

# absolute india

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'NATURE LOSS' COUPLED WITH COST OF LIVING CRISIS SPELLS MAJOR RISK FOR INDIA: WEF

## FIND SOLUTION

► **IN THE NEXT TWO YEARS, THE COST OF LIVING CRISIS IS GOING TO BE ONE OF THE BIGGEST RISKS, REPORT SAID.**

► **THE REPORT SAID THAT GEOPOLITICAL RIVALRIES AND INWARD-LOOKING STANCES WILL HEIGHTEN ECONOMIC CONSTRAINTS AND FURTHER EXACERBATE BOTH SHORT- AND LONG-TERM RISKS.**

► **CLIMATE CHANGE IS AMONG THE MAJOR RISKS THAT THE GLOBAL ECONOMY FACES, AND IT IS THE CHALLENGE FOR WHICH HUMANITY IS LEAST PREPARED, THE REPORT STATED.**



Team Absolute | New Delhi

The climate change crisis may be a global problem, but for India there may also be a cost of living crisis emerging, according to a report released by the World Economic Forum titled "Global Risks Report 2023", earlier this week.

Digital inequality and a cost of living crisis coupled with natural dis-

asters are going to be major risks in the short as well as medium term for India, the report noted.

The findings of the report couldn't have come at a more opportune time, as a land subsidence crisis has hit Joshimath town in Uttarakhand.

Also, natural disasters and extreme weather events, geo-economic confrontations, failure to mitigate climate change and large-scale environmental damage incidents,

are some of the other short term risks for India, the report noted.

At the same time, on a long term basis, i.e. 10 years down the line, some major risks for India include failure to mitigate climate change and climate change adaptation, biodiversity loss, large-scale involuntary migration, and natural resources crises.

"As 2023 begins, the world is facing a set of risks that feel both whol-

ly new and eerily familiar. We have seen a return of "older" risks -- inflation, cost-of-living crisis, trade wars, capital outflows from emerging markets, widespread social unrest, geopolitical confrontation and the spectre of nuclear warfare -- which few of this generation's business leaders and public policy makers have experienced," the report said.

It noted that these risks would be amplified by aspects like unsustainable levels of debt, a new era of low growth, low global investment and de-globalisation, a decline in human development after decades of progress, rapid and unstrained development of dual-use (civilian and military) technologies.

"Nature loss and climate change are intrinsically interlinked -- a failure in one sphere will cascade into the other. Without significant policy change or investment, the interplay between climate change impacts, biodiversity loss, food security and natural resource consumption will accelerate ecosystem collapse, threaten food supplies and livelihoods in climate-vulnerable economies, amplify the impacts of natural disasters, and limit further progress on climate mitigation," it said.

## 44 more buildings develop cracks in 24 hrs in Joshimath

Joshimath | Agencies

At least 44 more buildings have developed cracks in the last 24 hours in Joshimath, including the five-room rest house of the Public Works Department which is in a dilapidated condition.

The labourers in the premises were shifted to a safer place when more cracks appeared on the night of January 14.

The cracks in the banquet hall of a hotel owned by the former Head Priest of Badrinath, Bhuvan Chandra Uniyal have widened.

PWD's Executive Engineer Surendra Patwal informed that cracks had increased in



several houses in Singhdhaar ward and Manoharbaag.

Suraj Kaporwan, a resident of Manoharbaag ward, said that the cracks in the fields were widening.

So far, cracks have appeared in 826 buildings in the city area. On Sunday, 17

more buildings were declared unsafe by the CBRI team and were marked with red crosses. District Magistrate Himanshu Khurana said that the cracks increased at the same places where they appeared earlier and no new cracks had been detected.

## DELHI HC GRANTS INTERIM BAIL TO KULDEEP SENGAR



New Delhi: The Delhi High Court on Monday granted interim bail to former Uttar Pradesh BJP MLA Kuldeep Singh Sengar, who was handed imprisonment for life for raping a minor girl in Unnao in 2017, in view of his daughter's marriage.

A division bench of Justices Mukta Gupta and Poonam A. Bamba asked Sengar to report to the concerned Station House Officer on a daily basis during his bail period and furnish two sureties of Rs 1 lakh each.

Justice Gupta also raised a concern saying that Sengar daughter's wedding ceremonies have been scheduled for so many days and everything can be completed in a few days.

## Have To Win 9 States In 2023: BJP after day one of Executive Meet

New Delhi | Agencies

The BJP started a massive two-day strategy session today with an eye to the coming elections in nine states this year, which will be seen as the semi-final to the Lok Sabha elections in 2024. The session was attended by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who earlier held a mega roadshow in Delhi.



Speaking to the media in the evening, senior party leader Ravi Shankar Prasad said the BJP is "committed to winning" the coming elections. The focus now is on strengthening the party at the booth level, Prasad said.

Besides the Prime Minister, 35 Union Ministers, 12 Chief Ministers, and 37 regional heads are attending the two-day national executive meet. 350 party workers are also expected to attend.

Prasad told reporters that India has

pulled ahead in several areas including manufacturing of cars and cell-phones.

"India has become the fifth largest economy in the world surpassing even England. It is the second biggest mobile manufacturer. From importing cellphones in 2013-14, we are now exporting cellphones made here," he said.

Ahead of the event, party chief JP Nadra held a meeting with in-charges and co-in-charges from across the country.

## ALLAHABAD HC ASKS SCHOOLS TO REFUND 15% OF FEES FOR 2020-21

Prayagraj: The Allahabad High Court On Monday asked schools in the state to refund 15 per cent fees of children for 2020-21 when offline classes could not be held due to the pandemic.

A bench of Chief Justice Rajesh Bindal and Justice JJ. Munir said that 15 per cent of the entire fees charged in the session 2020-21 will have to be adjusted in the next session.

A petition had been filed on behalf of many parents regarding regulation of school fees being charged during the Corona period.

In the court, on behalf of the petitioner parents, it was emphasised that no service except online tuition was provided in private schools in the year 2020-21. Thus, charging even a single rupee more than the tuition fees by private schools is nothing but profiteering and commercialisation of education, they had argued. The petitioners have also cited the recent judgment of the Supreme Court in Indian School, Jodhpur v. State of Rajasthan in support of their contention, which states that private schools demanding fees without providing any service amounts to profiteering of education.

As per the order of the High Court, the schools will also have to refund 15 per cent of the fee charged in the year 2020-21 to the children who have left the school. To do this whole process, the High Court has given all the schools 2 months' time. All the petitions were heard on January 6 and the decision has come on Monday.

## Woman with backpack - How a pic is changing her life

Lucknow | Agencies

Someone clicked a picture of a burqa clad woman, with a Swiggy backpack, walking down a road in Lucknow and posted it on the social media.

The photograph went viral within hours and netizens began praising the woman for breaking stereotypes and showing immense grit.

Finally, the truth was revealed and the woman is 40-year-old Rizwana, who is no food delivery agent but works as a domestic help.

"I work as a maid in people's houses in the morning and evening and manage to earn Rs 1,500. I also work as a hawker and sell disposable glasses and clothing at little businesses and stalls in the market in the afternoon. I receive Rs 2 per packet. In all, I make about Rs 5,000-Rs 6,000 every month. The money keeps the fire in my kitchen burning," said Rizwana.

Rizwana is a mother of four -- 22-year-old Lubna, 19-year-old Bushra, seven-year-old Nashra, and youngest son Md Yashi.

Her husband left home for good without any warning or notice. He



was a rickshaw-puller but after his rickshaw got stolen one day, he took to begging and then just disappeared.

When asked about her Swiggy bag, Rizwana said: "I needed a strong bag to keep disposable glasses and cups. So, I bought it for Rs 50 from a person selling it at the Daliganj bridge. Since then, I have been carrying my stuff in this bag. I do not work for Swiggy."

Referring to her photograph having gone viral on the social media, Rizwana said: "A shopkeeper

showed me the pic and told me how it has gone viral. Following this, a person came to meet me and asked for my bank details. Since the incident, I have received help from a few other people as well and it appears that my life is changing for the better."

Rizwana, who was apparently unaware of the food delivery services till now, says "people have told me about Swiggy and I would like to take up the job but the problem is that I do not have any mode of transport with me".

## 'Gold prices on the upward trend, to touch Rs 60,000/10 gms soon'

Chennai: Gold prices are expected to touch Rs 60,000/10 grams 24-carat shortly with the rates touching Rs 58,550 on Monday, a top official of Madras Jewellers and Diamond Merchants Association said. Buyers are continuing to buy now as gold will reach further up if the Russia-Ukraine war turns further serious and the inflation continues upwards, coupled with recession, the official said.

"The price of 24 carat gold is expected to touch Rs 60,000/10 grams in couple of days. On Monday, the price was Rs 58,550/24 carat 10 grams including taxes," Madras Jewellers and Diamond Merchants Association President and Challani Jewellery Mart partner Jayantilal Challani told reporter.

According to Emkay Global Financial Services, the recession fear in the West and the geo-political tensions will keep gold in focus. A slower rate hike of 25 bps going forward has softened the US dollar, leading to a rally in gold prices. Gold is an international commodity, priced in US dollars - so a softness in the greenback lifts the prices of the yellow metal. The US dollar index, from its high of 114 level witnessed in September, has softened to 103 levels.



## Can you go live on FB in an airplane while landing sans Wi-Fi, mobile data?

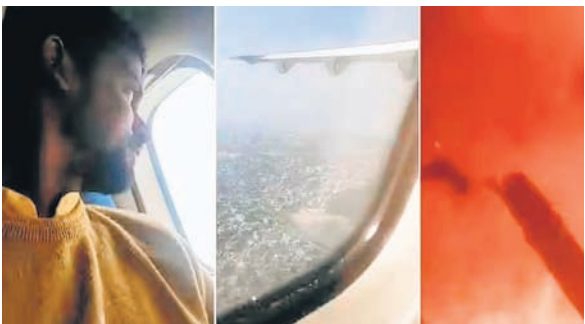
► **According to experts, it is not possible to use the internet in a normal flight (world's top airlines do provide wi-fi on-board for some fee but only on some routes) unless it lands on the tarmac.**

► **However, as the airplane approaches the land and comes within the range of nearby telecom towers, some devices may get signal and mobile data is activated.**

Team Absolute | New Delhi

As people reacted with shock over an alleged Facebook Live video, made by four of the five Indians who were killed in a plane crash in Nepal, experts on Monday debated if going live on social media is possible during a flight with no Wi-Fi or phone connection.

The four people from Ghazipur district in Uttar Pradesh shared their experience on the ill-fated Yeti Airlines flight in the 1.30 minute video, where one of them can be heard saying 'Mauj Kar Di' (it has been a great fun). The video, whose authenticity could not be verified, shows the aircraft taking a sharp turn and then bursting into flames as the camera keeps rolling. The four passengers from Baresar in Ghazipur were among five Indians who



died along with 68 other passengers in the crash. Four bodies were yet to be recovered. During the alleged FB Live video, the smartphone camera also panned on one of them, Sonu Jaiswal (29).

As the phone camera continued to roll, it caught glimpses of towering flames around it for the next 30 seconds. They landed in Kathmandu on January 13 and after performing puja at the Pashupatinath temple, they

were heading for Pokhara for paragliding.

It was Sonu's FB profile where the video was live, confirmed by his cousin Rajat Jaiswal. "Sonu was on Facebook live after boarding the flight for Pokhara. The live-streaming showed that Sonu and his companions were in a happy mood but suddenly, flames appeared before the streaming stopped," he said.

The FB Live video during the fatal crash has now trig-

“As the aircraft crashed into a river gorge while landing in Pokhara in Nepal, the alleged FB Live video may have been in the making without signal and the moment the plane hit the ground, the smartphone may have captured the signal, the mobile data went on and the FB Live video, that was in the making and searching for any nearby network, was uploaded.”

A seasoned technology expert told correspondent.

## GANGA VILAS CRUISE VESSEL STUCK IN BIHAR'S CHAPRA DUE TO SHALLOW WATER

Patna: The Ganga Vilas cruise vessel was stuck in the river in Bihar's Chapra thanks to silt and shallow water on Monday.

The Ganga Vilas cruise, flagged off by Prime Minister Narendra Modi from Varanasi on January 13, was to travel up to Assam's Dibrugarh covering 3,210 km in 51 days crossing 27 small and big rivers. Its route was Ghazipur (UP), Buxar, Chapra (Saran), Patna Munger, Sultanganj, Bhagalpur (Bihar), West Bengal, Dhaka (Bangladesh), Guwahati, and Dibrugarh with stops at 50 places.

When the cruise reached Chapra town in Saran district, it struck into the shallow water. The operators of the cruise lowered the anchor in the middle of the river and made arrangements for small boats for the passengers to travel to the river banks to see historic remains of Chirand, declared a heritage site by Archaeological Survey of India.

The first trip of Ganga Vilas cruise had 32 tourists from Switzerland apart from other countries. Some domestic tourists are also travelling. The cruise vessel has world class facilities including 18 rooms, a 40-seater restaurant, gym, spa, open balcony, lecture hall, internet, television and many other entertainment facilities available. The cruise vessel is 62.5 metres long and 12.8 metres wide with a 40,000 litre fuel tank and 60,000 litre water storage capacity.





# SACHIN PILOT ATTACKS HIS OWN GOVT, SAYS CATCH THE MASTERMIND INSTEAD OF PAPER LEAK AGENTS

Jaipur | Agencies

Targeting the Congress government in Rajasthan, former deputy chief minister Sachin Pilot on Monday said that the paper leak mastermind should be arrested and not the petty brokers.

Pilot was speaking at the Kisan Sammelan at Parbatsar in Nagaur on Monday.

Addressing the mammoth gathering Pilot said, "We are concerned about the future of the youth. Whenever I read the news that papers have been leaked in our state, or the exams have been cancelled, I feel the pain."

"If a youth from a village prepares for an exam, then how much trouble do his parents have to face? From where does he get the money for tuition, from where does he get the money for books. He works hard day and night, prepares for the exam in adverse conditions. Now, when this youth of the village takes an exam after studying in adverse conditions, it really hurts when the paper leak cases come to the fore."

"I hope that the mastermind of the gang is caught instead of those collecting petty brokerage."



Pilot added: "In the last elections, 21 Congress MLAs were left, BJP won 163 seats. It was my endeavour for five years to reach every worker. In five years, did padyatra, gherao. We staged dharmas, got lathis. I took out the Kisan Nyay Yatra from Baran to Jhalawar in the area of the

then Chief Minister Vasundhara Raje. After my visit, Vasundhara Raje had to accept the demands of the farmers."

He took on the Central government and said that it bowed down before the farmers, but has still not fulfilled their demands even when

the farmers' movement is over. That's why we demand from the Centre through the Kisan Sammelan that a law should be made to buy crops on MSP. Wherever the farmer needs, I will stand there, he added.

# Cold wave batters R'than; Fatehpur shivers at minus 3.7 degree C

Jaipur | Agencies

The people in Rajasthan on Monday continued experiencing an intense cold wave situation with Churu in the western part of the state recording minus 2.5 degree Celsius while the mercury at Fatehpur in east Rajasthan plummeted to minus 3.7 degree Celsius.

In fact, a thin layer of snow was also seen in fields and open areas in these two places. Besides, the temperature in Bikaner, Ganganagar and Jhunjhunu also reached close to the freezing point in rural areas. The dew drops were seen turning into snow in the fields there.

The temperature in Alwar and Bhilwara was also recorded at the freezing point on Monday. The minimum temperature reached 0 degree Celsius, due to which the water turned into snow in the plains and fields.

The mercury was recorded at minus 2 degree Celsius in Sikar city. This has been the lowest temperature of the season in Sikar. Earlier, on January 5, Sikar had recorded



ed a temperature of minus 1.5 degree Celsius. Udaipur recorded a minimum temperature of 2 degrees Celsius while Ajmer recorded a minimum temperature of 3.6 degrees Celsius on Monday, which was the lowest temperature of this season in the district.

According to the Met Department, Rajasthan will have to bear the brunt of the severe winter for the next two days on January 17 and 18. The mercury will remain around the freezing point for these two days as well.

There will be a change in the weather from the evening of January 18 and the temperature will rise in Jaisalmer, Barmer, Jodhpur belt of western Rajasthan and people there will get relief from cold, the weather office said.

The experts have advised people to avoid prolonged exposure to cold and to cover neck, fingers and toes, adding pets and livestock should be protected from cold weather and adequate arrangements should be made to avoid cold.

# Union budget: Long term capital gains tax likely to be rationalised

Team Absolute | New Delhi

The government may look at rationalising long term capital gains (LTCG) tax structure in the forthcoming Union Budget for 2023-24.

As of now, shares held for more than one year attract a 10 per cent LTCG tax.

This tax was discontinued in 2005, but was reintroduced in 2018 in the Union Budget for that fiscal.

The Finance Ministry is learnt to be looking at ensuring parity between similar asset classes by rationalising the LTCG tax structure and even revising the base year for computing inflation adjusted capital gains, sources aware of developments said.

Gains from sale of immov-



able property and unlisted shares which have been held for more than two years, attract 20 per cent LTCG. Government may look at

rationalising tax rates and also the holding period for calculating LTCG in the forthcoming budget, sources added.

# Priyanka Gandhi promises Rs 2,000 to every woman household head in K'taka

Bengaluru | Agencies

Congress General Secretary Priyanka Gandhi has announced that if the party is voted to power in the state, Rs 2,000 would be given to every woman house head in Karnataka under the 'Gruhalakshmi' scheme.

Addressing the women's convention "Na Nayaki" organized in Bengaluru on Monday, Priyanka stated that Gruhalakshmi is the bigger scheme of the "Na Nayaki" convention. "I have spoken to Opposition leader Siddaramaiah, party state president D.K. Shivakumar and state in-charge Randeep Singh Surjewala that this programme should be implemented, if we are making an announcement in this regard," she said.

Shivakumar announced that the party will implement the scheme for



the women in the state, who have been hit hard by inflation. "This is our promise to you, we won't go back on it," he stated.

Priyanka Gandhi called upon the

women to make the upcoming assembly polls in the state as their election. "Make this election about you and about your future," she said. Life has become unaffordable,

whether in terms of fees, marriage everything has become costlier. No one is holding the government accountable. All sources of jobs such as PSU's have been shut down and given to the PM's friends, she stated.

GST and demonetization have affected the small scale and medium scale industries, which were also major sources of jobs. The Congress brought land reforms through late Chief Minister D. Devaraj Urs in the state. It waived loans amounting to Rs 8,000 crore, IT hub was built in Bengaluru by the Congress party, through the Anna Bhagya scheme 3.8 crore people were given rice, dal, Priyanka claimed.

Meanwhile, the ruling BJP has taken out full page advertisements regarding its various programmes for women in the state to counter the Congress charges.

# Coast Guard swings to the rescue of over 500 Gangasagar pilgrims

Kolkata | Agencies

The annual pilgrimage at Gangasagar on the Sagar Island in West Bengal ended in a high-octane drama on Monday morning after over 500 pilgrims got stranded on two ferries while being transported back to the mainland.

The Indian Coast Guard (ICG) rushed to the rescue and successfully transported the panic-stricken men, women and children to the Lot-8 jetty at Kakdwip, where the ferries were headed for.

This was clearly a case of miscalculation on the part of the authorities involved. The Muriganga River flows between Kakdwip - the location on the mainland from where pilgrims board ferries - and Sagar Island. The draft of the Muriganga depends on the tides and even the shallow-drafted ferries are at risk of running aground unless the timing is perfect. It was clearly a low-tide period when the attempt to ferry back the pilgrims from the Island was made.



"At around 9.15 a.m., our district headquarters at Haldia received an alert from the district magistrate of South 24-Parganas regarding the grounding of two ferries with over 500 pilgrims on board near Kakdwip. Our operations team deployed at Sagar for the pilgrimage immediately reached the spot and made an assessment of the situation."

"After receiving their report, two Air Cushion Vehicles (Hovercrafts) rushed

to the area from Haldia and Frasergunj. An evacuation plan was formulated. Even as the hovercrafts prepared to start operations, teams from the ICG were on board the MV Ichhamati and MV Agramati, pacifying the stranded pilgrims," a senior Coast Guard official said.

Over the next couple of hours, the hovercrafts ferried 511 pilgrims (the entire lot) to Kakdwip. The operation ended successfully at around 1 p.m.

During the Gangasagar Mela, the ICG makes elaborate arrangements to ensure safety and security of the lakhs of pilgrims who congregate on the Island. While two hovercrafts carry out regular shallow-water patrols, seaward surveillance is carried out by Coast Guard ships and aircraft. Lifesaving teams, comprising divers and Gemini boats, are also deployed on the Island. There is also a team, headed by an ICG officer from Frasergunj, which co-ordinates with officials from the state government and other agencies.

# BRIDGE COLLAPSES IN BIHAR'S DARBHANGA AS OVERLOADED TRUCK PASSES

Patna: An iron bridge in Bihar's Darbhanga district collapsed on Monday due to an overloaded truck, officials said.

The incident occurred at Sabohar Ghat under Kusheshwar Asthan block in Darbhanga. The bridge, over the Kamla Balan river, connected Darbhanga with Madhubani, Saharsa, and Samastipur districts.

With the sand-laden truck reached the middle of the bridge, it collapsed and the truck fell into the river. The truck driver and helper managed to jump into the river and save their lives.

Following the incident, the local officials reached the spot and operations were launched to extract the truck.

Local residents were furious with the officials and the contractors who had constructed the bridge, the only connecting districts in the region. The residents of 10 village panchayats are directly affected by the bridge collapse.

The Bihar government is constructing a parallel bridge at the same place but it is not completed yet.

# Woman hit by SUV while feeding stray dog in Chandigarh



Chandigarh | Agencies

A woman in Chandigarh was hit by a speeding SUV while she was feeding stray dogs on the roadside and the impact was so severe that she was tossed up in the air, police said on Monday.

The incident occurred in Sector 53

at 11.39 p.m. on Saturday, and the driver fled immediately after the incident. The footage from a CCTV camera shows the woman was seen feeding a stray dog when the Thar vehicle hit her.

The victim, Tejaswita Kaushal, 25, a resident of Sector 51, was hospitalised and later discharged.

# NARROW ESCAPE FOR ANDHRA MINISTER, MP

Amaravati: Andhra Pradesh Minister for Mines and Energy Peddireddy Ramachandra Reddy and his son, MP Mithun Reddy had a narrow escape when a car in their convoy met with an accident in Annamayya district on Monday.

They were going to a relative's house when Mithun Reddy's car was hit by another vehicle coming from the opposite direction. The MP's vehicle overturned causing grievous injuries to his personal secretary.

Mithun Reddy was travelling in his father's car at the time of the accident which took place near hannamukkappalle ring road in Rayachoti mandal. The injured was shifted to Rayachoti hospital. The minister along with his and other members of the family were travelling from Punganur to Veeraballi to participate in Sankranti festivities at their relative's house.

# Confrontation with judiciary meant to capture it: Jairam Ramesh

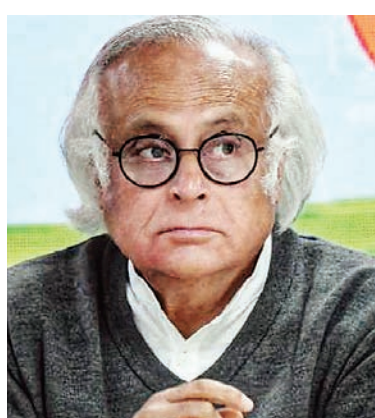
Team Absolute | New Delhi

The Congress on Monday alleged that the Centre wants to capture the judiciary and that is why a confrontation is going on in an orchestrated manner.

"The VP's assaults. The Law Minister's attacks. All this is orchestrated confrontation with the judiciary to intimidate and thereafter capture it totally. The Collegium needs reform. But what this Govt wants is complete subservience - Its remedy is a poison pill for the judiciary," Congress General Secretary Jairam Ramesh tweeted.

Ramesh was reacting on reports that the government wants its nominee in the collegium, which recommends names for appointment in the higher judiciary.

The Congress had earlier termed Vice



President Jagdeep Dhankhar's recent criticism of the Kesavananda Bharti judgement as an "extraordinary attack" on judiciary.

"In my 18 years as an MP, I've never

heard anyone criticise the 1973 Kesavananda Bharati judgment of the Supreme Court. In fact, legal luminaries of the BJP like Arun Jaitley hailed it as a milestone. Now, the Chairman of Rajya Sabha says it was wrong. Extraordinary attack on the judiciary!" Ramesh had tweeted.

The reaction came a day after Dhankhar insisted on Parliamentary supremacy. While addressing the 83rd All India Presiding Officers' Conference in Jaipur last week, Dhankhar had said that the power of the Parliament to amend the Constitution and deal with legislations is not subject to any other authority, and all constitutional institutions - the judiciary, the executive and the legislature - are required to conform to their respective domains and conform to the highest standard of propriety and decorum.

# FOUR MEMBERS OF A FAMILY FOUND DEAD IN HYDERABAD

Hyderabad: Four members of a family were found dead under suspicious circumstances at their residence in Hyderabad on Monday, police said.

Vivin Pratap, working as design manager with a car company in Chennai, his wife Sindhura, 32, manager of a Bank of Baroda branch in Hyderabad, their six-year daughter Adhya, and his mother Rajati, 65, were found dead in their house in Tarnaka area under Osmania University Police Station limits. Relatives of Sindhura alerted the police after she and other family members did not respond to the phone calls. They said she was depressed for the last few days. Police rushed to the house and broke open the door. While Pratap was found hanging in one room, the other three were lying dead in other rooms. The bodies were shifted to Gandhi Hospital for autopsy.

Police suspect Pratap killed his mother, wife and daughter before taking the extreme step.

## DOB CHANGE

I LOVELY KUMARI is legally wife of No. 4288678W NK KISLAY KUMAR presently residing at Vill+Po- Rani-3 PS-Bachhwara Teh- Teghra Dist- Begusarai St-Bihar Pin:851111 have changed my DOB from 15/02/1994 to 15/07/1994 vide affidavit no. 75AA 724175 .

## DOB CHANGE

I No. JC-561653A SUB JITENDRA KUMAR is F/o DHWANI KUMAR SINGH presently residing at Vill-Daulatpur Po-Maula Nagar PS- Atri Dist-Gaya St-Bihar Pin:843311 have changed my son's DOB from 07/02/2007 to 07/05/2008 vide affidavit no.75AA 724175 .



# MECHANISM NEEDED FOR REGULATION OF STRAY DOGS: BOMBAY HIGH COURT

Team Absolute | Mumbai

The Bombay High Court on Monday said a mechanism needs to be evolved for neutering, feeding, grooming and vaccination of stray dogs in view of their high population on streets and sought the assistance of an NGO in the matter.

A division bench of Justices Gautam Patel and S G Dige said the court would like to rope in 'The Welfare of Stray Dogs' (WSD) NGO which has been working towards the welfare of stray dogs for the past several decades.

The court was hearing a petition filed by six residents of a residential complex at Seawoods in Navi Mumbai, seeking a direction to the Navi Mumbai Municipal Corporation to identify and demarcate feedings stations in public places for stray dogs.

The residents had also challenged fines imposed on them by their housing society for feeding stray dogs.

The petitioners and the Seawoods Estates Limited (SEL), which manages the residential complex, have been at loggerheads over the issue.



The court also came down heavily on the SEL for not permitting domestic helps, drivers and other service providers to the homes of the petitioners. The HC had in December 2021 appointed a lawyer to mediate on the issue. The high court on Monday said some process needs to be found to address the issue.

"When we have a high population of stray dogs, a mechanism has to be evolved for their neutering, collaring, vaccination and grooming. We have to seek the assistance of such groups that have been working towards the welfare of such dogs, Justice Patel said.

The high court said some process

needs to be found to address the issue, noting the petition raises a wider question about the care, upkeep and control of stray dogs as also the protection of the rights of citizens. "It would help us if some organisation having expertise in such matters assists us. The Welfare of Stray Dogs is one such organisation. We direct for the WSD to be implemented as respondent in the present petition, the court said, posting the matter for further hearing on March 2.

The court also rapped the Seawoods Estates Limited for not permitting domestic helps, drivers and other service providers to the homes of the petitioners.

"The earlier bench of the HC had in its December 2021 order directed SEL to not take any coercive action against the petitioners. So now you (SEL) reduce their lives to such utter misery by not allowing basic service providers to their homes? How can you prevent people from going? Justice Patel said. The court directed the petitioners to file an application raising these grievances.

# First time, Maha Home Guards get insurance cover for on-duty mishaps



Team Absolute | Mumbai

For the first time, Maharashtra Home Guards are entitled to an insurance cover in case of accident or death in the line of duty, a top official said here on Monday.

Director General of Home Guards, Dr B. K. Upadhyay handed over a cheque of Rs 25 lakh to a home guard, Laxman Vithal Akhade who lost one leg in a serious acci-

dent while on duty on September 5, 2022.

"Similar to Maharashtra Police, the Home Guards have tied up with the private sector's HDFC Bank for the salary accounts of its staff and also entitlements to all insurance benefits," Dr Upadhyay said.

Present were the beneficiary Akhade, Additional DGP Brijesh Singh, Additional SP of Raigad Atul Zende, HDFC officers, and other top offi-

icals. With 45,000 personnel including women and technicians, Maharashtra Home Guards is among the biggest in the country and serves as an auxiliary to the police force for maintaining internal security.

It also serves as an emergency force for specialised tasks and has set up specialist arms like the border wings, marine units, etc. that work for the defence of the country.

# Who proposed concretisation of roads in Mumbai: Aaditya Thackeray

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Shiv Sena (UBT) leader and former Maharashtra minister Aaditya Thackeray on Monday sought to know who proposed the concretisation of nearly 400 km of roads in Mumbai, days after he alleged irregularities in tenders floated to repair the roads. Talking to reporters, Thackeray also asked whether there was a timeline to complete the road works.

He also asked that when the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) has no public representative, mayor or standing committee, how fair is it for the administrator to propose and himself sanction the concretisation of roads.

The BMC's term ended in March last year and its elections are overdue.

Thackeray had on Friday alleged that tenders for the concretisation of roads in Mumbai were floated at a higher price for the benefit of contractors and the same should be scrapped.

New contracts worth more than Rs 6,000 crore had been issued to concrete 400 km of



roads in the city, he had said. On Monday, Thackeray asked, Who proposed the concretisation of roads because local representatives like corporators propose road repairs?"

He said there are small lanes where asphalt (for road coating) has been used for years. In the case of Peddar Road and Marine Drive, there is asphalt mastic (coating) and they are still in good condition.

# CIVIC BODY CHIEF AT ED'S OFFICE OVER CARE CENTRE CONTRACTS

Mumbai:

Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation Commissioner Iqbal Singh Chahal on Monday went to the Enforcement Directorate's office in Mumbai in connection with its probe into the alleged irregularities in award of contracts for COVID-19 care centres. The ED had summoned Chahal to record his statement in the matter.

Chahal was seen entering the ED's office at Ballard Estate in south Mumbai at around 11.40 am. BJP leader Kirit Somaiya had alleged irregularities in the COVID-19 centers set up by the BMC.

He had also filed a complaint at the Azad Maidan police station, based on which the police registered an FIR against a hospital management firm and some persons for allegedly submitting fake documents to obtain contracts of COVID-19 care centres.



# Man loses amount worth Rs 12 lakh as cryptocurrency account hacked

Team Absolute | Mumbai

An unidentified person allegedly hacked the cryptocurrency account of a 37-year-old man while he was in Maharashtra's Thane city for some work and siphoned off USD 15,097, worth about Rs 12 lakh, police said on Monday.

The incident took on November 1, 2022, but the man complained to police last week, an official from Srinagar police station said.

Based on the complaint, the Srinagar police here registered a case on Saturday against unidentified person under Indian Penal Code Section 420 (cheating) and provisions of the Information Technology Act, he said.

The victim, a resident of Kandivali in neighbouring



Mumbai, had come to Thane for some work on November 1 when someone allegedly hacked his crypto account online and siphoned off the amount, which was found to have been directly transferred into the bank account of a

company, the official said. The victim did not give any reason for registering the complaint after two months, the police said, adding they were conducting a probe into the case.

# Juhu flyover project finally takes off

Team Absolute | Mumbai

The BMC has passed the proposal to construct a flyover from Juhu Vile Parle Development (JVPD) Scheme circle, popularly known as Juhu Circle, to Mayor Hall on Barfiwala Road. The 1.65-km-long flyover, which has been in talks since 2016, will be built at a cost of Rs 650.90 crore and will reduce the travel time from Juhu to Western Express Highway to 10 minutes from the existing 45 minutes. The Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation started planning for this flyover in 2016 and accordingly appointed two consultants. Due to the presence of a Metro station, the civic body changed the path of the flyover so that it passes parallel to the Metro line. This route goes over land



owned by the Airport Authority of India. The proposal passed last week by BMC Chief Iqbal Singh Chahal stated that the civic

body has paid Rs 11.16 crore to the Airport Authority of India for allowing construction of flyover pillars on their land. Civic officials said that

it would take 36 months, excluding monsoon, to construct the flyover. As per officials, the flyover will be a four-lane one with two-lanes on each side and will help decongest the busy Juhu circle. The BMC had first invited bids for the project at an estimated cost of Rs 350.13 crore on August 8 last year. After there were no responses, the civic body learnt that the estimated cost was calculated based on rates from 2018. The BMC then modified the project cost to Rs 414.10 crore and floated fresh tenders on September 29.

The civic body finalised on a bid of Rs 436.29 crore, which brings the total project cost to Rs 650 crore which also includes Rs 87 crore paid for consultancy and Rs 11.16 crore paid to the airport authority.

# MAN KILLED AFTER THROAT SLIT BY KITE STRING IN THANE DISTRICT

Mumbai: A 47-year-old man died after a kite string got entangled around his neck and slit his throat while he was riding his two-wheeler in Maharashtra's Thane district, police said on Monday. An offence under section 304A (causing death by negligence) of the Indian Penal Code has been registered for the accident that took place in Bhiwandi city on Sunday night, senior inspector C K Kakade said. Sanjay Hazare, a resident of Ulhasnagar, was heading home on a two-wheeler when a kite string got entangled around his neck, he said.

# Senior Cop Allegedly Molests Woman, Hits Husband, Case Filed

Team Absolute | Aurangabad

Aurangabad Crime Branch's Assistant Commissioner of Police (ACP) allegedly molested a woman, and also assaulted her husband and mother-in-law yesterday after barging into their house in an inebriated condition.

A case was registered against ACP Vishal Dhume at the city police station on the basis of the woman's statement, police said.

According to the woman's statement - She, her husband, and her family were out for dinner where ACP Dhume was also present with his friend at another table. He requested the woman's husband to drop him at the Police Commissionerate and then sat in their car and molested the woman.

After that, the ACP requested to use the washroom and reached their house. He insisted to use the toilet in the woman's bedroom only. The woman's mother-in-law and husband were trying to pacify him, but while arguing with them, the ACP hit the woman's husband, according to the complaint. At that



time, the woman and her family sought help from the police helpline. The police came and took the ACP away from there, it said.

A case of eve-teasing with a woman by breaking into the house late at night in an intoxicated condition was registered in the City Chowk police station under sections 354, 354D, 452, 323, 504, 506, police said.

# After denying the news, Rakhi's husband announces they are married

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Rakhi Sawant's marriage recently made headlines and triggered rumours. More questions were raised after Rakhi's longtime boyfriend and Mysore-based businessman Adil Khan Durrani called their marriage "fake".

But now he has accepted it publicly and shared their wedding picture as well.

Adil posted a picture of his marriage with Rakhi on his Instagram handle mentioning the reason for not accepting their relationship status and wrote in the caption: "So here's an announcement finally. I never said I am not married to you Rakhi... Just had to handle few things so had to be quiet, happy married life to us Rakhi (pappudi)." Rakhi replied to him, saying: "Thanks jaan lots of love!"

Develeena Bhattacharjee, Ankita Lokhande, and their industry friends and fans also congratulated the couple. Earlier, Rakhi and Adil's wedding pictures went viral on social media. In the picture they both can be spotted with garlands around their neck. They can be seen signing papers. Rakhi opted for pink coloured sharara with a dupatta over her head while Adil wore black coloured shirt and jeans. However, Adil denied their marriage in one of his interviews. Rakhi's lawyer said: "It is not at all a fake marriage. First of all a nikah was performed and all the procedures were followed and that nikah was also



registered." "There is a proper nikahnama. After performing nikah, there is a procedure in Mumbai that you have to register your marriage with the Municipal corporation."

Rakhi and Adil got married on May 29, 2022, however, due to mutual understanding they kept it under wraps. It was a private affair. She has also converted to Islam for her nikah. Her lawyer said: "Yes, Rakhi has converted to Islam for her nikah and her name is Rakhi Sawant Fatima after marriage." Rakhi was dating Adil for quite long and in May last year, during an event, she made an official announcement of her relationship with him. Before dating Adil, she introduced her husband Ritesh on 'Bigg Boss 15' but later they both parted their ways.

# GOVT ADMITS MULTIPLE SIDE-EFFECTS OF COVID-19 JABS IN RTI REPLY

Team Absolute | Mumbai

It's official. The government's two top watchdogs have admitted to 'multiple side-effects' of Covid-19 vaccines that were jabbed in over a billion Indians in the past more than two years.

The startling revelations are made by the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) and Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO) in an RTI reply to Pune businessman Praful Sardar.

India has permitted Astra Zenaca and Serum Institute of India, Pune's 'Covishield' and SII's own 'Covovax'; vaccines of three Hyderabad-based companies -- the government-run Bharat Biotech Ltd.'s 'Covaxin', Dr. Reddy's Lab imported 'Sputnik V', Biological E. Ltd.'s 'CorBEVax', and later, Cadila Healthcare Ltd., Ahmedabad's 'ZyCov-D' only for teenagers (12-17 age).

"The replies by ICMR-CDSCO are blatantly shocking. Though the government has declared that



"vaccination is totally voluntary", why was the compulsion created indirectly by barring people from travelling in buses, trains, flights, inter-state movements, going out to hotels, restaurants, multiplexes, malls, etc. This trapped more and more panicked people into getting themselves jabbed without knowing the after-effects," said Sardar sharply.

He urged the government to release data on whether adequate publicity on all these possible side-effects was done through media, by hospitals, vaccination centres, and if the health ministry initiated any public safety campaigns for the gullible masses, now that vaccine-related deaths are being reported in India and worldwide.

## Vaccines or villains

In a specific query by Sardar on the side-effects of all these jabs, the ICMR's PIO Dr. Leyanna Susan George and CDSCO's PIO Sushanta Sarkar, have cited a plethora of ramifications arising out of all these vaccines comprising their FAQs.

- ◆ Covishield takes the lion's share of its after-effects on the jabbed janta -- injection site tenderness or pain, multiple red spots or bruises beyond the injected site, persistent vomiting without reasons, severe or persistent abdominal pains or headaches with or without vomiting, shortness of breath, chest pains, pain in limbs or swelling on pressing of calf/arms, weakness/paralysis of limbs of any particular side or parts of the body, including cranial nerves, unprecedented seizures, pain in eyes, blurred vision or diplopia, change in mental status, encephalopathy or depressed level of consciousness.
- ◆ Covovax side-effects are injection site pain/tenderness/induration, fatigue, malaise, headaches, fever, soreness of muscles, joint pains, nausea or vomiting, chills, body-ache or extreme pain in limbs, Asthenia (weakness or lack of energy), Injection site pruritus (itching, rash, red skin, hives), enlarged lymph nodes, back pains, and rarely dizziness or drowsiness.
- ◆ Covaxin displays mild symptoms AEFIs like injection site pain/swelling, headaches, fatigue, fever, bodyache, abdominal pain, nausea, vomiting, dizziness, giddiness, tremors, sweating, cold and cough.
- ◆ Sputnik V manifests with chills, fever, arthralgia, myalgia, asthenia, headaches, general discomfort, injection site pain/swelling/hyperaemia, or nausea, dyspepsia, loss of appetite, or occasional enlarged regional lymph nodes.
- ◆ CorBEVax shows effects like fever/pyrexia, headaches, fatigue, body pains, myalgia, nausea, or arthralgia, urticaria, chills, lethargy, besides injection site pain/erythema, swelling, rash, pruritis or irritation.



EDITOR'S SPECS

### Congress watching Pilot's moves

After Sachin Pilot decided to go alone with his youth and farmers' rally, the Congress is watching his moves closely since his differences with Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot have not defused. The ongoing tension between the two over the leadership issue in the state is a major cause of concern for the Congress which has termed both Gehlot and Pilot as party's assets. The Congress leadership has dismissed speculation about Pilot going against the party, but party General Secretary Jairam Ramesh has said that the party president was working on the Rajasthan issue and some solution will be worked out. He, however, did not divulge the details. The Congress recently replaced Ajay Maken with a new In-charge in Rajasthan so that the issue could be doused for the time being. But, sources said that Pilot met Rahul Gandhi in Punjab during the Bharat Jodo Yatra to press his issues. The party high command has not taken any decision on the leadership issue. Even till date, no clarity has been given by the top Congress leadership to resolve the Gehlot-Pilot issue, sources said that the Congress at this juncture does not want to antagonise any camp. However, none has confirmed that Gehlot shall stay as the CM till the time the state goes to the polls at the end of this year, or if Pilot can be made the Chief Minister before the elections. Congress sources said that the party was studying the circumstances and will take a decision accordingly. Pilot will hold rallies in Nagaur, Hanumangardh, Jhunjhunu and Pali in Rajasthan from January 16, and on January 20, he will hold a youth conference in Jaipur.

# TERROR-AIDING NETWORK CONTINUES TO LOOM OVER J&K

Deepika Bhan

The security system in J&K cannot be judged on the basis of one or a few incidents, said Union Home Minister Amit Shah in Jammu to the media. He said the aim and resolve of security agencies is to end militancy in the UT in the next few years.

Statements like these may seem to be depicting the all-is-getting-better scenario in J&K, but the fact is that these very one or few incidents exhibit the ability of the terror network to strike at will.

The Dhangri killings in J&K's Rajouri district prove the strike-at-will capability of the terror network. Why the terrorists choose Dhangri may be a part of the probe, which has been taken over by the NIA. The village is Hindu-dominated and the attack was aimed to create fear.

The attack had similar goriness that was witnessed in Prankote in Reasi district on the night of April 17, 1998. Twenty-nine people were massacred and 12 of them were children, some were merely 3 to 4 years old. Their stomachs and heads were severed with axes. An old man had a sharp rod pierce his ears before being hacked to death. A house was set on fire to burn all its residents alive. A girl, set ablaze, ran for a distance before she died in a nullah. The women were repeatedly raped. Seven days after the attack, the mastermind was gunned down, but his over a dozen accomplices were never caught. The survivors had no choice but to flee.

The Dhangri attack was meant to send shivers down the spine and so it did among the locals.

Jammu has witnessed over two dozen massacres since the advent of terrorism in Kashmir in 1990, where Hindus were targeted. Most of these were far away villages where access was not that easy. The motive was to create fear and make the Hindu residents flee their homes much like what happened to the Kashmiri Pandits in the valley.

The Dhangri killings were aimed to create a similar scenario. The killings are the manifestation of the dangerous trend emerging on the terrorism graph in the UT. There have been more targeted attacks on civilians. More off-duty policemen are being attacked compared



to the planned attacks as was seen in the past.

Official data suggests terrorists carried out around 29 targeted attacks in Kashmir in 2022, especially on civilians that included non-local labourers and non-Muslim staff, and launched around 12 attacks, including grenade lobbing, on the security forces posted in the Kashmir Valley.

Shah in his statement to media also said, "If you want to judge it (security system), judge it since the beginning of militancy and you will find that after the abrogation of Article 370, J&K has witnessed the least incidents of violence and resultant deaths," adding, "... Our security forces have given befitting replies to terrorists. More terrorists are dying now and fewer civilians are being killed. Even as far as minority killings are concerned, these three years have witnessed the lowest figures".

The government wants to play down the terror threat perception that has in fact never

gone away and continues to ominously loom over the UT.

The now banned The Resistance Front (TRF) has been mainly responsible for most of the terror attacks. It regularly issued threats and even released 'hitlists' with the names of pro-India journalists, police personnel and government employees who got jobs under the PM special package. It is the TRF which is said to be behind the Dhangri killings.

The TRF, a shadow organisation of Lashkar-e-Taiba, was created by the Pakistan establishment soon after the abrogation of Article 370 to make Kashmir terrorism appear indigenous.

The terror outfit was declared a terrorist organisation under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act on January 5.

And a day later it warned of terror attacks on people whose names it released on the 'hit

list'. How well the TRF or the terror network is placed can be gauged from the fact that it is able to get the weapons, right information about its targets and easy movement and escape.

The security agencies do eliminate terrorists in gunfights, but the terror network manages to strike at its will. Its support network exists. Not all locals may be inclined or willing to help, many may be supporting out of fear, and some may be out of religious feelings.

Notwithstanding the booming business, unprecedented tourism and many Kashmiris coming up in several fields, the support to the terror work is still there. And that is also a bitter aspect of Kashmir, which often gets spilled over to regions in Jammu also.

## international

## Sikh family alleges racial discrimination at Windsor Castle, threatens legal action

London | Agencies

Accusing two British Army guards of racially discriminating against them at Windsor Castle, a Sikh family has threatened to take legal action against the UK government.

Rapinder Kaur, 36, said she, her turban-wearing husband and their two-year-old child were subjected to racial taunts by guards during a visit to the castle last year, The Independent reported.

She said that as the family were walking alongside the castle's wall, two soldiers standing in a palace window made inappropriate "We are watching you" gestures while laughing and showing them the middle finger. According to the report, the family then complained to the Royal Collection Trust, which operates the palace, and the Ministry of Defence (MOD), which bears responsibility for the guards. But the family said that all they have received is an email apology from a top-ranking lieutenant,



and guidance that the soldiers would receive refresher training. "The claimant believes that the sole reason for being targeted and singled out by the soldiers was because of their skin colour and the fact that her husband was wearing a turban," a letter sent from the family's solicitors to the Government Legal Department in January 2022 read.

It further said that Rapinder Kaur's family members were the only non-white people there. In a reply in June 2002, the government's lawyers denied

any knowledge of the incident and stated that the lieutenant's apology was "not an admission of liability".

"It is disappointing (that) the Government Legal Department has denied any record of this incident. First, the lieutenant who investigated the incident apologised, but then the Government Legal Department denied it happened, asking me to prove it. Why apologise at all if there was nothing to apologise for?" Rapinder Kaur told The Independent.

"I feel that there is a level of protection afforded to individuals within certain institutions, which does not apply to people like us, minorities," she rued.

This comes as King Charles III visited a gurdwara in Luton, England, last month, and had a wholesome interaction with community leaders, volunteers, and students of Sikh community.

Respecting Sikh traditions, the 74-year-old monarch covered his head with a kerchief, offered prayers, and sat on the floor with Sikh devotees.

## 6.2 MAGNITUDE QUAKE JOLTS INDONESIA

Jakarta: An earthquake measuring 6.2-magnitude hit Indonesia's western province of Aceh on Monday, but did not cause damages or casualties, the country's meteorology, climatology and geophysics bureau said.

The bureau said the quake occurred at around 5.30 a.m., with its epicentre located 47 km southeast of the district of Aceh Singkil and a depth of 23 km under the seabed, Xinhua news agency reported.

The earthquake did not have the potential to trigger a tsunami, it added. The jolts were also felt in the nearby province of North Sumatra.

The tremors did not damage houses or buildings, according to Abdul Muhari, spokesman for the national disaster management and mitigation agency.

"This quake did not leave casualties or those injured, the tremors did not cause damage. We have checked on the quake-impacted areas, especially the hardest hit locations," he told Xinhua.

## Gunmen kill former Afghan female lawmaker in Kabul

Kabul | Agencies

Unknown armed men gunned down former Afghan female parliamentarian Mursal Nabizada along with one of her bodyguards at her residence, Kabul police spokesman Khalid Zadran has confirmed.

"The gruesome incident happened in Ahmad Shah Baba Mina, a neighbourhood of Police District 12 of Kabul city, where unidentified gunmen stormed the house of Mursal Nabizada and sprayed bullets on Saturday night, killing her and one her bodyguards and critically injuring one of her brothers," Zadran told Xinhua news agency.

An investigation has been initiated to identify



the perpetrators and bring to justice the culprits, the spokesman added.

Nabizada served as a member of Wolesi Jirga, or lower house of the erstwhile Afghan Parliament, during the former government which collapsed following the withdrawal of the US-led forces in August 2021.

No group or individual has claimed responsibility for the assassination of

the former lawmaker. Neither her family members nor the police have pointed fingers at any particular group or individual.

Afghanistan's capital Kabul has been the scene of increasing security incidents over the past several months. A blast next to the Foreign Ministry left at least five dead and injured over a dozen others on Wednesday.

## Iran to get Russian Su-35 fighters soon

Tehran | Agencies

Iran will take delivery of a number of Su-35 fighter jets from Russia in the early days of the next Iranian year, which will start on March 21, an Iranian lawmaker has said.

In an interview published by Tasnim news agency, Shahrar Heydari, a member of the Iranian Parliament's National Security and Foreign Policy Committee, revealed that Iran had previously ordered the fighter jets, Xinhua news agency reported.

The lawmaker noted that Iran has also ordered a number of defense and missile systems as well as helicopters, most of which will be soon delivered by Russia.

Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman Nasser Kanaani said in December 2022 that cooperation between Tehran and Moscow in different areas, particularly the defense sector, is not against any third country. Ukraine and some Western countries have recently accused Iran of exporting suicide drones to Russia for use in the ongoing conflict in Ukraine. Iran has admitted to supplying Russia with a small number of drones in the months before the Ukraine conflict, but has denied supplying Moscow with unmanned aerial vehicles for use against Kiev.



## Nepal plane crash victim lost pilot husband in another crash 17 years ago

Kathmandu | Agencies

A woman who was killed in the Yeti Airlines plane crash in Nepal had lost her pilot husband also in a tragic plane crash 17 years ago.

The victim, Manju Khatiwada, 44, was the co-pilot of the ill-fated plane that crashed on Sunday in the western city of Pokhara.

He husband, Dipak Pokharel died in 2006 during a plane crash in the Jumla district.

According to the Kantipur national daily, after the death of her pilot husband, her father, Govinda was planning to send her to India for nursing study but she denied it and went to the US to undertake a pilot course.

She was supposed to be promoted to the rank of pilot after undertaking a few more flights.

In order to become a pilot, one needs at least 100 hours of flying experience.

Manju had successfully landed in almost all of Nepal's airports earlier.

After one more successful landing, she



was about to get a chief pilot's license on Sunday.

She is survived by her daughter.

Dipak Pokharel had died when a 9N AEQ aircraft of Yeti Airlines en route from Nepalgunj to Jumla via Surkhet crashed,

killing six passengers and four crew members.

The plane that crashed on Sunday was piloted by Senior Captain Kamal KC.

She died while fulfilling the dream of her first husband, Santosh Timilsina, manju's second husband, told the media in Biratnagar, an eastern town of Nepal where she was born and brought up.

Everyone who knew her are grieving, he added.

The ill-fated ATR-72 plane took off from Kathmandu for Pokhara at 10.30 on Sunday morning and it lost contact with the air traffic control at 10.50 a.m.

There were 68 passengers and four crew members aboard the flight, among them 15 foreigners, including five Indians, four Russians, two Koreans and one each from Australia, Ireland, Argentina and France.

A total of 68 bodies out of the 72 were recovered as of Monday morning while rest four bodies mainly of minors, are yet to be found, according to District Police Office.



# 'THINK-20', A PREPARATORY MEET UNDER 'G-20' SUMMIT TO BE CONCLUDED TODAY

Team Absolute | Bhopal

After two international events - 'Pravasi Bharatiya Diwas' and 'Global Investment Summit' in Indore, Madhya Pradesh government is hosting 'Think-20' - preparatory meetings under 'G-20' summit, in Bhopal from Monday.

According to the state government's information, at least 94 representatives from several overseas countries, besides intellectuals, economists and officials will be assembled in two-day meeting (Jan 16-17) at Kushabhau Thakre Convention Centre in Bhopal.

Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chauhan attended the inaugural session of the meeting during which, experts and foreign guests discussed various topics including 'Global Governance with LiFE, Values, and Wellbeing', the government said in an official statement on Monday.

Other speakers during the inaugural session were Indonesia's Deputy Minister for Political Affairs, Law, Defence and Security Slamet Soedarsono, Chief Coordinator for India's G20 Presidency Harsh Vardhan Shringla and NITI Aayog Vice Chairperson Suman Bery.

The session were addressed by Research and Information System for



Developing Countries (RIS) Director General Sachin Chaturvedi and Manohar Parrikar Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses Director General Sujan Chinoy.

Besides these, there will also be 10 parallel sessions on the first day on various topics including institutional framework, investing in children as an investment in future, financing resilient cities and societies, economic systems transformation and one on health wellness

and traditional medicine.

"Think-20 is an important part of the G-20 engagement groups in which the world's research institutions discuss G20-related issues. We are very well placed to provide solutions that the world wants to see the G20 address as well as take bold, inclusive and result-oriented steps under our presidency," said Harshvardhan Shringla, the Centre-appointed Chief Co-ordinator for Think-20.

## INDIA CAN TRANSMIT NEW ENERGY TO THE WORLD: PROF. DENNIS

Bhopal: In the first plenary session on "Life, Value and Development Transformation" on the first day of the two-day Think-20 programme at the G-20, Professor Dennis J. Snover said in the keynote address that India, while leading the G-20, has the power to infuse new energy into the world based on established high values. Presiding over the session, Dr. Rajeev Kumar, President of First India Foundation and former Vice-Chairman of Niti Aayog, Government of India, said that keeping in mind the values, we have to move towards progress by walking on the path of development.



Keynote speaker Prof. Dennis said that people of the society should get the benefit of the available resources. In the race for development, we should always remember that we are also social creatures. Our social values will help us in all this. Dominant countries use their power to influence the global market, which promotes inequality. G-20 is mainly an organization based on economic activities. Along with the economic environment, we also have to pay attention to the social environment. We have to move forward with values by adopting far-reaching thinking, which includes the welfare of society, nation and the world, rather than keeping our thinking person-centered. Our life values should be a part of our life journey and not the destination. Value based understanding makes us better and happier.

# Khelo India Youth Games 2022

## Mascot Asha rocks Bhopal with International B Boy Karim on MP Anthem Song

Team Absolute | Bhopal

There is a festive atmosphere in Bhopal regarding the Khelo India Youth Games 2022. Khelo India's Mascot Asha is visiting various schools, colleges and public places in Bhopal to give information about Khelo India and dancing on "Hook Step" with people on the anthem "Hindustan Ka Dil Dhadka Do".



With the aim of attracting people towards Khelo India, "Asha", along with International Break Dancer Karim Gwen of America, B Boy of India Arif Chaudhary who is also known as Flying Machine created an atmosphere of ecstasy for Khelo India near Upper Lake on Sunday evening. People and small children took selfies and danced with the mascot Asha.

It is notable that America's B Boy Karim is training the children selected through talent search in Madhya Pradesh along with Arif Chaudhary and Nitin. After

the inclusion of break dance in Paris Olympics - 2024, the Sports Minister of Madhya Pradesh Smt. Yashodhara Raje Scindia had given instructions to conduct a talent search in view of the possibilities of opening a break dance academy in Madhya Pradesh. The fifth Khelo India Youth Games 2022 will be organised in eight cities of Madhya Pradesh namely Bhopal, Indore, Gwalior, Jabalpur, Ujjain, Mandla, Balaghat and Khargone. A colourful inauguration ceremony will be held on 30 January 2023 at IT Nagar Stadium in Bhopal. The Khelo India Games will continue till February 11. More than 5000 athletes from across the country will showcase their talent in a total of 27 sports.

# MANIT professor and consultant arrested for taking bribe

Team Absolute | Bhopal

Special police establishment (SPE) Lokayukta police Bhopal arrested the professor Alok Mittal posted in MANIT and one more, who is consultant Gopit Krishna Mishra red handed for taking bribe of Rs 1.50lakh on the name of providing permission to established the medical waste management plant in Shivpuri, here on Sunday late evening. SP, Manu Vyas told media that the complainant Pramila Richariya had filed the complaint to the police. It is alleged that she is having an under construction medical waste management plant in Shivpuri district. To establish the plant, they need the no objection certificate (NOC) from the pollution control board. The professor



is the chemical specialist in the appraisal committee of the board.

Allegedly he had demanded the bribe of Rs 7 lakh through the consultant Gopi Krishna Mishra. Later both agreed to take the amount of Rs 1.50 lakh to provide the NOC. The matter was reported to the Lokayukta and a trap wing was formed. On Sunday night the complainant reached the resi-

dence of the professor in MANIT campus and handed the amount. As the amount was handed, the trap team caught them.

Recently, twelve professors from the Maulana Azad National Institute of Technology (MANIT) have been included in the top 2% of scientists in the Global Database for the year 2022 by Stanford University, USA.

Team Absolute | Bhopal

Union Minister of State for Rural Development and senior BJP leader Faggan Singh Kulaste has been accused of using abusive words against the Congress.

During a visit to his home district Mandala, a tribal dominated region in Madhya Pradesh, the minister held a meeting with the locals. Later while talking to the media, he accused the previous Kamal Nath-led Congress government (2018- March 2020) of making false claims regarding the waving off loan to the farmers.

The Union Minister, who is a prominent tribal leader of the BJP, made abusive remarks against the Congress. After a video of his statement surfaced on social media, Kulaste claimed that he had "no intention to use abusive words against anyone."

As the Assembly elections in Madhya Pradesh are getting closer

# Union Minister Kulaste used foul language against our leaders: Cong leader Ashok Matkole



and both ruling BJP and the opposition Congress are making efforts to gain maximum support from the tribal communities. Six-time Lok Sabha MP from Mandala constituency (seat reserved for Schedule Tribe) while referring to the 15-month rule

of former Chief Minister Kamal Nath in Madhya Pradesh, said, "The Congress did not even ask for water for the farmers..." (Kulaste used abusive words in the middle of the sentence). The Congress has condemned

Kulaste's remarks, saying that the leader who represented Mandla for the last several years, has set up a wrong statement. Congress MLA from Mandla Ashok Matkole said, "The Congress workers will protest against Kulaste and will show him black flags. He is a senior leader and we respect him, but we will not accept abusive words for the Congress and its leaders."

Matkole further said despite having high educational degrees and achieving a remarkable position in Indian politics, Kulaste has not only insulted the people of Mandla through his "abusive" words but the entire tribal communities.

Matkole claimed Kamal Nath-led the Congress government has waived off loans for over 27,000 farmers. "It is on record and the ruling BJP has also accepted this fact during the Assembly session. If he (Kulaste) doesn't want to accept this fact it's ok, but he has no right to abuse Congress and its leaders," said

# Wife poisoned husband in order to be in a live-in relationship

Team Absolute | Shivpuri

Wife tried to kill husband who was obstructing an illegal relationship by pouring poison in water. The case was reported from the Munderi village of Sirsaud police station area. Following the consumption of poison, the husband's health deteriorated, and he was admitted to the district hospital for treatment. The victim alleged that his accused wife was in a live-in relationship with a boyfriend for the last six months. It was noted that the female stayed in Munderi village with her boyfriend, after refusing to be with the married partner and their two children.

On Sunday, the wife called her husband and asked him to take



her back home from Munderi. On the wife's call, the husband visited the live-in place to take her back to their Budhna residence. However, during then she offered him water that was adulterated with the life-threatening

ingredient.

Due to the extra-marital affair and wanting to live happily with the boyfriend, the wife attempted to murder her husband by mixing poison in the served water. After drinking the water, the husband's health started deteriorating. Meanwhile, the boyfriend and his brothers threatened the husband to leave his wife. The husband was in a closely unconscious stage when he went to the nearby bus stand by taking a lift from a bike-rider. He then got self-admitted at a hospital in Shivpuri. Sirsaud Police station in-charge Vivek Yadav informed that no complaint has been lodged in this matter, and that legal action will be taken only after noting the victim's complaint at the police station.

# 35LAKH CONSUMERS GET SUBSIDY OF RS 147.43CRORE ON POWER BILLS

Indore: As part of Grah Jyoti Yojana of the state government, around 35 lakh eligible consumers got a total subsidy of Rs 147.43 crore on power bills Malwa-Nimar region last month. As per the government scheme, consumers whose consumption of electricity is up to 150 units per month are charged Rs 1 per unit for the first 100 units and for the remaining 50 units electricity is charged as per prescribed rates.

The number of people availing the benefit of this scheme of government has been increasing in Malwa-Nimar region. West Discom managing director Amit Tomar said that around 21 lakh consumers in Indore division and 14 consumers in Ujjain got benefited from the scheme. While the number of beneficiaries in Indore city is around 4.05 lakh, the figure is nearly 1.7 lakh consumers in Indore rural circle.



# Twelve-year-old minor gang-raped in Jabalpur district

Team Absolute | Jabalpur

A group of three youths allegedly gang-raped a 12-year-old minor under Chargawan police station limits in Madhya Pradesh's Jabalpur district, a police official said on Monday. The incident occurred on Sunday evening around 6 pm and all the accused of the case were arrested. The identity of those three accused revealed. According to CSP Priyanka Shukla

Superintendent of Police (CSP) Priyanka Shukla said, "One of the accused, who was known to the minor for a month ago, met with her at a cannal under Chargawan police station limits around 6 pm on Sunday. He took her on his bike by luring her to drop her at her maternal aunt's residence in the city." "During this, two other accused, were also present there. In the way, the accused stopped the bike on the road and took the minor in the jungle where two accused violated her and third one helped them in committing the



crime," she added. "After that the minor along with her parents reached Chargawan police station in the early hours of Monday around 3 am and lodged a complaint against the accused. Acting on the complaint, the police registered a case against all the three accused under section 376 (Rape) of the IPC and Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act. The police arrested all the accused and further proceedings into the matter is underway," CSP Shukla added.

# Cold wave intensifies with prickly drop in night temperature

Team Absolute | Bhopal

Cold wave intensified in state on Monday with a major drop in night temperature. Mercury continued to take nose dive at various places. Datia froze at 2.1 degree Celsius after falling to 2.9 degree Celsius while Rajgarh shivered at 2.3 degree Celsius. Gwalior and Nowgong recorded 2.5 degree Celsius each. Khajuraho recorded 3.5 degree Celsius after a drop of 5.5 degree Celsius. Guna and Umaria recorded 4.4 degree Celsius each while Rewa recorded 4.6 degree Celsius after a drop of 6.6 degree Celsius. Ratlam recorded 5.0 degree Celsius after a drop of 5.0 degree Celsius and Pachmarhi recorded 6.2 degree Celsius.



Bhopal recorded 7.0 degree Celsius and Indore recorded 8.8 degree Celsius. Meteorological department senior officer Ved Pratap

Singh attributed the cold wave and sharp drop in temperature to icy wind blowing from the northern belt of the country.

# CM planted saplings with representatives from America, England and African countries

Team Absolute | Bhopal

Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chauhan along with delegates from different countries who came to Bhopal in the Think-20 meeting under G-20 planted saplings of different species in the Smart Udyan (Water Vision Park). Suman Bery, Vice Chairman of NITI Aayog Delhi and Prof Sachin Chaturvedi Madhya Pradesh NITI Aayog were present.

Chief Minister Chauhan told the delegates from USA, Indonesia, UK, Germany, South Africa and other countries that he has been planting saplings every day since Narmada Jayanti in the year 2021. He told them that he has been planting saplings not only in Bhopal since two years, but he would begin his day with planting saplings wherever he stayed during his visits. Plantation is becoming a mass campaign in Madhya Pradesh. Ankur Portal has been set-up in Madhya Pradesh, in which citizens plant saplings on marriage anniversaries and birth anniversaries. Saplings are also planted in the memory of departed elders of the family on their

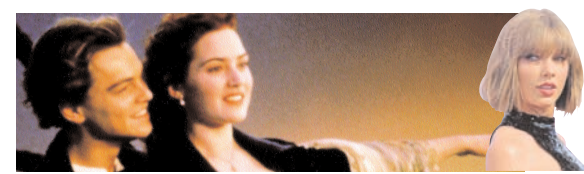


death anniversary. People are getting connected with Ankur portal. Their number has crossed 37 lakhs. The participants of the Water Vision (Jal Sammelan) held in Bhopal this month have also planted saplings in this garden in Shyamala Hills, Bhopal. People from different sections of the society come here to plant saplings.

While discussing with media representatives, CM Chauhan said that the two-day meeting of Think-20 program being held in Bhopal under G20 is important.

Thinkers and intellectuals from all over the world have come to Madhya Pradesh. Bhopal has become the capital of intellectuals.

CM Chauhan said that PM Modi is working on the principle of One Earth, One Family and One Future. Today this garden has become a global garden. Vice Chairman, NITI Aayog, Government of India, Suman Bery said that the activities of NITI Aayog are being conducted according to the vision of Prime Minister. In Think-20, eminent thinkers will hold in depth discussions in Bhopal regarding global Governance with life values and wellbeing.



# 28TH CRITICS' CHOICE AWARDS

## Zendaya wins Best Actress in a Drama Series

Los Angeles | Agencies

Actress-singer Zendaya was named as the Best Actress in a Drama Series for the show 'Euphoria'.

She was nominated alongside Christine Baranski for 'The Good Fight', Sharon Horgan 'Bad Sisters', Laura Linney 'Ozark', Mandy Moore 'This Is Us' and Kelly Reilly 'Yellowstone'.

'Euphoria' is an American teen drama television series based on the Israeli miniseries of the same name created by Ron Leshem and Daphna Levin. The series' main character is Rue Bennett (Zendaya), a recovering teenage drug addict who struggles to find her place in the world.

The series is filmed at Ulysses S. Grant High School in Los Angeles, California, Sony Pictures Studios in Culver City, California, and will be filmed in Warner Bros. Studios in Burbank, California.



## JEREMY ALLEN WHITE BAGS BEST ACTOR IN COMEDY SERIES

Los Angeles | Agencies

At Critics Choice Awards 2023, American actor Jeremy Allen White won the Best Actor in a Comedy Series for his portrayal in the comedy-drama television series, 'The Bear'.

The series is about a young chef from the world of fine dining, who comes home to Chicago to run his family's Italian beef sandwich shop after the suicide of his older brother. After he takes over the business, he encounters debts, a rundown kitchen, and an unruly staff left behind by his brother.

A tweet from the handle of the 28th Critics Choice Awards reads: "Congratulations to Jeremy Allen White, winner of the Critics Choice Award for Best Actor in a Comedy Series".

Jeremy plays the central character of Carmen "Carmy" Berzatto, an award-winning New York City chef de cuisine.



## 'BETTER CALL SAUL' TAKES HOME THIRD TROPHY WITH BEST DRAMA SERIES WIN

Los Angeles | Agencies

American legal and crime drama series 'Better Call Saul' clinched the trophy for Best Drama Series at the ongoing Critics Choice Awards in Los Angeles.

This marks the third win for the series after its Best Supporting Actor in a Drama Series (Giancarlo Esposito) and Best Actor in a Drama Series (Bob

Odenkirk) at the Critics Choice Awards.

Bob Odenkirk was named as the Best Actor in a Drama Series.

Bob was contending alongside names such as Jeff Bridges - "The Old Man", Sterling K. Brown - "This Is Us", Diego Luna - "Andor", Adam Scott - "Severance" and Antony Starr - "The Boys".

Gustavo Fring is marking his territory with Giancarlo Esposito winning the

Critics Choice Award for Best Supporting Actor in a Drama Series for his work in the crime and legal drama 'Better Call Saul'.

The actor has immortalised the character of the owner of the fictional fast food chain Los Pollos Hermanos but works under the shadows as a drug lord who profits off Walter White's and Jesse Pinkman's crystal blue methamphetamine.

## BRENDON FRASER NAMED BEST ACTOR FOR 'THE WHALE'

Los Angeles | Agencies

Hollywood actor Brendon Fraser won the Best Actor honour for movie 'The Whale' at the 28th Critics' Choice Award held here. According to 'Variety', Fraser clinched the honour, where he was nominated alongside names such as Austin Butler, Tom Cruise, Colin Farrell, Paul Mescal and Bill Nighy in the category. In the Darren Aronofsky-helmed film, Fraser plays Charlie, a housebound 272 kg English teacher who teaches students virtually with his camera blacked out. He's also working to salvage his relationship with his estranged daughter, played by Sadie Sink, reports 'Variety'. Fraser gained some weight for the role, but prosthetics makeup designer Adrien Morot was tasked with transforming the actor much more dramatically.

Ke Huy Quan wins Best Supporting Actor for 'Everything Everywhere All at Once'

Los Angeles | Agencies

USA-based Vietnamese actor Ke Huy Quan was once again honoured with the Best Supporting Actor award at the Critics Choice Award for his work in the absurdist comedy-drama film 'Everything Everywhere All at Once'. This is second win in the recent past after he picked up the Golden Globe for Best Supporting Actor - Motion Picture. Daniels won the Best Director honour at the ongoing Critics' Choice Awards in Los Angeles for their work on the absurdist comedy-drama film 'Everything Everywhere All at Once', reports 'Variety'.

## AMANDA SEYFRIED WINS BEST ACTRESS IN A LIMITED SERIES OR TV MOVIE

Los Angeles | Agencies

Actress Amanda Seyfried picked the trophy for Best Actress in a Limited Series or TV movie at the ongoing 28th edition of the Critics Choice Awards in Los Angeles.

The actress was feted for her work in biographical crime drama miniseries 'The Dropout' created by Elizabeth Meriwether. The series, based on the podcast of the same name hosted by Rebecca Jarvis, was produced by ABC News, and documents the disgraced biotechnology company Theranos. Amanda Seyfried played the role of the founder of Theranos - Elizabeth Holmes in the series. Niecy Nash clinched the Best Supporting Actress in a Limited Series or TV Movie for her role in 'Dahmer

- Monster: The Jeffrey Dahmer Story'.

The 28th Critics Choice Awards shared a video clip of Nash holding the award and dancing in happiness as she posed for the cameras. "The incredible Niecy Nash celebrating her win for Best Supporting Actress in a Limited Series or TV Movie for 'Dahmer - Monster: The Jeffrey Dahmer Story,'" the tweet read.

She was competing in the category alongside names such as Claire Danes, Dominique Fishback, Betty Gilpin, Melanie Lynskey and Juno Temple.

## Jennifer wins Best Supporting Actress in Drama Series

Los Angeles | Agencies

Actress Jennifer Coolidge was named as the Best Supporting Actress in Drama Series for 'The White Lotus' at the 28th Critics Choice Awards.

A tweet from the 28th Critics Choice Awards reads: "Congratulations to JENCOOLIDGE for winning the CriticsChoice Award for Best Supporting Actress in a Drama Series. The White Lotus Critics Choice Awards."

The actress won the Best Supporting Actress in a Limited Series/Anthology even at the 80th Golden Globes Awards and the show 'The White Lotus' lifted the award for Best Limited Series, Anthology Series or a Motion Picture made for Television.



## 'AVATAR: THE WAY OF WATER' GETS BEST VFX AWARD

Los Angeles | Agencies

Filmmaker S.S. Rajamouli's film 'RRR' lost the Best Visual Effects award to James Cameron's 'Avatar: The Way of Water' at the 28th Critics Choice Awards.

According to 'Variety', 'Avatar: The Way of Water' by Cameron took home the Best Visual Effects honour.

Others nominated in the category included "The Batman", "Black Panther: Wakanda Forever", "Everything Everywhere All at Once", "RRR" and "Top Gun: Maverick".

'RRR' clinched the Best Foreign Language Film and Best Best Song trophy at the award event held here.

## ANGELA BASSETT GETS BEST SUPPORTING ACTRESS FOR 'WAKANDA FOREVER'

Los Angeles | Agencies

Hollywood star Angela Bassett bagged the Critics Choice Award for Best Supporting Actress for her performance in the Marvel film 'Black Panther: Wakanda Forever'.

"Congratulations

to Angela Bassett, winner of the Critics Choice Award for Best Supporting Actress. the-blackpanther CriticsChoiceAwards," a tweet read.

Bassett also won the Golden Globe award for her performance as Queen Ramonda in 'Black Panther: Wakanda Forever', making the 64-year-old the first actor ever to win a major individual acting award for a movie based on Marvel Comics.



## DANIEL RADCLIFFE WINS BEST ACTOR IN A LIMITED SERIES OR TV MOVIE

Los Angeles | Agencies

At the 28th Critics Choice Awards, Daniel Radcliffe won the Best Actor in a Limited Series or TV Movie for 'Weird: The Al Yankovic Story'. Radcliffe was nominated against Ben Foster - "The Survivor", Andrew Garfield - "Under the Banner of Heaven", Samuel L. Jackson - "The Last Days of Ptolemy Grey", Sebastian Stan - "Pam & Tommy" and Ben Whishaw - "This is Going to Hurt" in the Best Actor in a Limited Series or TV Movie category.



## CATE BLANCHETT BAGS BEST ACTRESS HONOUR FOR 'TAR'

Los Angeles | Agencies

Australian actress Cate Blanchett was awarded the winner of Best Actress trophy at the 28th edition of the Critics' Choice Awards for her work in the psychological drama film 'Tar'.

A tweet from the handle of the 28th Critics' Choice Awards read: "Congratulations to Cate Blanchett, winner of the Critics Choice Award for Best Actress".

'Tar' charts the downfall of fictional composer and conductor Lydia Tar. The supporting cast includes Nina Hoss, Noemie Merlant, Sophie Kauer, Julian Glover, Allan Corduner, and Mark Strong.

Blanchett earlier won Best Actress in a Motion Picture - Drama at the 80th Golden Globes, which was conducted last week.



## ABSOLUTE PIC OF THE DAY



Tasha Ghouri



### U19 WOMEN'S T20 WC

## SHAFALI, SHWETA STAR IN INDIA'S MASSIVE 122-RUN VICTORY OVER UAE

Benoni (South Africa) | Agencies

Captain Shafali Verma hammered a blistering 78 while her opening partner Shweta Sehrawat carried her bat through for 74 not out to set up India's massive 122-run victory over UAE in their second Group D match of ICC U19 Women's T20 World Cup at the Willowmoore Park.

Led by Shafali and Shweta's entertaining knocks and bolstered by Richa Ghosh's quickfire 49, India managed to post a mammoth 219/3 in their 20 overs, the first time a team in the tournament posted a 200+ score in an innings.

In reply, the Indian bowlers led by pacers Titas Sadhu and Shabnam M.D. were brilliant upfront, picking a wicket each, and immaculate with their line and length, restricting UAE to just 97/5 in their 20 overs.

Having been put in to bat first, Shafali, Shweta and Richa produced knocks that were aggressive and never let the momentum shift away at any stage in the match. Shafali and Shweta easily breezed to sharing a first-wicket partnership of 111.

While Shweta dropped anchor, Shafali was the fierce aggressor apart from some exquisite timing, hitting 12 fours and four sixes at a strike-rate of 229.41 in her 34-ball



78, before falling in the ninth over off Indhuja Nandakumar.

Shweta then took over and began hitting boundaries for fun, collecting ten overall to be unbeaten on 74 off 49 balls, with Richa joining in the fun too by hitting five fours and two sixes in her 29-ball 49.

The UAE threatened to respond aggressively in a tall chase of 220, with opener and captain Theerta Satish (16) slamming Shabnam for

four fours in an opening over which would go for 17 runs.

But the moment she was dismissed off the fifth ball of that over by Shabnam, it was all downhill for the UAE. While they resisted being bundled out, a combination of accurate bowling by India and scoreboard pressure meant they never had a realistic chance of winning the match.

#### Brief scores

India 219/3 in 20 overs (Shafali Verma 78, Shweta Sehrawat 74 not out; Samaira Dharnidharka 1-33, Indhuja Nandakumar 1-47) beat UAE 97/5 in 20 overs (Mahika Gaur 26, Lavanya Keny 24; Titas Sadhu 1-14, Parshavi Chopra 1-13) by 122 runs.

### FIH MEN'S HOCKEY WORLD CUP 2023

## Netherlands destroys New Zealand 4-0 to cement top spot

Rourkela | Agencies

Seasoned Thierry Brinkman struck a brace of goals as the Netherlands romped to a 4-0 victory against New Zealand in their Pool C encounter in the FIH Odisha Hockey Men's World Cup at the Birsa Munda Hockey Stadium.

Brinkman scored twice in the first quarter, slamming home field-goals in the 2nd and 12th minutes of the match. The Netherlands came out with guns blazing and Brinkman made the most of their initial attack as he



scored in the 2nd minute from a superb attack. New Zealand could have levelled the score in the 4th minute but they failed to capitalise on their first penalty corner. Brinkman did not make any mistake in the 12th minute too as he scored another field goal to make it

2-0 for the team ranked third in the World. The Dutch earned their first penalty corner just a minute before the end of the first quarter but that went begging.

The Netherlands dominated the second quarter too. They scored their third goal in the 19th minute when Koen capitalised on a good attack. They earned their second PC in this quarter but that too did not produce any goal.

After a goalless third quarter, Tjep Hoedemakers struck the fourth goal for the Netherlands just six minutes from the final hooter.

### MALAYSIA BEATS CHILE 3-2 WITH A REMARKABLE COMEBACK

Rourkela | Malaysia pulled off a thrilling comeback 3-2 win over Chile in a Pool C World Cup match here at the Birsa Munda International Stadium. The victory revived the Asian side's hopes of progression into the knockouts.

It was a game of two halves with Chile dominating the opening two quarters before Malaysia found its rhythm in the second half. Chile was direct in its approach and came close to opening the scoring within the first 10 minutes when Raimundo Valenzuela's swiped effort went narrowly wide. The lead eventually came through Juan Amoroso's powerful penalty corner in the 19th minute. Malaysia equalised through Razie Rahim's successful penalty stroke after Shahril Saabah's shot on goal was blocked by the foot of Andres Pizarro. Malaysia, which is ranked 12 places above its opponent, switched gears and started to impose its style. The Speedy Tigers moved the ball around with pace and started getting in between the defensive lines. The pressure was telling when the equaliser came in the 40th minute through Ashran Hamsani. A pass from the right side was deflected high and Hamsani smashed it into the net. The win was secured for Malaysia just before the hooter went off when Hafizuddin Othman produced a save with his foot from a penalty corner.

## Arsenal extend lead in Premier League

London | Agencies

Arsenal strengthened their grip on the Premier League with a 2-0 win away to North London rivals Tottenham.

Arsenal's win, coupled with the result of the Manchester derby, puts Mikel Arteta's side eight points clear of Manchester City and nine ahead of Newcastle and Manchester United, reports Xinhua news agency.

The game was only 13 minutes on when Hugo Lloris put Arsenal ahead with the first

own goal of his career after he palmed Bukayo Saka's deflected effort from a narrow-angle into his own net. Martin Odegaard doubled Arsenal's lead in the 36th minute, placing a perfect left foot shot wide of Lloris after another surging run from Saka. Tottenham tried to get back on level terms after the break, but with Aaron Ramsdale in excellent form, Arsenal were generally comfortable and results elsewhere mean Spurs' top-four hopes have suffered an important setback. Marcos Rashford's 16th goal of the season sealed

Manchester United's comeback to beat local rivals Manchester City 2-1 in Saturday's Manchester derby.

Rashford poked the winning goal home in the 82nd minute four minutes after Bruno Fernandes had canceled out Jack Grealish's 60th minute header that had given City the lead. Manchester City appeared in vain for offside in Fernandes' goal as Rashford had run alongside the ball and seemed to distract both the City defense and keeper before Fernandes scored with a low shot.

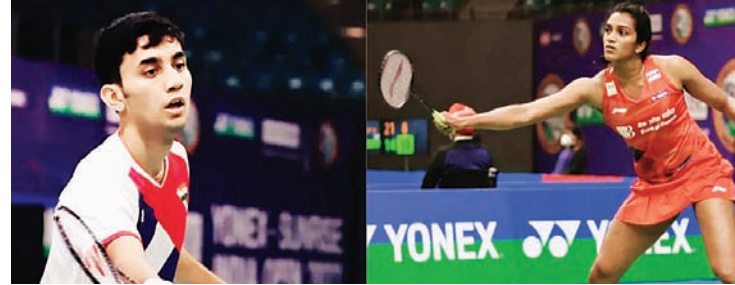
## LAKSHYA, SATWIK-CHIRAG PAIR EYE TITLE DEFENCE IN DELHI

Team Absolute | New Delhi

The India Open upgraded to the Super 750 status for the first time will kickstart at the Indira Gandhi Indoor Stadium.

With a galaxy of badminton stars gracing the prestigious tournament, defending champions Lakshya Sen and men's doubles pair Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty have their eyes set on retaining their title in front of the home crowd.

Moreover, defending men's doubles champions will also be vying for their career's second Super 750 titles, having won the French Open last year after beating the Taipei duo of Lu Ching-Yao and Yang Po-Han. The Indian duo had scripted history after their 2022 French Open as they became the first Indian men's pair to



win the Super 750 title.

In the men's singles, Lakshya, HS Prannoy and Kidambi Srikanth have all been placed in the same quarter, which means only one Indian can progress to the men's singles quarterfinals. Lakshya and Prannoy will square off in the opening round. Last week, the latter prevailed in a thrilling three-game contest to level

their head-to-head 3-3. However, he went out in the quarters of the Super 1000 to eventual finalist Kodai Naraoka. The winner faces either Rasmus Gemke (Denmark) or Kento Momota (Momota) with a potential quarterfinal clash against Olympic champion Axelsen.

In the women's singles, two-time Olympic medallist PV Sindhu, who is

on a comeback trail after a 5-month injury break, seeded fifth in the tournament will be eyeing to get back to the winning ways after suffering first-round exit from the Malaysia Open Super 1000 last week.

Saina Nehwal is drawn into Sindhu's quarter and will begin against Mia Blichfeldt. The winner will have Olympic champion Chen Yu Fei in the next round. If Saina upsets the Olympic champion then there will be a Sindhu vs Saina face-off in the quarterfinals.

In men's doubles, the world No. 7 pair Chirag and Satwik, who defeated Indonesia's three-time world champions Mohammad Ahsan and Hendra Setiawan in the final to clinch their maiden India Open title, starting against Denmark's Jeppe Bay and Lasse Molhede.

### Aus Open

## NADAL WINS HARD-FOUGHT BATTLE AGAINST DRAPER TO BEGIN HIS TITLE DEFENCE

Melbourne | Agencies

The 22-time Grand Slam champion, Spain's Rafael Nadal won the Australian Open first-round match against Britain's Jack Draper to kickstart his title defence here at Rod Laver Arena.

The Spaniard registered a 7-5, 2-6, 6-4, 6-1 victory over the 21-year-old Draper to earn his first win of the 2023 season.

Playing for a record-extending 23rd Grand Slam singles titles; Nadal is seeking his third Australian Open Trophy. He will meet American Mackenzie McDonald, who won 7-6(5), 7-6(1), 1-6, 6-7(10), 6-4 against countryman Brandon Nakashima, in the second round on Wednesday.



After narrowly missing out on the opening set, Draper raced to a 4-0

lead in the second behind his driven forehand, playing with great confi-

dence in his Australian Open debut. The match was in the balance as Draper clawed back from 1-4 to level the third set, but Nadal did just enough to keep his opponent at bay and squash any hope of an upset, with the fourth set never in doubt.

As the Spaniard reclaimed the initiative in the third set, Draper began to struggle with cramps and required treatment during several changeovers.

Both players produced some of their best tennis early in the fourth set, with Draper claiming his fourth break for an early lead. But Nadal rattled off the final six games as Draper's physical issues hampered him more.

### Serie A

## Dybala surges Roma, Atalanta demolish Salernitana

Rome | Agencies

Paulo Dybala took center stage as his brace helped Roma conquer 10-man Fiorentina 2-0, while Atalanta destroyed Salernitana 8-2 with seven players on the scoreline.

Roma were coming off a Coppa Italia victory over Genoa thanks to Dybala's solo effort, and the Argentinean proved decisive again on Sunday's match as Dybala put the Giallorossi ahead in the 40th minute when Tammy Abraham chested it down for him to hit in a left-footed volley, reports Xinhua news agency.

The duo combined again in the 80th minute to seal the matters as Abraham rolled across from the right for Dybala to finish it off.



Elsewhere, Salernitana's Boulaye Dia canceled Jeremie Boga's opener, but the Dea ran riots after that as Ademola Lookman, Giorgio Scalvini, Teun Koopmeiners and Rasmus Hojlund put Atalanta firmly in charge at half-time, before Lookman bagged a brace while Ederson and Nadir Zortea rounded the score-sheet.

### La Liga

## REAL SOCIEDAD STRENGTHEN GRIP ON THIRD PLACE

Madrid | Agencies

Real Sociedad consolidated their position in third place in La Liga with a 3-1 win over Athletic Club Bilbao.

The Basque derby was played in a great atmosphere in the Anoeta Stadium, with the home side causing Athletic a lot of problems with their high pressure, reports Xinhua news agency.

The pressure produced the first goal as Athletic failed to clear an attack and the ball fell kindly to Alexander Sorloth to control and score inside the area in the 24th minute.

Take Kubo doubled Real Sociedad's lead before half-time after Mikel Vesga had been robbed trying to play the ball out of defense.

Oihan Sancet pulled a goal back for Athletic before half-time, but the game was over as a contest on the hour after



the referee gifted Real Sociedad a penalty and harshly sent off Athletic defender Yeray Alvarez for the slightest of touches on Kubo. Mikel Oyarzabal scored the penalty, and Real Sociedad are just three points

behind Barcelona in La Liga. Young forward Aimar Oros scored the only goal of the game as Osasuna beat Mallorca 1-0 to move above Athletic Club in the table. The goal gave Osasuna their first home win of 2023.

## Gavi inspires Barcelona to Spanish Supercup triumph over Real Madrid

Riyadh | Agencies

Young Barcelona midfielder Gavi starred as FC Barcelona beat Real Madrid 3-1 to win the final of the Spanish Supercup.

The player gave two assists and scored one of Barca's three goals in a complete display in the King Fahd Stadium as Barca outplayed their historic rivals for nearly all of the game to give Gavi Hernandez his first title since replacing Ronald Koeman as coach 14 months ago, reports Xinhua news agency.

With both sides playing an extra man in midfield, space was at a premium in the first half, with challenges not allowing players' time on the ball.

The first chance fell to Robert Lewandowski, who controlled at the edge of the area and fired in a low shot that Thibaut Courtois did well to tip onto the post before Alex Balde fired the rebound wide. It took a bad mistake from Antonio



Rudiger to help break the deadlock as Busquets won possession from his poor pass. Busquets picked out Lewandowski, who fed Gavi to score from a tight angle in the 33rd minute.

Madrid seemed to lose concentration in Barca's second goal as De Jong was given too much space in midfield; he passed to the unmarked Gavi, who advanced before returning the favor for Lewandowski to score with a simple finish in the 45th minute. Carlo Ancelotti replaced a flat Luka Modric with Dani Ceballos in the 64th minute, but four minutes later, Pedri scored Barca's third. Gavi won the ball in midfield, exchanged passes with Lewandowski and crossed for Pedri to tap home at the far post.

Barca then controlled the game with ease and never looked like relinquishing their lead, although Benzema did score a consolation goal for Madrid in the 93rd minute.



## 'RRR' WINS THE CRITICS CHOICE AWARD FOR BEST FOREIGN LANGUAGE FILM

Team Absolute | Mumbai

S. Rajamouli has made India proud once again after winning the Best Original Song and Best Foreign Language Film at the 28th Critics' Choice Awards. He dedicated the honour to all the women in his life and said 'Mera Bharat Mahan' during his acceptance speech.

The Critics' Choice Award win comes right after creating headlines at the 80th Golden Globes. His film 'RRR' was Best Foreign Language Film and its track 'Naatu Naatu' once again clinched the Best Original Song



honour.

While accepting the honour, Rajamouli said: "To all the women in my life. My mother Raja Nandini thought school education was overrated and she encouraged me to read comics and story books and encouraged my creativity."

"My sister-in-law Srivalli who became like a mother to me always encourages me to be the best version of me."

He also spoke about his wife Rama, who is a costume designer for Rajamouli's films.

"My wife Rama... she's the costume designer of my films but more than that she is the designer of my life. If she's not here I am not here today. To my daughters, their smiles are enough to light my life up."

Before signing out, he gave a shout out to his motherland.

"And finally to my motherland India, Mera Bharat Mahan - Jai hind."



Esha Deol Takhtani to be back on the big screen

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Actress Esha Deol Takhtani will be back on the big screen with an untitled film starring Amit Sadh, Tigmanshu Dhulia, Seema Biswas and Milind Gunaji.

While Amit will essay the role of an encounter specialist, he will be seen opposite Esha for the first time. The 'Dhoom' actress is already excited about the film, and she could not stop but praise Amit's outstanding talent.

Produced by Pradeep Rangwani, 'Production No- 4' is written and directed by Sachin Saraf. The film is made under the banner of UV Films. Saraf was an assistant to Anil Sharma who has worked on several projects

with Deols. Talking about her role, she said: "My role in the film caters to the growth of women in life. It conveys a strong yet simple message that a woman can achieve the unimaginable. My character wonderfully depicts how a woman discovers herself and excels in life."

Additionally, Esha was all praises for the 'Kai Po Che!' actor. Calling him a brilliant performer, Esha revealed that she considers Amit in the newer bunch of actors.

"I made my comeback with Ajay Devgn's web show 'Rudra', and I am also working on a project with Suniel Shetty. Having worked with both these actors in the past on multiple projects, there's been a certain level of comfort. Now, as I work with Amit, it is a new experience as he is from the newer lot of actors," Esha added.

On a concluding note, Esha stated: "I am loving the shoot and the experience is seamless. Sachin Saraf has been a passionate director. I wish him lots of luck in his future endeavours."

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Comedian, singer and YouTube personality Bhuvan Bam is back in his goofy avatar with the new series 'Rafta Rafta', wherein he will be seen playing a husband who does everything to make his wife happy but fails to do so. Bhuvan said the show portrays the roller-coaster of modern relationships. It is the story about a newly married couple Karan (Bhuvan) and Nithya (Srishti Ganguli Rindani). Nithya shares her wish to go on a holiday to a beach and spending quality time with him but Karan upsets her with his ideas and she reacts to them by throwing his mobile into a bowl of raita. At last, when things seemed to be working out between them and Nithya looked happy, Karan, because of his forgetful nature, messed up the dates of their trip and she lost her calm and threw away his mobile. While throwing more light on the series, Bhuvan said: "I have grown up in a middle-class family and the way marriage is perceived has changed drastically over the years, certainly because of many factors, known and unknown."

"While there is enough content available that narrates a romantic drama, we have tried to capture the nitty-gritty of a modern marriage in 'Rafta Rafta', with an unexpected twist," he added.

Srishti also added on why she said 'yes' to the series and shared: "When I found out that I'll be working alongside Bhuvan in the show, I was immediately convinced. I've always rooted for him as a content creator and now, as an actor."

## BHUVAN WILL BE PLAYING A GOOFY AVATAR IN HIS NEXT SERIES

'I just want to keep improving with every film'

ARJUN KAPOOR HOPES TO CONTINUE SURPRISING PEOPLE WITH EACH PERFORMANCE

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Arjun Kapoor, who is seen playing a corrupt cop in 'Kuttey', said that he wants to improve as an actor with each film he does. Arjun said: "I just want to keep improving with every film and I hope I continue to surprise people with my performance film after film." "What is extremely heartening to see is how encouraging media and audiences are about my effort in Kuttey. It is really motivating for me to continue picking interesting roles that push me to deliver better performances on screen." Arjun is reprising the role of a cop after his acclaimed film 'Sandeep Aur Pinky Faraar'. He is thrilled to again get love from the media and audiences. He said: "Right from Sandeep Aur Pinky Faraar, I have been on a journey to find credible films with credible filmmakers that help me grow as an actor and Kuttey is another such film that I value dearly." Arjun added: "To get such inspiring producers like Vishal Bhardwaj and Luv Ranjan overseeing my work and getting a prodigious film-maker like Aasman to direct me, just shows that the industry is also confident that I can do well given the right script and the right director at the helm of affairs. I will continue to be on this path in the near future."



## MADHURI DIXIT RECALLS SHOOTING THE HOOK STEP OF 'TU SHAYAR HAI'

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Bollywood actress Madhuri Dixit recalled shooting for the song 'Tu Shayar Hai Main Teri Shayari' from the 1991 film 'Saajan' also starring Salman Khan and Sanjay Dutt.

Madhuri shared how the hook step of the song 'Tu shayar hai' was given by the choreographer: "When choreographer Chinni Prakash showed me the hook step for 'Tu Shayar Hai', I said, 'What is this movement? Who is this poet? What kind of a poet is he?' But he said that it will be a hit and truly the dance step became so popular." Madhuri also danced on several of her songs including 'Ek Do Teen', 'Yeh Mausam Ka Jadu', 'Choli Ke Peeche Kya Hai', 'Dhak Dhak Karne Laga', 'Dekha Hai Pehli Baar', among others. The actress also talked about the choreography of the song 'Bada Dukh Dina Tere Lakhon Ne' done by Saroj Khan and how she did it in a different way initially and later had to change when the entire situation was briefed to her by the director.

Furthermore, Madhuri revealed how her son was fond of Himesh Reshammiya's song 'Jhalak Dikhla Jaa' and also sang it on the stage of 'Indian Idol 13'. She told Himesh: "When my son was three years old, your song 'Jhalak Dikhla Jaa' was released. He loved the song so much that every time I sat inside the car, he would say, 'Mamma, Aaja Aaja'." Later also Himesh sang the song.



## INSTAGRAM PIC OF THE DAY



Tara Sutaria

## 'SHAH RUKH KHAN IS MY HERO'

Adnan Khan says he draws inspiration from SRK's success story

Team Absolute | Mumbai

TV actor Adnan Khan, who is currently seen playing the role of Viaan in the show 'Kathaa Ankahee', talked about drawing inspiration from Bollywood star Shah Rukh Khan for his role in the show. He shared: "Shah Rukh Khan is my hero because I think he is brilliant and witty. He came from nowhere and became the king of Bollywood through sheer will, hard work, and discipline." "Shah Rukh is my idol because he is very charming, and I can listen to him even when he is

not in a movie and is giving a public speech. I think it would be great to be around him. He's my hero, and I look up to him." He went on about what he likes about the 'Baazigar' star: "I love how he treats people. When my aunt saw him in a movie theatre in Dubai, she waved at him and said 'Salaam'. Mr Khan got up and greeted her back in a very polite way." "When I hear stories like this, I feel so good, and this is what I aspire to be: always kind to older people. Love is a beautiful language. The way Shah Rukh defines love is exactly how I feel about it in real life," he concluded.

