu-

tions needed expertise from

the same field. The state

government has proposed

that an administrative offi-

cer would be appointed to

look after administrative

subjects of each medical

college.

in medical colleges after protests

Team Absolute Bhopal

hief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan has said that Sehore's Gaurav Diwas (Pride Day) will be celebrated on 29 November. He said that Gaurav Diwas programmes are being organised in different cities of the state as a campaign. In this sequence, there will be Gaurav Diwas activities in Sehore as well.

CM Chouhan said that Sehore is progressing fast. Gaurav Diwas will be celebrated in a grand manner in Sehore on coming November 29. A complete outline has

been made of Sehore's past, present and future. We will consider what efforts the society can make along with the government for the development of Sehore. Chief Minister Chouhan gave this information in a discussion with TV media representatives during his stay in Sehore.

# **CM Chouhan plants Khirni, Karanj and Harsingar saplings**

Team Absolute Bhopal

hief Minister Shiyrai Singh Chouhan planted Khirni, Karanj and Harsingar saplings in the Smart City Garden. The organisation that conducts company secretary courses the Institute of Company Secretaries of India (ICSI) Chairman along with others joined in the plantation.

Van Mahotsav, blood donaand cleanliness related campaigns are conducted by the Institute of Company Secretaries of India. Along with Chief Minister Chouhan, News Editor of Akashyani Bhopal Sanjeev Sharma also planted saplings on his marriage anniversary.



## Efforts to woo the youth in Madhya Pradesh intensify; more than one lakh will be recruited

Team Absolute Bhopal

efore the assembly elections in Madhya Pradesh, the efforts to woo the youth through employment have intensified. The government is preparing to give jobs to more than one lakh youth in the next eight months. The state government has been continuously claiming to have taken necessary steps to provide better employment opportunities to the youth. The government has set a target of providing employment to more than one lakh youth.

It has been told that the campaign to fill the vacant posts started from August 15 will continue or 12 months. The process has been started to fill one lakh 12 thousand 724 government vacancies in the state. The work has been done at a rapid pace in the month of November. Necessary process is being followed to fill about 60 thousand posts. All departments are active in this work.

It has been told that 1,271 posts of class I, 20 thousand 728 of class II, 82 thousand 879 of class



action is being taken after permission from the Finance Department to fill these posts. From August 15 to October 31, 36 thousand 235 posts been advertised. In the month of 3 thousand 926 posts have been advertised. About 19 thousand posts will be advertised by the end of this month. 1595 appointments have been made in eight departments in the last three months. In the last quarter, 722 appointments have been made in the Tribal Affairs Department and 852 in the Health Department. 15 thousand 196 posts have been advertised in the School Education Department and 15 thousand 618 in

क्रमांक/.3.9.17/22

the Tribal Affairs Department. Recruitment is going on continuously in all the departments. Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan has said that employment of the youth is the biggest need of the day. Whether employment is in government sector or in private sector, it is very important to get work according to qualification. There is a natural communication of enthusiasm in the youth by coming to the services. With adequate staff, the functioning of institutions and departments also becomes smooth and easy. Chief Minister Chouhan said that in the government departments, an initiative has been taken to appoint 6,000 constable posts in the home denartment alone. The effort is to provide appointment letters to all in a ceremonial manner on any one day.

Along with the action to fill the posts of the departments by the General Administration Department, action is also being taken to fill the posts in the public undertakings of the state. The present ministers described the work being done in the field of employment and self-employment

#### **ELECTRICITY CONSUMERS WILL NOW** GET ELECTRICITY BILLS ON WHATSAPP



Bhopal: There is good news for the electricity consumers of Central Region Power Distribution Company. Now electricity consumers will get SMS on mobile immediately after the bill is generated after taking the reading by the company. Along with this, electricity bills will also be received on WhatsApp. The facility of sending electricity bills on WhatsApp has been made available by the company from the current month and so far more than six lakh consumers have been provided electricity bills on WhatsApp.

This system has been implemented for all categories of electricity consumers in 16 districts of Bhopal, Narmadapuram, Gwalior and Chambal divisions of the company's iurisdiction. Various facilities have been made available by the company for the electricity consumers. Their electricity bills are now available on email, sss, upay app, company portal portal.mpcz.in as well as on WhatsApp.

The company's Managing Director Ganesh Shankar Mishra is doing excellent work in many innovations with the application of IT in the Central Region Power Distribution Company sector, which has increased the efficiency of the company and also increased the satisfaction of the consumers. Managing Director Mishra has assured the power consumers that the Central Region Power Distribution Company is determined to provide better services to the consumers and every possible effort is being made to expand the facilities of the consumers.

#### **CONGRESS LEADER FILES REVIEW PETITION IN SC** AGAINST JUDGMENT UPHOLDING EWS RESERVATION

Team Absolute New Delhi/Bhopal

ongress leader Java Thakur has filed a review petition in the Supreme Court challenging its recent judgment upholding the validity of the 103rd Constitution Amendment providing 10 per cent reservation to economically weaker sections (EWS) persons in admissions and government jobs.

The petition said: "The 10 per cent reservation provided to the EWS of only forward caste, is breach of equality code amounting to discrimination. Neither the parliamentary debate while passing the impugned amendment nor the majority judgments give insights as to what rationale was adopted to come to this figure of 10 per cent."

It further added that the only adhoc commission established in this regard was the Sinho Commission and even this was unable to justify or give any reasoning for provisioning of 10 per cent reservation for EWS category. "In the present amendment, OBC/SC/ST are not entitled to take the benefits of the Reservation.

This is in violation of the Article 14 and 16 of the Constitution of India,' said the petition.

The petition said in the Madhya Pradesh OBC population is more than 50 per cent but OBC reservation in MP State Service & Educational institution only 13 percent. It added that this is an admitted position in Madhya Pradesh that Schedule Caste community is 16 per cent of the total population and they have got proportionate reservation of 16 per cent, similarly Schedule Tribe are 20 per cent of total population and they have got proportionate reservation of 20 per cent.

"While OBC community is getting only 14 per cent reservation despite their population being approx 50 per cent. The forward caste population is only 6 per cent. Post the impugned amendment 10 per cent reservation for EWS will be provided to the poor of forward caste. The numbers clearly show that this reservation of 10 per cent is disproportionate and there is no grounds or justification whatsoever for arriving at this figure...," said the plea.



#### For the first time, regular posts of yoga science were approved in the government colleges

#### Approval order issued for 536 posts for eight new model colleges

Team Absolute Bhopal

rders were issued by the state government for the creation of 336 academic and 200 non-academic total 536 posts for 8 new model graduate colleges Damoh, Rajgarh, Barwani, Chhatarpur, Guna, Khandwa, Singrauli, and Vidisha in the RUSA project of the Higher Education Department.

**Higher Education** Minister Dr. Mohan Yadav has said that for the first time in the state regular posts of Yoga Science have been sanctioned in government colleges. He said that teaching would start in these colleges from the next academic year. New buildings of new schools are ready in 5 districts.

As per the recommendation of NITI Aayog, all model colleges are being opened in aspirational dis-

According to the order, 8 posts of principal, 312 posts of assistant professor, 8 posts each of sports officer and librarian have been approved in total 336 posts. In regular non-academic post, 8 posts each of Chief Clerk, Accountant, Assistant Grade-1, Assistant Grade-2, 16 of Assistant Grade-3, 40-



40 posts of Laboratory Technician and Attendant, 8 of Book Lifter, 32 of Peon and Sweeper And 16-16 posts of Chowkidar have been sanctioned.

गुना दिनांकः 22/11/2022

## नगर पालिका परिषद गुना (म.प्र.)

निविदा विज्ञप्ति "द्वितीय आमंत्रण

निविदा विज्ञप्ति सूचना, निम्नलिखित निर्माण कार्यो हेतु ऑनलाईन निविदायें आमंत्रित की जाती है। अतः जो ठेकेदार इस कार्य को करने हेतु इच्छुक हों, वे अपनी-अपनी ऑनलाईन निविदाएँ म.प्र.न.प्र. एवं वि.वि. एस.ओ.आर. दिनांक 02.08.2021 से प्रभावशील पर कम/अधिक/एटपार प्रतिशत दर पर प्रस्तुत कर सकते है। निविदा का विस्तृत विवरण वेबसाईट https://mptenders.gov.in पर देखी जा सकती है।

विस्तृत निविदा सूचना व अन्य जानकारी वेबसाइट पर देखी जा सकती है। टेंडर नम्बर पी.ए.सी. (रू.) ई.एम.डी. (रु.) निविदा प्रपत्र 2. आमंत्रण 133930/-2022\_UAD\_ नीचला बाजार रपटा 2. ₹5. 133930/-कोटेश्वर मंदिर साँदर्यीकरण कार्य।

टेंडर क्रय करने की अंतिम तिथि टेंडर डालने की अंतिम तिथि टेंडर खोलने की तिथि

Savita gupta नगर पालिका परिषद्,गुना (म.प्र.) 07/12/2022 07/12/2022

EDITOR'S SPECS

#### BJY to bridge Gehlot-Pilot differences!

s hectic preparations are underway in Rajasthan for Rahul Gandhi's Bharat Jodo Yatra scheduled to enter the desert state on December 5, Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot and former Deputy Chief Minister Sachin Pilot will attend a committee meeting on Wednesday amid the ongoing political crisis. The first meeting of the coordination committee of 33 leaders of the Bharat Jodo Yatra was called in the Congress War Room on Wednesday. While Pilot has already arrived at the meeting venue, Gehlot was yet to reach, said sources. "Gehlot and Pilot will be on the same stage for the first time after the political uproar caused by the boycott of the Congress Legislature Party meeting by the MLAs of the Gehlot faction on September 25," party workers said. "The two will be at the same place after nearly two months since the incident. This meeting is being considered very important in terms of preparations for Rahul Gandhi's visit," they added. State in-charge Ajay Maken who is also a member of the coordination committee, will not attend Wednesday's meeting as he has resigned from the post of the party's Rajasthan in-charge. Although Maken's resignation is yet to be accepted, he has not called for any meeting or decision regarding Rajasthan. Maken resigned on November 8 expressing displeasure over no action being taken against Shanti Dhariwal, Mahesh Joshi and Dharmendra Rathore, who were held responsible for boycotting the Congress Legislature Party meeting on September 25.

#### **MCD POLLS**

## FROM RADIO TO SOCIAL MEDIA, BJP LEAVING NO STONE UNTURNED FOR CAMPAIGNING

is over boarding on every medium for campaigning from radio to social media for the upcoming Municipal Corporation of Delhi election scheduled for December

The BJP is making the best use of radio in taking minutes from people's busy life. It has given a number of radio advertisements for campaigning.

Speaking to IANS, the BJP's Ashish Sood said it is an 'old is gold' medium of campaign. It is the best way to reach busy people who are driving in traffic.

The BJP has given more than five advertisements of under 30 seconds each on the radio with the campaign slogan "Seva hi Vichar. nahi khokhale prachar. 4 December ko Kamal Ka button



dabayein, MCD me BJP ko Vijay banayein." The pocket ads covered garbage collection, health care centres, vaccination drive, one mayor policy.

The most reachable mode of

campaigning the BJP is using is the social media. The BJP's Delhi social media is now in complete battle ready mode and has been able to lead the narrative. In the last 12 days the Delhi BJP managed to set

almost 10 trends while the AAP managed just two trends. Trends like #AAPKePaap,

#AAPLootingDelhi, #KejriwalPollutedDelhi,

#MahathagKejriwal indicate the focus of the state unit has been on pollution and corruption to target the AAP. Meanwhile Twitter has also been abuzz about the positive work of the BJP in Delhi with trends like #ModiJiNeDiyaGhar alluding to the EWS flats given to 3024 families from the slums.

#BJPSweepingMCDAA, #BJPMatlabSeva were some of the other trends that made it to the Twitter top trends in the last few days.Not only Twitter, Delhi BJP's Facebook is now opening a massive lead against Arvind Kejriwal's Facebook page, the AAP national Facebook page and AAP's Delhi

parameters. On Instagram too the Delhi BJP handle is running an issue based campaign. "Our content is not just negative but also we are putting positive content - be it the MCD work or covering organisational meetings, covering LIVE press conferences. Our handles give space to a plethora of leaders whereas AAP's page is only dedicated to one individual," a source said.Instagram is the best way to connect with youths. The reel shows are quite widespread. The Delhi BJP is making the best use of it from making reels to post regular content against the AAP and highlight the BJP's work.

Similarly, the party has used newspapers to spread their message. Other medium like leaflets, door-to-door, roadshows, are also used in the campaigning.

#### pins hopes on physical campaign to take on

#### **Avinash Prabhakar**

**7**ith nearly two weeks to go for the country's biggest civic body polls in Delhi, the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) is pinning its hopes more on physical campaign as compared to the digital way to take on the Bhartiya Janata Party (BJP).

The 250-ward Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) will go to the polls on December 4, while the counting of votes will be taken up on December 7

The AAP recently held a high-level meeting involving all its 250 candidates to chalk out its strategy to take on the BJP, which is in power in the MCD for the past three terms. The meeting discussed a decentralised campaign strategy with more focus on campaigning on the ground to propagate the works of AAP government.

The candidates and the AAP cadres have been specifically instructed to reach out to the people directly through door-to-door campaign and most importantly, hold 'Jansamvad Sabha' at the booth level to

and its resolve that once elected, it would "liberate the capital city from three garbage mountains plaguing the city".

The party has also appointed observers at every Assembly constituency to ensure that padayatras, door-to-door interactions and public dialogues take place in all the wards as per planning. The observers will monitor the overall campaign strategy and report to the party's central office.

'These observers will ensure that padayatras, door-to-door interactions and public dialogues take place in all the wards. The central observers will monitor the overall campaign and report to the central office. The party has given prominence to the organisation in the MCD elections, which is clearly indicated by the fact that officebearers have been given tickets," said Deputy Chief Minister of Delhi, Manish Sisodia.

The party has divided the MCD campaign strategy into two phases -- the first was held from November 17 to 22, while the second phase will start from November 23.



The party is also holding 'Jansamvad Sabhas' with one senior campaigner along

250 wards. The first phase of the campaign was oriented around the agenda of clearing the three garbage mountains in the city.

During the first phase, AAP Delhi convenor Gopal Rai had flagged off a large unit of tempos and carriage vehicles carrying miniature versions

of garbage mountains. In the second phase of campaign, the party is planning to hold 1,000 back-toback 'Nukkad Sabhas' from November 23 onwards in all the 250 wards within a span of 10 days till December 2, the day when election campaign will come to an end.

## international

## 10 killed in **US Walmart** shooting

Washington: At least 10 people were killed when a gunman opened fire at a Walmart in Chesapeake located in the US state of Virginia, police said on Wednesday. According to Chesapeake police, a call reporting the shooting came in at 10.12 p.m. on Tuesday,

reports Xinhua news agency. A police spokesman said that the suspect, believed to be the store manager, opened fire then shot himself dead, reports the BBC. The shooting was believed to have happened inside the store, and that the suspect acted alone, the spokesman added.

The motive behind the attack is yet to be ascertained. More details are awaited.

Reacting to the incident, Walmart said it was "shocked at this tragic event", adding that it was "working closely with law enforcement".

Taking to Twitter, Virginia state Senator L. Louise Lucas said she was "absolutely heartbroken" and that "I will not rest until we find the solutions to end this gun violence epidemic in our country", the BBC reported. The Tuesday night attack comes just days after a gunman opened fire at a LGBT nightclub in the US state of Colorado, killing five people and injuring 17 others.

In 2019, a mass shooting at a Walmart in the city of El Paso in Texas left 23 dead.

### **NEPAL PM DEUBA WINS** FOR RECORD 7TH TIME



Kathmandu | Agencies

epal's Prime Minister Sher Bahadur Deuba, who is also the President of Nepali Congress, has won a record seventh time in the parliamentary election held earlier this week.

Sunday's polls were the second parliamentary elections after Nepal promulgated the new constitution in 2015 that enshrined the Himalayan nation as a federal, secular and republic country.

As per the Election Commission, Deuba has been re-elected from

pendent candidate, Sagar Dhakal. An Oxford University graduate, Dhakal threw his hat against Deuba to unseat him saying that time has come to rule by youth and new breeds.Deuba secured 25,534 votes to secure the lone Dadeldhura seat, while Dhakal won 13.042.

The 76-year-old premier was earlier elected a House of Representatives member from the same constituency in the 2017 general elections. He has been winning the parliamentary elections from Dadeldhura since 1991 and remain

## Germany warns of violent escalation after Turkish ops in Syria, Iraq

Ankara Agencies

erman Interior Minister solidarity solidarity with Turkey in the latter's fight against terrorism, but stressing that it "must be carried out in accordance with the laws of state".

The Minister made the remarks at a press conference with her Turkish counterpart Suleyman Soylu on the second day of her two-day visit to Ankara, reports Xinhua news agency."It is necessary to take into account the protection of civilians and we believe that it is necessary to be careful, especially in terms of preventing violence from escalating," she added, referring to Turkey's recent cross-border military opera-

tions in Syria and Iraq. In response to Faeser's statements, Soylu defended Turkey's

operations in Syria and Iraq. 'They (terrorists) want to establish a terror state around us. We cannot allow that. It is our duty to protect our borders and our nation," he

The Turkish Minister said his



country wants the terrorist groups around the country to be considered in the same way that Europe handled terrorist strikes on its own soil.

On Sunday, Turkey carried out aerial operations against the Kurdish People's Protection Units (YPG) in Syria and the Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK) in Iraq.
Ankara sees the YPG as the Syrian

branch of the PKK. The airstrikes were launched after

a bomb explosion killed at least six

a busy street of Istanbul on November 13.

After the explosion, Turkish police said they had detained a Syrian woman named Ahlam Albashir, who admitted to taking orders from the

The PKK, listed as a terrorist organization by Turkey, the US and the European Union, has rebelled against the Ankara government for

## SEVERE WEATHER LASHES ITALY, DOZENS INJURED

Rome Agencies

evere weather ravaged Italy, challenging new flood protection infrastructure in Venice, cutting off access to some islands and resulting in multiple injuries.

In Venice, Italy's city of canals, the water level rose 170 centimetre above normal levels on Tuesday due to intense rains, the highest of this year, but still below the 187-centimetre rise - the highest in 50 years -- reported in 2019, city authorities said.

Thanks to the "Mose" system of 78 separate mobile floodgates that went into partial operation in 2020, the latest water rise did not result in widespread flooding, said Venice's Mayor Luigi Brugnaro.

"Mose," which stands for "Experimental Electromechanical Module," helped the city avert devastation, said Minister of Transportation Matteo Salvini, noting that torrential rain and strong gales could have been catastrophic.

The extreme weather was reported



across Italy on Tuesday. Seven of all the 20 regions issued severe weather warnings and two issued red alerts -- the island region of Sardinia and Abruzzo, east of Rome. Dozens of people were injured as the storm wreaked havoc, Xinhua news agency reported.

The severe weather is expected to continue lashing parts of the country through Thursday. This is the latest of a long series of severe weather events that have hit Italy this year. The country suffered unusually long heat waves and severe drought during the summer, which caused hundreds of death and slashed agricultural production, followed by flash floods and intense thunderstorms that killed at least 10 people and caused hundreds of millions of euros in damages. The European Severe Weather Database (ESWD) said earlier that Italy recorded five times more extreme weather events than a decade

#### Indonesia quake toll reaches 268; 151 still missing

Jakarta Agencies

he death toll from the 5.6-magnitude earthquake that struck Indonesia's West Java province earlier this week has increased to 268 while 151 people still remain unaccounted for,

authorities said on Wednesday. The quake that struck Cianjur town at a depth of 10 km on Monday, also led to more than 1,000 people being injured, the

BBC reported. According to the National Disaster Mitigation Agency, 22,000 houses were damaged, and more than 58,000 people are currently in shelters.

The Agency added that the quake, which was followed by dozens of aftershocks, also caused landslides that buried entire villages. A search and rescue operation is underway to try



and find more trapped survivors. President Joko Widodo visited the disaster zone on Tuesday where he was pictured with responders."My instruction is to prioritise evacuating victims that are still trapped under rubble," the BBC quoted the President as saying.Earthquakes are common in Indonesia, which sits on the "ring of fire" area of tectonic activity in the Pacific. The country has a history of devastating tremors and tsunamis, with more than 2,000 people killed in a 2018

earthquake on the island of

Sulawesi.

#### **55 INJURED IN TURKEY EARTHQUAKE**

Ankara: A strong earthquake measuring 5.9 on the Richter scale struck western Turkey near the town of Duzce on Wednesday, injuring at least 55 people, authorities said. According to the national Disaster and Emergency Management Authority (AFAD), the temblor was centred in Golyaka district and it struck at 4.08 a.m. The injured were treated in hospitals in Duzce and nearby regions, some sustained injuries, Xinhua news agency quoted Interior Minister Suleyman Soylu as saying to Turkish channel NTV, adding that one person was seriously hurt after jumping from a balcony out of panic. There were no reports of heavy damage to buildings and power in the region was cut in a controlled way and then restored to some neighbourhoods, Soylu told reporters. The powerful quake, which occurred at a depth of 6.81 km, was also felt in Istanbul as well as in capital Ankara. Duzce is located about 210 km from Istanbul and some 236 km from Ankara.

The AFAD said the quake was followed by a total of 18 aftershocks. Local media footage showed people rushing out of buildings in panic and waiting on the streets wrapped in blankets. Duzce Governor Cevdet Atay has announced the closure of schools for the day. In 1999, Duzce was hit by a 7.2 magnitude earthquake which lasted 30 seconds, killing 845 people and injuring nearly 5,000 others.



## maharashtra



# MAHA TO PROBE POLICE 'INACTION' ON SHRADDHA'S SOS LETTER

Team Absolute | Mumbai

aking strong cognisance, the Maharashtra government has ordered a probe into the Palghar Police's 'inaction' on a letter written by Shraddha Walkar in November 2020, apprehending death threats from her live-in partner Aftab Amin Poonawala.

Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis, who also holds the home portfolio, said he had seen the contents which were "very serious", and said the matter needs to be investigat-

"Without blaming anybody, we need to know the truth... If the police had acted in a timely manner, this (killing of Shraddha by Poonawala) could have been avoided," Fadnavis told mediapersons.

On November 23, 2020, Walkar had submitted a written complaint to the Tulinj Police Station expressing apprehensions from her Aftab and how he threatened to "kill and cut her into pieces".

The letter, which has just surfaced, was duly acknowledged by the local police, who also said that though they had probed the matter, Shraddha

26, were living together in Vijay Vihar

later gave another letter withdrawing her previous complaint, signalling an end to the issue.

In her hand-penned plea, she sounded distressed, stating that Aftab was beating her up, blackmailing her and was threatening to murder her and cut her body into pieces.

Nearly two years later now, Shraddha's worst fears proved true with Aftab's arrest on November 12 for her gory killing in Delhi on may 18, chopping her body into many pieces and then disposing them off over several weeks.

In her letter, Shraddha, then 25,

till date as we were supposed to get married anytime soon and had the blessings of his family.'

Apparently fed up, she declared that "henceforth, I am not willing to live with him, so any kind of physical damage should be considered coming from him as he has been blackmailing to kill me or hurt me whenever he sees me anywhere".

#### Shraddha had withdrawn her 2020 complaint, so closed case: Police

"Whatever necessary action had to be taken in that matter was done by police at that time. The application that was given by the complainant was also investigated. After the investigation, the complainant herself gave a written statement that there is no dispute. Her friend's parents also cajoled her to resolve the dispute. She gave the written statement and after that the case was closed."

> Suhas Bavache, DCP, Mira Bhayandar-Vasai Virar Commissionerate

#### Governor B.S. Koshyari wants to 'leave' Maharashtra, claims Ajit Pawar

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Il in a new twist, Maharashtra's Leader of Opposition Ajit Pawar on Wednesday claimed that Governor Bhagat Singh Koshyari doesn't want to continue in his post here.

"He had himself told me that he is no longer interested in continuing in Maharashtra and was keen to be relieved of his post," the NCP leader revealed during a media interaction this afternoon.

Again, raising eyebrows at the Governor's recent remarks on Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj, Pawar even wondered whether Koshyari was "deliberately making such contentious statements to compel the Centre to transfer him" away from this state.

"I told him (Koshyari) that he should sim ply request his seniors to give him some other posting," Pawar contended, while saying he prayed to the Almighty to give "sense" to the Governor, who was appointed to the state in September 2019.

The beleaguered Koshyari, 80, last week earned the ire of the entire state for his statement that Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj was "an icon of the old era" and persons like the late Dr. B. R. Ambedkar or Union Minister Nitin Gadkari are the modern-day

Chhatrapati Udayanraje Bhosale directly attacked the Governor, calling him a "third class" person who deserved to be shunted out of the state or to an old-age home for his statements, even as widespread protests rocked the state since Monday.



reactions from all political parties - the ruling alliance of BJP-Balasahebanchi Shiv Sena, the opposition Congress, Nationalist Congress Party, Shiv Sena-UBT, Maharashtra Navnirman Sena, the direct descendents of Chhatrapti Shivaji Maharaj, organisations like Marathia Brigade, Jijau Brigade, etc, who demanded his ouster from the state. On several occasions in the past over three years, the Governor managed to raise the heckles of the then Maha Vikas Aghadi government on several occasions, besides statements on Mahatma Jyotirao Phule, the contributions of the Marwari-Gujarati communities to the development of the state, and now on Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj, etc. which were not exactly lauded.

There have been no reactions from either the Governor's side or the state government

#### Cong slams BJP for 'blaming Nehru' on Maha-K'taka border row

Team Absolute | Mumbai

he Maharashtra unit of Congress slammed the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) for pointing fingers at the country's first Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru over the simmering Maharashtra-Karnataka boundary dispute, here on Wednesday.

BJP Minister Sudhir Mungantiwar, while reacting to Karnataka Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai's new claim to 40 border villages of Sangli, stated that "the entire boundary row was a blunder of Nehru", enraging the Congress.

"Even after over eight years in power, they (BJP) have to blame Nehru for everything to hide their own failures on various counts... The people of the country have realised this," said Congress spokesperson Atul Londhe

Elaborating, he said the BJP is having its government in Maharashtra, Karnataka, at the Centre and a majority even in the Parliament, and they can take any decision pertaining to the boundary row."Then why don't you do

it instead of blaming Nehru for everything, whether it is the state borders issue, inflation or the falling Rupee. For how long will you keep blaming others to cover up your own failures?" Londhe ques-

tioned.

Karnataka CM Bommai's statements evoked sharp reactions from all political parties -- the ruling alliance of BJP-Balasahebanchi Shiv Sena, the Opposition Congress, Nationalist Congress Party, Shiv Sena (UBT), Maharashtra Navnirman Sena and other

#### Team Absolute | Mumbai/Patna

Complex, but he had been abusing

and beating her up for six months.

cating me and he scared and black-

mails me that he will kill me cut me

"It has been six months he has

been beating me. I did not have the

guts to go to the police because he

Shraddha said that Aftab's parents

he tried to kill me". "They also know

about we living together and they

would threaten to kill me," she wrote

in the letter. In a shocking revelation,

"are aware that he beats me and that

visit us on weekends. I lived with him

up in pieces and throw me away.

"Today he tried to kill me by suffo-

hiv Sena-UBT leader Aditya Thackeray, who met Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar and Deputy Chief Minister Tejashwi Yadav in Patna on Wednesday, said that it was a courtesy call with "no political discussions".

Accompanied by party MPs Anil Desai and Priyanka Chaturvedi, he met the Bihar leaders in Patna during his daylong visit there, considered significant in view of the upcoming Mumbai civic elections.

"Tejashwi and I are of the same age. We have been speaking over the phone since the time I was in government and he was in the (Bihar) opposition. We met for the first time, said Thackeray, son of former Maharashtra ČM Uddhav Thackeray.



'NO POLITICAL DISCUSSIONS': THACKERAY JR. AFTER MEETING TEJASHWI YADAV

Earlier, Tejashwi Yadav accorded a warm welcome to the Sena-UBT leaders at his mother and ex-CM Rabri Devi's home and presented them a copy of a book on his father

Lalu Prasad Yadav - a former Union Minister and ex-CM - to the visiting dignitaries.

He shared photos of his meeting on social media, saying " Gave brother Aditya Thackeray a warm welcome on reaching Patna".

Both the young leaders - Tejashwi Yadav, 33 and Aditya Thackeray, 32 said that more than anything else, they would cooperate to "save the Constitution and Democracy' that are under threat in the country, and Thackeray emphasised how during the Maha Vikas Aghadi rule, the government worked as per the Constitution for the progress of Maharashtra. The Sena-UBT team also had a brief unscheduled meeting with CM Nitish Kumar who received them, taking time off his engagements, said a party leader in Mumbai.Aditya Thackeray insisted that the meeting was not political and appreciated the good work being done by Nitish Kumar and Tejashwi Yadav for the people of Bihar.

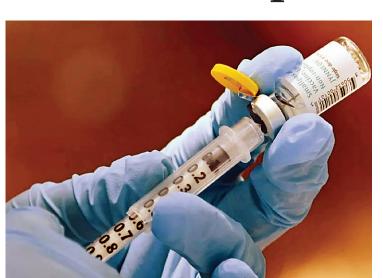
## Maha drug body asks states to stop Jab for Anaemia as patient dies

he Maharashtra Food & Drug Administration (FDA) has asked all drug controller authorities in the country to stop the use of a particular batch of drug Orofer FCM following the death of a patient at a Mumbai hospital.

A person died at Saifee Hospital in Mumbai due to suspected adverse reaction of the drug, said a senior official from FDA's Pune divi-

sion on Wednesday. Orofer FCM injection is used to treat iron deficiency anaemia.

Emcure Pharmaceuticals, the manufacturer, was asked to recall the particular batch of the drug, said S B Patil, Joint Commissioner (Drugs) FDA.



Hospital was due to suspected adverse reaction of this drug, he

As per the company, there could be spurious drugs available in the market in the name of INJ OROFER and because of such spurious drug the suspected adverse reaction might have taken place, he said.

The company also told the FDA that spurious versions of one of its other drugs was already being sold in the market, he said.

"Mumbai FDA team is carrying out a probe in the matter," Patil said, adding that samples from the batch of the drug have been collected from the distributors and sent for analysis.

## Nagpur joins list of airports with 5G services

Team Absolute New Delhi

he Bahasaheh Ambedkar International Airport in Nagpur has joined a growing list of airports in the country to enjoy the ultrafast 5G serv-

The new terminals in Bengaluru, Pune and Varanasi are the other three airports that have Airtel 5G Plus.Nagpur was one amongst the first eight cities in the country to get the service. Customers flying in and out of the 'Orange City' can enjoy high speed 5G Plus

across the airport terminal. Passengers can enjoy blazing speeds on their mobile phones while they are at the



arrival and departure terminals, lounges, boarding gates, migration and immigration counters, security areas, baggage claim belts, parking area.Commenting on the launch, George Mathen, CEO, Maharashtra & Goa, Bharti Airtel said: "I am thrilled to announce the beginning of a new chapter in Maharashtra as Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar International Airport, Nagpur

becomes the second airport in the state to have the Airtel 5G Plus services after Pune airport. I thank the authorities in Nagpur Airport for all the support extended to make this project live."

Airtel 5G Plus service is now live in Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, Bengaluru, Hyderabad, Siliguri, Nagpur, Varanasi, Panipat, Gurugram

#### KENYAN WOMAN FORGOT BAG WITH RS15 LAKH IN CAB. POLICE **RETURNS IT**

Mumbai: Mumbai Police on Tuesday returned a bag with Rs 15 lakh cash to a Kenyan woman who had forgotten

it in a taxi. The woman had lodged a complaint at Colaba police station on Monday that she had forgotten her bag with Rs 15 lakh cash in a taxi said police.

Colaba Police soon started scanning CCTV footage to trace the taxi.

The taxi driver was found in Kalbadevi area and police took the bag from him. It was later handed over to the woman.

## Open manholes are death traps, cover them: Bombay High Court to BMC

Mumbai Agencies

he Bombay High Court on Tuesday took serious note of open manholes in the city terming them as "death traps", and directed the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) to cover these up immediately.

A division bench of Chief Justice Dipankar Datta and Justice Abhay Ahuja was hearing petitions raising concerns over potholes on city roads causing accidents.

On Tuesday, advocate Ruju Thakker, representing one of the petitioners, pointed out that there were around 300 open manholes on the service road of the Eastern Express Highway

Though several complaints had been lodged with the authorities, not a single manhole has been covered, she claimed.

The bench then asked the BMC's counsel Anil Sakhare to verify if this was true.

The court said it wants all the open manholes covered by November 28 and directed the



civic body to submit a compliance report on December 1.

Thakker further cited a recent incident where a woman fell into an open manhole at Vasai and died.

Advocate Swati Sagwekar appearing for the Vasai Virar Corporation then said that only a few manholes were open and these were less than three feet

To this, Chief Justice Datta remarked, "So three feet open manholes are not death traps?' "Even if one does not die,

people may fracture them-

selves," the court said.

#### **▶ MAHARASHTRA DEPUTY CHIEF MINISTER DEVENDRA FADNAVIS ON WEDNESDAY SAID NO VILLAGE IN MAHARASHTRA HAS SOUGHT A MERGER**

**WITH KARNATAKA RECENTLY, AND THERE IS NO QUESTION OF ANY BORDER VILLAGE** "GOING ANYWHERE".

Nagpur/Mumbai | Agencies

arnataka Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai claimed on Tuesday that some village panchayats in Jat taluka of Maharashtra's Sangli district had passed a resolution in the past seeking to merge with Karnataka when they were facing a severe water crisis

The Karnataka government had devised schemes to help them by providing water,



and his government was seriously considering the proposal of Jat villages, he said.

Amid border row,Devendra

"These villages had introduced a resolution on the issue of water scarcity in 2012. Presently, none of the villages have introduced any resolution," Fadnavis told reporters. When he became Maharashtra chief minister, his government entered into an agreement with Karnataka to sort out the water issue, he said. A water supply scheme was chalked out for the Jat villages when Girish Mahajan was water resources minister in his cabinet, the BJP leader added. "We are now going to give approval to that scheme. Perhaps because of Covid,

the previous (Uddhav Thackeray-led) government could not approve it," Fadnavis added."Presently, none of the villages have raised such demand (of merger with Karnataka). The demand is of 2012," he said."Not a single village of Maharashtra will go anywhere," Fadnavis stressed. Earlier in the day, Maharashtra minister Shambhuraj Desai said the Karnataka chief minister's claims should not be taken seriously. The decades-old border dispute over Belagavi (earlier Belgaum) between Maharashtra and Karnataka is in news again due to recent statements from both sides.

**Kourtney** Kardashian

has son Reign's hair in her 'secret drawer'

Los Angeles | Agencies

merican reality television star and socialite Kourtney Kardashian is a proud mom and her obsession with ner son Reign's hair proves the fact. Kourtney has a "secret drawer" in which she has kept Reign's hair, as per the reports. She revealed that she didn't cut her son's hair until

Talking about the same, she was "pressed" by her younger sister, Khloe Kardashian, about the contents of her "secret drawer" for the Interview magazine. "I will tell you one thing that's in my secret drawer," a reluctant Kourtney told Khloe in the conversation, prompting Khloe to respond: "I'm really happy I pressed the issue."

Kourtney then said, quoted by People: "I have Reign's hair, because we didn't cut his hair until he was five. So I have his long braid and I smell

Khloe offered a sentimental response to Kourtney's confession: "Okay. That's nice, what else could she have said, afterall?

Kourtney also vowed to show Khloe the lock of hair "when you come over later." However, Khloe was uninterested. "Oh no, I'm fine with that. It's like, oh my gosh. Rapunzel?" Khloe

Kourtney shares Reign Aston, Mason Dash and Penelope Scotland with ex Scott

The 'Kardashians' star is hoping to become a mother of four and welcome a child with husband Travis Barker.



hollywood

Los Angeles | Agencies

merican rapper Kanye West is being warned that he could lose full custody of his four children with

Kim Kardashian, legal experts have said. A judge could rule against the rapper having access to the kids he shares with his ex-wife after he chose not to turn up to his scheduled deposition on November 16, says reports.

ments seen by a show that Kanye has one last chance to be questioned by

Kim's legal team on November 29. But the outlet said that if he again does not show, it could have dire implications over his chances of custody of the children he shares with Kim - North, Saint,

Chicago and Psalm. According to the reports, New Jerseybased family law attorney Lexie Rigden from Rigden Law LLC, said: "If Kanye refuses to show up to his deposition, the judge could sanction him monetarily

make him pay counsel fees, and if it is an egregious enough discovery violation, the judge may be able to bar him from putting on a case at trial.'

Rachel Fiset, managing partner of Zweiback, Fiset Zalduendo LLP, added: "Avoiding a deposition in litigation is treated seriously by the judge, particularly when it is a repeated offence...overall, this can hurt his case. In the most severe instance, the judge can rule against him and he could get a lesser custody award and a less favourable monetary disposition."It has been reported that Kim, is happy to give Kanye 50/50 custody, but he has since claimed on social media she has them 80 per cent of the time.

## Captain America and Thor are the stars: Quentin Tarantino

Los Angeles | Agencies

Tennifer Aniston made headlines at the start of November when she declared, "There are no more movie stars." It's a statement that Quentin Tarantino agrees with, as evidenced by the director's recent interview on "2 Bears, 1 Cave" podcast (via Mediaite). Tarantino attributed the loss of movie stars to the "Marvel-ization of Hollywood."

"Part of the Marvel-ization of Hollywood is...you have all these actors who have become famous playing these characters," Tarantino said. "But they're not movie stars. Right? Captain America is the star. Or Thor is the star. I mean. I'm not the first person say that. I think that's been said a zillion times...but it's like, you know, it's these franchise characters that become a

Tarantino also clarified in the interview that he

does not "hate" Marvel movies but dislikes them for being the only product Hollywood is interested in making these days.

"Look, I used to collect Marvel comics like crazy when I was a kid," Tarantino said. "There's an aspect that if these movies were coming out when I was in my twenties, I would total

ly be fucking happy and totally love them. I mean, they wouldn't be the only movies being made. They would be those movies amongst other movies. But, you know, I'm almost 60, so yeah. No, I'm not quite as

excited about them.' "My only axe to grind against them is they're the only things that seem to be made,' he added. "And they're the only things that seem to generate any kind of excitement amongst a fan ace or even for the studio them. That's what they're excited about. And so it's just the fact that they

are the entire representation of this era of movies right now. There's not really much room for anything else. That's my problem."

ABSOLUTE PIC OF THE DA

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## Fiery Palestinian's drama wins top prize at Cairo Film Festival

alestinian filmmaker Firas Khoury's fiery coming-of-age drama "Alam" (The Flag) took home the Golden Pyramid at the Cairo Intl. Film Festival, which wrapped with a glitzy award ceremony in the Egyptian capital on

world premiered at the Toronto Intl. Film Festival, struck a chord with both the international jury, headed by Japanese filmmaker Naomi Kawase, and moviegoers in Cairo, who also handed "Alam" the audience award. At a rousing Middle East premiere on Nov. 18, moviegoers burst into applause several times during the screening.

Khoury, who addressed the audience at Cairo's Opera House with a pre-recorded message, was unable to attend the festival. The director, an Israeli citizen traveling on a

visa by Egyptian authorities.

Palestinian passport, was not granted a

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Paula Patton

**Caitlin and Lou** Taylor Joins Ryan Kwanten's upcoming movie Los Angeles | Agencies

11 mile" star Caitlin Stasey and Lou Taylor Pucci have joined the cast of Jonathan auf Der Heide's upcoming horror-thriller film "Devil Inside." They join the previously announced Ryan Kwanten.

Pitched as an elevated genre film in the vein of "28 Days Later" and "It Comes at Night," the picture explores the 'what if' question of a cross-species contagion, in this case from a Tasmanian Devil, the last of the marsupial carnivores. Stasey is fresh from Paramount's \$200

million-grossing hit "Smile" and is also known for her genre work on "I, Frankenstein" and "Tomorrow When the War Began." Pucci won the Sundance Jury Prize and

the Berlin Silver Bear for "Thumbsucker" and was star of the Sam Raimi-produced "Evile Dead" in In the film, Stasey plays the role of Eva, a young

virologist, who helps the local park ranger (Kwanten) research, the Tasmanian Devil Facial Tumor Disease - a contagious cancer that has wiped out nearly 90% of the species population. But when her husband, Alex (Pucci), is bitten by a sickly stray dog, Eva suspects the virus has mutated across species and is causing violent outbursts in the hosts. Infection soon spreads through the locals and Eva must choose between saving the man she loves or the rest of humanity.

## WHY MARGOT ROBBIE ACCEPTED THE ROLE IN 'BOMBSHELL'?

Los Angeles | Agencies

ustralian actress Margot Robbie has revealed why she took the role in 'Bombshell', the 2019 drama about the women who worked together to expose Fox News CEO Roger Ailes for his ongoing sexual misconduct. The actress, admitted she didn't know the definition of sexual harassment and took the role to help her better understand it, reports.

"I realised that I - as a person with an established position in the industry, financially set up and self-sufficient - I didn't know the definition of sexual harassment, and that's shocking," she said during a BAFTA Life in Pictures talk celebrating her career, according to the reports. According to the reports, Robbie also said that it "horrified" her that she knew so little about the topic, and 'Bombshell' taught her that sexual harassment and bad behaviours truly "flourishes in the grey

"Roger Ailes or Harvey Weinstein, they take advantage of the area," the 'Barbie' actress added. "The situation isn't black and white.

When reflecting on the fact that she had only worked

with a single female director on a feature film by her 20th big screen project - with 'Mary Queen Of Scots' director Josie Rourke - Robbie said that she sees no difference between men and women behind the camera and "couldn't put it down to

"I'd love to say Josie has a particular insight as a woman, which she does, but then on something like

'Bombshell' with a male director, (Jay Roach) is the most emotionally intuitive person I know," Robbie said. "It didn't work better because he's a man, but every single director has a totally different personality and process."The actress tends to gravitate to hard roles that challenge her. "I'm a masochist," she told earlier. Adding that no matter how daunting or draining a role - Tonya Harding in 2017's 'I, Tonya' would seem to certainly count - the actress

"can always find a fifth gear.

Los Angeles | Agencies Khoury's politically charged debut, which

# Sports

# WOMEN ATHLETES WIN BIG AT Sift Kaur Samra crowned **NORTH-EAST OLYMPIC GAMES**

Shillong | Agencies

t the 2nd edition of the North-East Olympic Games held in Meghalaya this month, women athletes Glorify Kurbah, Rinalis Ingti and Diva Tang brought accolades by displaying tremendous sporting potential and winning seven medals.

Glorify Kurbah, Rinalis Ingti and Diva Tang received training and endto-end support from Dream Sports Foundation (DSF), under the longterm Athlete Development program.

Department of Sports and Youth Affairs, Govt. Of Meghalaya, said, "We would like to thank Dream Sports Foundation for their partnership to enable sports developments in the region. The team worked hard to train and support these athletes which has enabled them to bring home these medals. Because of their efforts, Glorify Kurbah, Rinalis Ingti, and Diva Tang, have emerged victori-



ous. "We hope partnerships like the one with Dream Sports Foundation grow over the coming years, both in Meghalaya and other North-Eastern states, and our athletes get the best opportunity to shine and represent

the states and the country on national and international platforms."

A spokesperson of Dream Sports Foundation said, "We congratulate all the athletes for their incredible performances at the North-East

Olympics. The impetus and impact that DSF has been able to create for athletes with our partnership with the state government is a testament to how adequate training, nutritional, lodging and overall support to young sports talent can strengthen India's position as a sporting nation." The North-East Olympics 2022

proved to be a significant stage for over 3000 young sportspeople across the eight states to compete and showcase their skills. The aim of organising the Games is to encourage greater participation of youth in sporting activities to discover sports talent for national and international level competitions at an early stage.

The athletes supported by DSF will now look to use these achievements as a motivator and confidence booster, ahead of the upcoming Khelo India Youth Games scheduled to take place from 31st January 2023 in Madhya Pradesh.

# national champion

Team Absolute New Delhi

unjab's Sift Kaur Samra was crowned national champion in the women's 50mm Rifle 3 Positions (3P), here at the Vattiyoorkkavu Shooting Range in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala, venue of the 65th National Shooting Championship Competitions (65th NSCC) in Rifle events.

Sift handed out a 16-10 defeat to Rajasthan's Manini Kaushik, who had topped the qualifying charts a day earlier. Odisha's Shriyanka Sadangi won bronze.

Sift, who had finished sixth in qualification, emerged on top of the ranking round, with a score of 404.2. Manini was second with 402.9, which earned her the right to take on Sift in the gold medal match. Shriyanka was further back with 402.1, but that was enough for

They were followed by two current India internationals in Anjum Moudgil and Mehuli Ghosh, who finished fifth and sixth with scores of 401.2 and 347.8 respectively. Ashi Chouksey, Lajja Gauswami and Himany Poonia completed the top eight in that order. Madhya Pradesh's Ashi was not denied a



junior women's 3P, where she defeated Surabhi Bharadwaj Rapole of Telangana 17-9, in the gold medal match. Haryana's Nishchal

Both Sift and Ashi in-fact picked up double golds winning the women's and junior women's 3P team titles respectively.

#### **Youth World Boxing**

#### FOUR MORE BOXERS CONFIRM MEDALS

Team Absolute New Delhi

Touth Asian champions Muskan, Tamanna and two other Indian pugilists posted dominating victories to reach semifinal at the IBA Youth Men's and Women's World Boxing Championships 2022 in La Nucia, Spain.

The 2022 Youth Asian Championships silver medallist Kirti (+81kg) and Devika Ghorpade (52kg) were the other two boxers to confirm medals by securing their spots in the Last-4 stage. With addition of four more medals, India's total medal count now climbs to 11-same as the last edition, held in Poland.Tamanna began the day for India on an aggressive note as she outperformed Japan's Juni Tonegawa by unanimous decision in the women's 50kg quarter-final. Devika also notched up an easy 5-0 win against the German boxer Asva Ari.Muskan (75kg) and Kirti proved too strong for their respective opponents-Mongolia's Zyeinyep Azimbai and Livia



Botica of Romania-as they were declared winners by the Referee Stops the Contest verdict within the first three minutes of the bouts. Meanwhile, Preeti Dahiya (57kg), Rhythm (+92) and Jadumani Singh Mandengbam (51kg) made exit after conceding losses in their respective quarter-

#### FIFA World Cup 2022

# Japan stuns Germany by 2-1

t was deja vu all over again as fans were treated to another upset in the World Cup when 4-time Champions Germany succumbed to Japan 1-2 in their Group E encounter on Wednesday.

This is the punishment for a lack of killer

instinct - a charge one can never lay at the door of the very best German sides. Hansi Flick's men should have been out of sight by the halfway point of the second half, but were not ruthless enough. The longer it stayed 1-0, the longer Japan felt they could get something out of the game. Soon after their goalkeeper Shuichi Gonda made multiple saves to keep his team in the game, Japan went to the other end and tested Manuel Neuer.

It was a warning Germany didn't heed properly as immediately afterwards, Arsenal's Takumi Minamino's shot was parried by the German custodian, only for Ritsu Doan to slam home the rebound.

And the match turned on its head when Takuma Asano latched on to a long ball from his own half, and despite the attention of a close-marking defender, beat Neuer at his near post. Japan floored Germany in the most simplest of ways. A long ball over the top found Asano with ample space, making most



of the abvsmal German offside trap. Asano cooly held off Sule and squeezed in a finish past the imposing Neuer at the first post. Doesn't hold well for an experienced keeper like Neuer conceding at the near post.

For the first goal, 4 mins and 9 seconds since he came on as a substitute, Doan thundered home from close range to draw the game. Mitoma began the attack down the left and crossed across goal. It's palmed away tamely by the dominating Neuer but found Doan who slots it in.

#### Croatia held Morocco in goalless stalemate

Doha| Croatia's World Cup campaign got off to a stuttering start with a 0-0 draw against battling Morocco on Wednesday as the 2018 runners-up lacked the punch of the side that went so close in Russia

Chances were at a premium at Al Bayt Stadium as an even Group F contest produced little goalmouth action, and ended in the third goalless draw in nine games at the World Cup so far.There were glimpses of goal for both sides, with Nikola Vlasic going close for Croatia at the end of the first half while Noussair Mazraoui had a header saved for Morocco. Morocco were perhaps the better side in the second half, but for all



their efforts their only other chance of note was Achraf Hakimi's swerving shot from distance that was punched away by Livakovic. The two sides will likely be happy with a point from a match in which there really was nothing to separate them, with both having seven attempts at goal and just two

#### FRANCE RALLY FROM A **GOAL DOWN TO** TROUNCE AUSTRALIA 4-1

Doha: A brace by Olivier Giroud and a goal each by Adrien Rabiot, and Kylian Mbappe helped defending champions France to carve out an emphatic 4-1 win over Australia in their Group D match at the Janoub Stadium in Doha, Qatar, on Tuesday evening.

The World Cup holders bounced back from early scare when Craig Goodwin gave Socceroos shock lead in the 9th minute but goals by Rabiot (27th minute), Giroud (32nd and 74th) and Mbappe (68) paved the way for full points for manager Didier Deschamps side.

France next face Denmark on November 26, who earlier in the day shared points with Tunisia in a goalless draw at Education City Stadium and wind up their group engagements against Tunisia on November 30.

#### I HAVE SUCCEEDED BECAUSE MY **DAILY ROUTINE IS MONOTONOUS: SUNIL CHHETRI**



New Delhi | Sunil Chhetri, the captain of the Indian men's football team as well as Bengaluru FC in the ongoing Indian Super League (ISL), is third on the all-time active scorers' lists with 84 goals scored internationally only behind Portugal's Cristiano Ronaldo and Argentina's

Now, the star forward reveals how he has managed to be successful for long in the football scene. "If you want to be a Ronaldo, you have to take a different path. And not many people are choosing this because it's difficult, boring and monotonous," says Chhetri to Kunal Shah, founder of CRED, for a fireside chat on the latest episode of CRED Curious show on Youtube.

Chhetri, considered to be the versatile talisman of the Indian football team for more than a decade, has had his share of heartbreaks as well on the path of being a successful footballer. One of those heartbreaks came off the field. "I got a ligament-2 tear in my ankle and I rushed it. I could've waited for 2 to 3 weeks more, but I rushed it. And then, I was out for 6 months and I think that was the darkest point of my life. No one was talking to me because I was so negative. I think that was my worst time because I didn't like myself at that time."

Currently at tenth place in the points table, Bengaluru FC's next match in the ISL will be against FC Goa at Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium, Goa on November 26.

#### **ICC Men's ODI rankings**

### England lose top spot to New Zealand after loss against Australia

**Dubai** | Agencies

ollowing their 3-0 series defeat against Australia, England slipped to the No 2 in the latest ICC Men's ODI Team Rankings released on Wednesday, making way for New Zealand to take the pole position.

The current ICC Men's Cricket World Cup champions suffered a rare loss that meant they went from winning the T20 World Cup 2022 title to being swept clean in Australia and losing the top ODI rankings tag within 10 days.

England suffered a big defeat of 221 runs (D/L method) in the rain curtailed third ODI on Tuesday after losing the first two ODIs by six wickets and 71 runs



pole position to England in September this year, have now regained the No.1 status in the ODI Team Rankings chart.

Before the start of the series, England sat comfortably on top with 119 rating points, five clear of New Zealand. However, three successive defeats resulted in them losing six points, eventually

falling behind New Zealand (114) with 113.

India is No.3 with 112 rating points and 3802 overall points while Australia are No.4 with 112 and 3572 respectively.

England will get their next opportunity to reclaim the top spot when they face South Africa for a three-match series away from home in January 2023.

### Ronaldo banned two games for smashing fan's phone

**Doha** Agencies

ristiano Ronaldo, who left Premier League side Manchester United by mutual agreement on Tuesday, has been suspended for two matches by an independent regulatory panel for smashing a teenage fan's phone after a defeat at Everton last season.

Video footage appeared to show Ronaldo angrily slapping the phone out of the boy's hand as he walked down the tunnel after United's 1-0 defeat at Goodison Park in April.

The boy's mother said he had been left with a bruised hand and his phone screen had been



smashed. Ronaldo was cautioned by the police in August and charged with improper conduct by England's Football Association (FA) in September.

Ronaldo, who had apologised on social media, was warned as to his future conduct and also fined 50,000 pounds

(\$59,875).The ban means Ronaldo will miss two games if he joins another Premier League club.

Ronaldo's exit from United followed an explosive interview in which he said he did not respect manager Erik ten Hag and felt betrayed by the club.

#### Constantly trying to learn from experienced players: Arshdeep Singh

he steady rise of India's young left-arm pacer Arshdeep Singh continued as he picked his bestever figures in T20I cricket with 4/37 in four overs in the third and final T20I against New Zealand at McLean Park in Napier.

Apart from this, Arshdeep had taken out openers Finn Allen and Devon Conway too. He also showed his ability to bowl the knuckle-ball too. He credited senior pacers in the Indian team for helping him with adding more variety to his bowling

"It's all from the guidance from the experienced play-



ers in the team. I constantly try to learn from them. I try to learn hard-length deliveries from you (Siraj). I am learning knuckleball from Bhuvi (Bhuvneshwar Kumar) bhai.'

"Earlier I learned how to use vorkers from (Mohammed) Shami bhai. I try to improve myself and

hope to step-up and perform well when the team requires you to stop runs or get a wicket," said Arshdeep in a chat with Mohammed Siraj in a video.Arshdeep was also on the verge of a hat-trick, but Siraj made it a team hattrick by running out Adam Milne with a direct-hit from backward point.

Arshdeep has been the find for India in T20Is this year, stepping up admirably in Jasprit Bumrah's absence to pick ten wickets in the Men's T20 World Cup in Australia. Since his T20I debut against England in July this year, he has picked 33 wickets in 21 matches at an average of 18.12 and economy rate of 8.17.

### SIKKIM SET TO HOST ITS FIRST EVER RANJI TROPHY MATCH

Gangtok (Sikkim) Agencies

ikkim is set to host its first ever Ranji Trophy match this December after receiving the go-ahead from the BCCI. The Sikkim Cricket Association (SICA), in a press statement, said the association has received BCCI approval to host Ranji Trophy matches in Sikkim, after having met the standards required for hosting the first-class tour-

"It gives us immense pleasure to officially announce that BCCI has approved SICA ground as the venue for the first ever Ranji Trophy match to be hosted in Sikkim starting from December 13," SICA said.

There was a doubt that the state won't be able to host the matches amid concerns of failing to complete the relevant infrastructure required for the tournament on time.

BCCI manager for cricket operations, Anant Datar, who was here recently to inspect the infrastructure and facilities, was impressed with the recently-developed facilities at SICA cricket ground at Mining, about 35km away



from State capital Gangtok. Sikkim will be playing its Ranji Trophy matches at home against Mizoram, Manipur and Arunachal Pradesh. The venues for the remaining Plate Group matches, against Meghalaya and Bihar, are yet to be announced. Along with Ranji Trophy matches, Sikkim was also allowed to host two Cooch Behar Trophy matches and three Col CK Nayudu Trophy encounters at Mining SICA

## entertainment

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# Niharika Chouksey drew inspiration from cricketer Harmanpreet

Team Absolute Mumbai

V actress Niharika Chouksey, who plays the titular role in the new show 'Faltu', said she drew inspiration from cricketer Harmanpreet Kaur for her role in the

Harmanpreet Kaur, who is an all-rounder, is the captain of the Indian National Women's Cricket Team. Among her various achievements. she became the first woman from India to score a century in Women's Twenty 20 International in November 2018.

The 'Yeh Rishta Kya Kehlata Hai' actress spoke about the cricketer Harmanpreet Kaur and how she has inspired her for her role.

She said: "Growing up, I didn't know how to play cricket but for this role, I had to understand the basics of it. And during that journey of training from the scratch, I found my inspiration in Harmanpreet Kaur. I love how she has paved the way ahead in this career and has achieved major milestones."

Niharika has been part of films such as 'Jahaan Chaar Yaar' in which she played the character of Swara Bhasker's daughter, and she was also seen in 'Janhit Mein Jaari', playing the sister of Nushrratt Bharuccha. Now, she is playing the lead in 'Faltu' which is all about the attitude of people living in rural parts towards a girl child and how certain times they end up giving them names like 'Faltu' with a belief that the next child will be a

She added that the ace cricketer motivated her: "I am inspired by her way of conduct and how fearlessly she backs her team. I love her for her fierce approach and confident



## Vivek Oberoi is a brilliant one-take actor:

#### **Director Samit Kakkad**

Team Absolute Mumbai

amit Kakkad, the director of the recently released streaming series 'Dharavi Bank', has called Bollywood actor Vivek Oberoi, a "one-take actor". He was impressed by how well the actor was prepared for his part in the series.

Elaborating on the same, Kakkad said: "It is always a very enriching and fruitful experience when we get to work with actors such as Vivek who are aware of the pre-requisites and inner workings of the craft. He's undoubtedly one of the hardest-working actors, and with his level of commitment from beginning to end, the process is made significantly simpler. The kind of preparation that he brings to the table is unparalleled.

The director continued: "Vivek Oberoi is a brilliant one-take actor, he is a director's actor, a rather intelligent one. We had no second takes throughout the shoot and if we did, it was for technical reasons like for different camera variations and angles. He goes above and beyond for every shot; instead of using glycerin during emotional sequences, he genuinely brings the character to life and sheds actual tears. Working with him was an absolute pleasure.'

## Suhasi Dhami learnt horse riding for a movie

Team Absolute Mumbai

**Z**ahan Main Ghar Ghar Kheli' actress Suhasi Dhami is currently playing the role of Queen Velu Nachiyar in the historical drama 'Swaraj'. She was the queen of Ramanathapuram district in Tamil Nadu from 1780-1790 and was the first gueen who fought against the East India ( or British rule in India. Suhasi said: "To be getting an opportunity to play a freedom fighter, was a first for me. I was even more excited to know we were shooting in my village, Umar Gaon. It's such a great feeling reading such a well-written script about freedom fighters and getting to know their truth. We've only seen visuals, pictures, and references, so imagining their journeys and sacrifices filled me with an immense sense of gratitude. "She further said: "However, we forget to value this freedom in our day-to-day lives. But when you get the opportunity to play such a character, you remember the blood that's been spilled and you truly appreciate the freedom we enjoy today." The actress has acted in shows such as 'Aaj Ki Housewife Hai... Sab Jaanti Hai', 'Piya Albela', 'Jeet Gayi Toh Piya Morey', 'Kumkum Bhagya', and many more. She went on to explain about her character and how she prepared for her role in the show: "Velu Nachiyar displayed such strength, power, honour and passion to win her kingdom back despite losing her husband and being left alone with a child. I had such a great experience because I had to train for fight sequences and learn horse riding, and while we've read about these things in our

history books, when we see the final visuals, we understand the impact it brings.'



She further mentioned: "First schedule was really nice, I have a very strong character I am playing an assassin for the very first time, never done a role of an assassin in my career so this is going to be really new and

unique and of course its international so it's much bigger and I'm really really grateful that I'm representing India in

Drawing parallels between the Indian film industry and the South Korean film industry the actress said: "Mostly there are a lot of similarities in the Indian industry and the Korean industry when it comes to passion for a project, everybody is really hard working on set, everybody wants the best output and everybody wants to give their best. The aesthetic of this film type was different, I saw some new cinematic style used in the film, very creative, very

new, very raw. I've learned new things in South Korea." 'Asia', which will be released as a multilingual film, has been conceptualised, written and Directed by Lee Jung-sub. It features actors from various countries like

India, Korea, Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia, Philippines, Japan, Vietnam and the U.S.

IT'S A CLICHE THAT ONLY **WOMEN WATCH DAILY SOAP OPERAS: RAHIL AZAM** 

upcoming movie Team Absolute Mumbai has multiple

addam Sir' will be seen playing the lead role in the new show 'Aashao Ka Savera Dheere Dheere Se', shared his thoughts on how men tend to shy away from accepting everyday soap operas on

> He said: "There is no shame attached to men watching everyday soap operas; this is just an assumption made by those around us and it is

completely false. The cliche in society is that only women watch daily soap operas, therefore it's amazing to see that there are males who enjoy watching serials but are reluctant to admit it. I think it shouldn't be generalised, but I think after a hard day's work in the evening, one can find the entire family

watching daily soaps."

He further added that the substance of daily soap operas is





increase the intrigue and curiosity level even more. The final ending will be zeroed in upon based on the audience's reactions through the promotional campaign. Actor and producer Tusshar Kapoor, who essays the role of a cop in the movie, said: "We decided to shoot multiple endings to increase the suspense level in the film. We are yet to choose the final one as our aim is to surprise the audiences and give them something they didn't expect at all."Helmed by Dhruv Lather, 'Maarrich' also stars Naseeruddin Shah in a pivotal role. The film, presented by Tusshar Entertainment House in association with NH

he upcoming movie 'Maarrich', which stars Tusshar

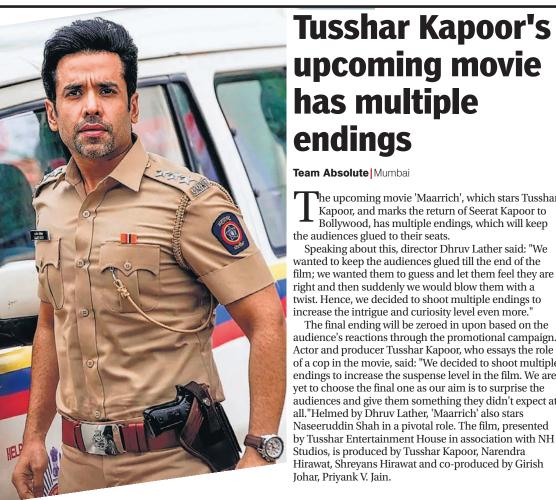
Kapoor, and marks the return of Seerat Kapoor to

Speaking about this, director Dhruv Lather said: "We

twist. Hence, we decided to shoot multiple endings to

Bollywood, has multiple endings, which will keep

well-known, and they give families something to speak about together. "The majority of these programmes have captivating plotlines that are very accurate about what occurs in ordinary people's lives. There is something for everyone to appreciate because these shows deliver what the viewers want. The daily soap opera is an entertainment medium for everyone; thus, it is not required that only women would watch it. Men who find it intriguing can watch it and accept watching it," he added.





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