

CONG-BJP SPAR WORDS

Senior Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Thursday visited relief camps in Imphal and Churachandpur, where displaced people took shelter after the ethnic violence broke out in Manipur on May 3. The Congress leader visited Churachandpur, one of the worst violence hit districts, and met the inmates in the relief camps there. After coming back to Imphal, he visited some relief camps in Imphal West District.

Imphal Agencies

ongress leaders alleged that , Manipur Police, under the instructions of Chief Minister N. Biren Singh, on Thursday stopped party leader Rahul Gandhi from visiting Bishnupur district to meet the violence-affected people.

However, Bishnupur's Superintendent of Police Heisnam Balram Singh said that they cannot allow VIPs like Rahul Gandhi to visit in such a place where the militants create law and order problems and they use sophisticated arms and triggering IEDs.The Congress leaders were stopped by police at Bishnupur, around 20 km from Imphal.

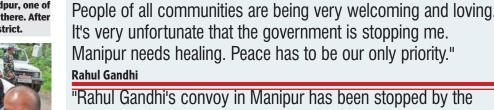
After a few hours, Gandhi, who was accompanied by party General Secretary K.C. Venugopal and incharge of several northeastern states, Ajoy Kumar came back to the Imphal

airport and took a helicopter to Churachandpur, one of the worstviolence hit hill districts.Immediately after his arrival on a two-day Manipur visit, he left for Bishnupur and Churachandpur districts but the police stopped his convoy in Bishnupur.Gandhi was scheduled to interact with the civil society organisations, tribal and non-tribal leaders, as well as prominent citizens in the two districts -- Bishnupur and Churachandpur.Congress President Mallikarjun Kharge condemned the Manipur Police action.

WOMAN KILLED. FEW INJURED IN FRESH MANIPUR VIOLENCE

Imphal: In a fresh incident of violence on Thursday, one woman was killed and a few others were injured at Leimakhong-Haraothel in Kangpokpi district, police said.

A police official in Imphal said that armed militants carrying sophisticated weapons raided several villages in Kangpokpi district, opened fire and assaulted people. A woman was killed on the spot at Leimakhong village and several others were injured in the militants' firing.Para-military personnel accompanied by Manipur Police have rushed to the villages and launched combing operation to nab the extremists. While enroute to the site, Own columns drew effective fire from armed rioters. Own troops responded in a calibrated manner to prevent any collateral damage. Swift action by troops resulted in cessation of firing."An official statement from the Manipur police control room said that during the last 24 hours, 17 arms, 12 pieces of ammunition and 10 bombs have been recovered from different districts.



police near Bishnupur. PM Modi has not bothered to break his silence on Manipur. He has left the state to fend for itself. Now, his double engine disastrous governments are using autocratic methods to stall a compassionate outreach by Rahul Gandhi." Mallikarjun Kharge "It is most unfortunate that the Modi Govt is preventing Rahul

"I came to listen to all my brothers and sisters of Manipur.

Gandhi from visiting relief camps and interacting with the people outside Imphal. His 2-day visit to Manipur is in the spirit of the Bharat Jodo Yatra. Why stop Rahul Gandhi's efforts to listen to all sections of the Manipuri society and provide a healing touch?" **Jairam Ramesh**

"Gandhi was in a hurry to open the 'Shop of Love.' Exactly what we feared happened. People thronged the roads with placards asking Rahul Gandhi to go back. Due to heavy protests, his convoy had to be stopped at Vishnupur. If he had listened to us and travelled by helicopter, the situation would not have turned tense." Sambit Patra

"He is no messiah of peace just a political opportunist, who wants to keep the pot boiling. His visit to Manipur is not borne out of concern for people but his own selfish political agenda. There is a reason no one trusts either him or the Congress." Amit Malviya





Team Absolute New Delhi

he Indian economy presents a picture of resilience, supported by strong macroeconomic fundamentals, the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) financial stability report has said.

The report, which is a halfyearly report card of financial institutions' health, while presenting an overview of the financial sector, noted: "Sustained growth momentum, moderating inflation and anchoring of inflation expectations, a narrowing current account deficit (CAD) and rising foreign exchange reserves, ongoing fiscal consolidation and a robust financial system are setting the economy on a path of sustained growth." "Healthy balance sheets of banks and corporates are engendering a new credit

improve their bottom lines," it added.Banks and nonbank financial intermediaries

are posting strong earnings

and robust credit growth with strengthening buffers, the report said. These improvements are brightening the prospects of the Indian economy, fortified by the rising pace, the RBI document added. However it cautioned at the same time, that the stability of the global financial and investment cycle. Strong revenue growth, higher prof-

system is tested by high inflation, tight financial conditions and banking system fragilities.Simultaneously, geopolitical tensions and economic fragmentation are threatening macroeconomic stability. Bouts of volatility surge through financial marits and lower leverage are kets amidst rapid shifts in helping corporates to investor sentiments.

Bhim Army chief discharged from hospital, vows to continue fight

Saharanpur (UP): Bhim Army chief and President of Azad Samaj Party, Chandra Shekhar Azad, has been discharged from SBD Hospital in Saharanpur.

Talking to reporters after

coming out of the hospital,

Chandra Shekhar said that

the attack would not deter

him from working on his

empower the weaker sec-

mission which was to

He was admitted here on Wednesday after armed men attacked his convoy and a bullet grazed his stomach.



tions of society. "I am not going to give up my mission and those who attacked me should know that I will not bow to such tactics," he said.

US Supreme Court strikes down race-based SWEETS EXCHANGED BY

affirmative action in college admissions

Yashwant Raj Washington

n a landmark judgment, the US Supreme Court on Thursday declared race-based affirmative action in college enrollment unconstitutional.

The court held affirmative action violative of the US Constitution's 14th Amendment, which guarantees equal protection. All six conservative justices, including Chief Justice John Roberts, ruled to strike down affirmative action, while the three liberals ruled against.

The court's ruling came in a challenge to the race-based affirmative action by Harvard and University of North Carolina."The student must be treated based on his or her experiences as an individual-not on the basis of race." Chief Justice Roberts wrote in the majority opinion."Many universities



have for too long done just the opposite. And in doing so, they have concluded, wrongly, that the touchstone of an individual's identity is not chal lenges bested, skills built, or lessons learned but the color of their skin. Our constitutional history does not tolerate that choice."Roberts added that the court had previously "permitted racebased admissions only within the confines of narrow restrictions. University programs must comply with strict scrutiny, they may never use race as a stereotype or negative, and -- at some point -- they must end".

BSF, PAKISTAN RANGERS ON JAMMU BORDER ON EID

Jammu: The BSF and the Pakistani Rangers exchanged sweets on the occasion of Eid-ul-Adha on Thursday at various border outposts

of the Jammu Frontier in a very cordial atmosphere, officials said.

The BSF said the exchange of sweets was done all along the BoPs in Samba, Kathua, RS Pura, and Akhnoor border.

"BSF Jammu offered sweets to Rangers and Rangers also reciprocated the BSF gesture by offering sweets to them," the BSF said."The BSF has always been on the forefront in creating a peaceful and congenial atmosphere on border while dominating the border effectively. Such gestures help build a peaceful atmosphere and cordial relationships on border between both border guarding forces.'

CBFC sets record straight on '72 Hoorain' trailer; says reports are 'misleading'

Team Absolute Mumbai

isleading." That is how the Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC) has described the storm in a teacup stirred by Ashoke Pandit with regard to the trailer of the upcoming film '72 Hoorain'.

The Board has officially stated that the reports about the film's trailer not getting a censor certificate are misleading as they don't paint a complete picture. The certification of the trailer is under due process

The board officially communicated that contrary to reports, the film 'Bahattar Hoorain (72 Hoorain)' was granted 'A' certification on October 4, 2019. The certificate for the trailer of the film, directed by Sanjay Puran Singh

HIE ENTERTAINMENT & ALIE PRODUCTION

Chauhan, was applied for on June 19, 2023, and it is under due process.

Reports quoting Pandit, the co-producer, about the film's trailer being refused the censor certificate now seem like being a publicity stunt for the film before its release. The film tells the story of how brainwashing by terrorists is done. The Board said that the trailer has been examined in accordance with the Guidelines issued under Section 5B(2) of the Cinematograph Act, 1952.

"After this, the applicant was asked for requisite documentary submissions under intimation and upon receipt of the same, certification was granted subject to modifications," the Board said.

"A show-cause notice communicating the modifications was issued to the applicant/filmmaker on 27-6-2023 and the same is pending for the applicant's response/compliance," the Board added in its clarification.

Pawar shocker: Over 6,800 women-girls 'disappeared' in Maha in past one year

Pune Agencies

n a startling revelation, Nationalist Congress Party President Sharad Pawar on Thursday said that thousands of women or girls have 'disappeared' in Maharashtra in the past one year or so, raising serious questions on the law and order situation in the state.

"It has been one year since this new government (of Chief Minister Eknath Shinde-Deputy CM Devendra Fadnavis) came to power in Maharashtra. The state is facing many issues, but law and order is at the top. Attacks on women and girls are the biggest concern and are increasing day by day everywhere," said Pawar.

Citing official figures collected from various municipal corporations, police commissionerates and rural police headquarters, he said that over 6,889 women/girls are missing in the past one year, May 2022-May 2023.

Reeling off specific details, Pawar said that in the first half of 2023, between Jan. 23-May 23, a total of 2,458 girls/women are mysteriously off the radar in four major municipalities of the state.

"This is a very serious matter... The state Home Minister should take measures for the safety of our daughters and sisters instead of just making statements. There is a need to trace them out and it's the government's responsibility to hand them over to their families," he demanded



Pawar also slammed the ruling Shiv Sena-Bharatiya Janata Party regime - which will celebrate its first anniversary in office on Friday (June30) - for the spate of riots that have erupted in different parts of the state in the past few months, on which the Maha Vikas Aghadi allies Congress and Shiv Sena-UBT have also raised questions in the past.

Terming these as "planned", he contended that the riots broke out in Kolhapur, Ahmednagar, Akola and other places, and said it needs to be probed whether these clashes and disturbances were allegedly being engineered keeping in mind the upcoming civic, parliament and assembly elections

They comprise: 738 from Mumbai, 937 from Pune, 721 from Thane and 62 from Solapur, while the information on missing women/girls from the 10other civic corporations was not available. From the state's 36 districts, a total of 4,431 females have disappeared from 14 districts of Amravati, Beed, Bhandara, Buldhana, Chandrapur, Dhule, Gondia, Jalgaon, Nandurbar, Nanded, Pune, Raigad, Ratnagiri, and Washim, as per the details from the local police.In the past one year -- May 2022-May2023, a whopping 6,889 women/girls have gone missing in the state with no information on their whereabouts, said Pawar.

Chennai gets India's first Police Drone Unit

sons, said that drones have

ty and will detect if any sus-

pect has a knife or some

other objects on his body.

He said that night

thermal object imaging facili-

patrolling will become much

easier and based on informa-

tion provided by drones, the

suspects could be caught eas-

movements at isolated places

ily. He also said that drones

will be used to monitor

Chennai Agencies

he Greater Chennai Police on Thursday launched the 'Police Drone Unit', touted as the first such in the country, for aerial surveillance over the Tamil Nadu capital.

The unit, which has a total of nine drones under three categories -- Quick Response Surveillance drones, heavy lift multi-rotor drones, and Long Range Survey wing plane -- and 20 trained police personnel, was inaugurated by Tamil Nadu Director General of Police, C. Sylendra Babu.These drones are equipped with built-in artificial intelligence (AI) facilities and can be operated upto 10km from the ground station. Chennai City's Police Commissioner, Shankar Jaiswal, briefing media per-

as well as uniting of antisocial elements.

The Commissioner also said that drones could be used to read the number plates of vehicles.

Sylendra Babu told media persons that deploying drone unit was an important milestone for the Tamil Nadu Police and added that the unit was established at a cost of Rs 3.6 crore.



nation

ing about what the Narendra Modi government has done in the last 9

vears., I want to ask Nitish Babu to

give some respect to those who made

you the Chief Minister of Bihar. You

are asking questions to those who

have given you the post of Chief

Minister. "PM Narendra Modi has

done many things for 70 crore poor

people of the country. The Modi gov-

ernment has been working for the

welfare of poor people, prestige and

security of the country," Shah said.

work and I want to tell him that the

Centre has given insurance for poor

Ayushman Bharat Yojana. We have

constructed 75 lakh toilets in Bihar,

and 37 lakh houses for poor people.

"Nitish Kumar is not going to

become the Prime Minister of the

country. He is fooling Lalu Prasad

lap of the Congress, Nitish Kumar

Gundaraj in Bihar," Shah said.

Yadav . Nitish Kumar is sitting in the

became a symbol of liquor, sand and

Has Nitish Kumar given any house to

people up to Rs 5 lakh under

the people of Bihar?"he asked.

"Nitish Kumar is asking about our



Mumbai, Friday, June 30, 2023

CONGRESS FAILED TO LAUNCH RAHUL GANDHI DESPITE TRYING FOR 20 YEARS: AMIT SHAH

Patna Agencies

nion Home Minister Amit Shah on Thursday attacked Rahul Gandhi, saying that the Congress leader could not be launched in politics despite his party leaders making efforts for the last 20 years.

"Congress is a strange party where leaders are launched. I belong to a party where people launch the leaders, not the party. The Congress has been trying to launch Rahul 'Baba' (Rahul Gandhi) for the last 20 years. This time too the Congress is making unsuccessful attempt to launch Rahul 'Baba'," Shah said while addressing the Hunkar rally in Bihar's Lakhisarai district on Thursday.

"Recently, they held a meeting in Patna where the leaders tried to launch Rahul Gandhi. I want to tell them that he will fail again. The people of Bihar will not stand with corrupt people," Shah said.

"I want to appeal to the people of Bihar to make BJP victorious in all the 40 seats of the state in next year's Lok



Sabha elections. Narendra Modi will lead the BJP in 2024, will you not give him 40 seats," Shah asked the crowd, which replied in the affirmative. Attacking Bihar Chief Minister

Nitish Kumar at his Hunkar rally in the state's Lakhisarai, Amit Shah said, he was questioning those "who had given him his post".

"Paltu Babu Nitish Kumar was ask-

Delhi likely to witness light to moderate rain over next 5 days, says IMD

Team Absolute New Delhi

he national capital can expect a cloudy skies with light to moderate rainfall over the next five days, the India Meteorological Department said on Thursday.

The city on Thursday witnessed heavy rains in certain areas. The maximum temperature recorded was 34.2 degrees Celsius, three notch es below normal, said the weather department's bulletin.

Following the heavy rainfall in Delhi and its surrounding regions, the weather department has also issued an 'Orange' alert for the city.

The maximum temperature for Friday is forecasted to reach around 36 degrees Celsius, while the minimum temperature is expected to settle at approximately 25 degrees Celsius. The IMD also predicted generally cloudy sky with light rain for Friday.



The Air Quality Index in Delhi was "moderate" category at 101 on Thursday, according to the System of Air Quality and Weather Forecasting And Research (SAFAR).Numerous areas experienced waterlogging and severe traffic congestion after heavy rain lashed the national capital on Thursday morning. A senior traffic cop said

that a call was received regarding waterlogging near Jamia metro station. Similar complaints poured

in from Sarai Kale Khan, South Extension, Geeta Colony Ring Road leading to Akshardham Temple, and various other areas within the city. Additionally, officials have confirmed that a tree has been uprooted in the Kali Bari Marg in central Delhi.

Traffic was moving at a snail's pace at ITO, Akshardham, Sarai Kale Khan, Azadpur flyover, Mehrauli among others. An 'orange' alert has also been issued in the city by the weather department.

AAP claims L-G didn't approve Cabinet reshuffle, calls it rumour

Team Absolute New Delhi

he Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) claimed on Thursday that the Lieutenant Governor of Delhi, V.K. Saxena, did not give approval for the proposed Cabinet reshuffle.

AAP said that rumours are being spread about Cabinet reshuffle, as it urged the media to avoid falling for them.

Earlier in the day, it was reported that the L-G has approved the Cabinet reshuffle proposal sent to him by the Arvind Kejriwal-led Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) government in Delhi. Consequently, it was reported that AAP MLA Atishi has been allotted the of finance and revenue



portfolios, as well as given the responsibility of the public relations department previously held by Kailash Gahlot.If the L-G office insists on standing by its baseless claims, it should produce a

copy of the order of approval or any other relevant evidence to back its claim, AAP said. No one from the L-G office was available for comments on the matter till the time of filing this report.

Lalit Sharma Jaipur

ajasthan Charitable Trust, UK organized 'Ghoomar' event at Feltham, London. The overseas Indian brothers participated in it with enthusiasm. This program is to save and relive the beautiful art and culture of Rajasthan and India.

Trustee Surjit Singh Dhaka said that the aim of Rajasthan Charitable Trust is to reach every corner of India in such a way that no child of the country remains deprived of proper opportunities despite education and ability, only because of lack of funds. Along with this, the Trust does this program to keep alive its invaluable culture and art among the overseas Indian community living in the UK. Women danced on Ghoomar in the programme and People couldn't control themselves to dance fiercely on the beat of Chang.

The very talk of our motherland fills the hearts of the Indians settled far away from their land. Here the melodious tune played by the



Rajasthani brass band and folk artist Sanjay's style and melodious tunes excited the audience.

People relished the delicious Rajasthani food 'Dal Bati Churma' by 'Ketraj' team of Hanwant Singh Rajpurohit.On this occasion, Trustee

Surjit Singh Dhaka, Suresh Kumar, Anil Kulhar, Charulata Rajpurohit and Rachna Dhaka made the program

more special.

The event got a total of 2000 registrations, registration was completed on behalf of Amit Kumar Jhajhadia, Kamal Saharan and Narendra Mandiwal.

Rachna Dhaka, Achal Soni and Mukta Chowdhary did the stage operation. Monika Dotasara, Surya Soni and other Rajasthani in the UK put on a mesmerizing performance. Sponsors for the successful event were Sumit Agarwal, DNS Accountants, Anil Malik from One Financial Solutions, Binu Koshy, SBI UK.Charity partners were Ketraj, Osterley Park Hotel, SRKPS Jhunjhunu, Kurjaan Music, and Dr. Sangeeta Dahiya of Joni Consultancy UK.

Bengaluru techie accuses drug addict hubby Ashok Gehlot fractures of sexually harassing her with friends

Bengaluru Agencies





The victim had come back to her sexual harassment by husband and his friends. The accused, with his friends, had then come to her parents place and threatened her to come back to him. They had also blackmailed her that if she revealed anything happened to her, she would be finished off. The victim had also alleged that the accused husband had installed CCTVs in the bedroom and bathroom. When questioned on this, he had assaulted her. He had threatened that he would make her private videos public.

toe, advised week's rest

Jaipur Agencies 🗋 aiasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlo



n a startling development, a techie in Bengaluru has lodged police complaint against her husband for sexual harassing her along with his friends, police said on Thursday.

She has told police that her husband, a drug addict along with his friends, made her private videos and sexually harassed her.

The complaint has been lodged in HSR Layout police station in Bengaluru.

Police said that the accused husband was identified as Akhilesh Dharmaraj, a native of Andhra Pradesh's Kakinada, and the couple met through a matrimonial site in 2019.

After their marriage, the woman from Vasanth Nagar locality shifted to HSR Layout with the accused husband. Initially, the accused was well

behaved but later the victim came to know that he is a drug addict. The accused allegedly brought ganja to home and started smoking in front of her.When questioned on this, he tor-

tured her and also started bringing his friends home and held ganja parties at his residence. The victim had told police that the accused's friends also sexually harassed her.

The techie has lodged a complaint with Subramanyapura police station and alleged that the police have not initiated action against the accused persons. Police said that they have taken up the investigation.

Fractured his toe on Thursday following which he was rushed to the Sawai Man Singh Hospital (SMSH), where the doctors discharged him after an hour of examination and treatment.

The Chief Minister has been advised complete rest for a week.

As per sources, Gehlot suffered the injury after being pricked by a sharp object, which uprooted a nail on his left foot besides causing a hairline fracture on the other foot. Due to the injury, there is a possibility that all his programmes and tours scheduled over the next one week will get cancelled.

Gehlot suffered the injury at around 6 p.m. on Thursday, following which he was rushed to the emergency ward of SMSH, where the doctors conducted all the routine checkups, including X-ray.Releasing a health bulletin, the Principal of SMSH, Rajeev Bagrahatta, said: "Plastic surgeon Rakesh Jain has fixed and joined the nail of Chief Minister's left foot which was uprooted. A strap has been tied on it. The CM has also told about the injury in the right leg, which has been shown to the orthopedic. He has advised the Chief Minister to take rest for seven days after X-ray. The Chief Minister's checkup will be done again after seven days. State Congress President Govind Singh Dotasra, PHED Minister Mahesh Joshi and other leaders also reached the hospital on getting the news of Chief Minister's injury. Gehlot's wife Sunita Gehlot, daughter-in-law Himanshi Gehlot and granddaughter also reached the hospital.

MUMBAI DCP, SUSPENDED 15 **MONTHS AGO FOR ALLEGED EXTORTION, REINSTATED**

Mumbai: The Maharashtra government has decided to reinstate IPS officer Saurabh Tripathi who was suspended in March 2022 after his name cropped up in an alleged extortion case, officials said here on Thursday.

Tripathi, who was the Mumbai Deputy Commissioner of Police (II) had been accused of extortion charges by the influential Bhuleshwar Angadia Association (the traditional personal couriers who ferry cash, jewelry, diamonds or other valuables to different parts of the country). Following the complaint, two policemen were booked and a FIR was filed against them by the LT Marg Police Station in February 2022, on charges of extortion, robbery, wrongful confinement, etc, and subsequently Tripathi's name was added to the FIR, resulting in his suspension.

Thereafter, Tripathi - who had gone underground for some time and a look out circular issued against him - had pleaded for reinstatement in service twice.

However, his requests were rejected and he made a third appeal recently citing a Supreme Court ruling that an officer can't be kept under suspension for more than three months.Last week, the state government's Suspension Review Committee headed by Chief Secretary Manoj Saunik met and decided to revoke Tripathi's suspension, and conveyed the same to the Home Department.

NINE BUSES GUTTED IN FIRE AT RANCHI BUS STAND



Ranchi: At least nine buses were gutted in a fire at Khadgarha bus stand in Ranchi on Thursday, an official said.

The incident took place at Khadgarha bus stand in Kantatoli, Ranchi at around 12 p.m.

At first, five buses caught fire. After some time, the fire spread to four more buses. Although, no casualties were reported, police said.

The buses parked at the bus stand suddenly caught fire. Locals tried to douse the fire but flames spread fast and engulfed many vehicles.

The fire tenders were rushed to the spot to put off the fire but by then the buses were completely gutted. The cause of the fire was not known. Short-circuit is suspected to have caused the fire, the police said.

Monsoon advances further in the country, heavy to very heavy rainfall likely in several states

Team Absolute New Delhi

onditions are favourable for further advance of Southwest Monsoon into remaining parts of the country including parts of Rajasthan and Haryana and Punjab, during the next two days, the India Meteorological Department said on Thursday.

In a statement, it said that northwest India is expected to experience light to moderate rainfall, ranging from fairly widespread to widespread, over the next three

days. "There is a likelihood of isolated heavy rainfall in Himachal Pradesh and Haryana. East Rajasthan will likely experience this weather pattern till July 3, while Uttarakhand and west Rajasthan may encounter it on June 30," the IMD said.

In central India, there will be light to moderate rainfall with fairly widespread to widespread coverage. "Isolated heavy to very heavy falls are expected in Madhya Pradesh over next two days," it predicted.

The IMD said that west India



should anticipate light to moderate rainfall, ranging from fairly widespread to widespread, in the coming five days.

"Konkan & Goa and the Ghat areas of central Maharashtra are likely to experience isolated heavy to very heavy rainfall during this period. Gujarat can expect the same weather pattern over the next two days," it said.

In east and adjoining northeast India, there will be fairly widespread to widespread light to moderate rainfall.

"Sub-Himalayan West Bengal & Sikkim, Assam & Meghalaya, and Arunachal Pradesh are expected to have isolated heavy to very heavy falls over the next five days. Gangetic West Bengal may experience isolated heavy rainfall on June 30 while Bihar should expect it on June 30 and July 3," it said.

The IMD further said that south India will likely experience light to moderate fairly widespread to widespread rainfall.

"Kerala and Mahe and coastal and south interior Karnataka can anticipate this weather pattern over the next five days," said the weather department.Additionally, there may be isolated heavy rainfall in coastal Karnataka and Kerala during this period.

"On July 2 and 3, coastal Andhra Pradesh may experience isolated heavy rainfall, while south interior Karnataka and Tamil Nadu should expect it on July 3. There is also a possibility of isolated very heavy rainfall occurring in coastal Karnataka and Kerala on July 3," it added.

absoluteindia



Farmer

- 'NaMo Shetkari Mahasanman Nidhi Scheme' State will provide Rupees 6,000 for each farmer annually, benefiting 1.15 crore farmers.
- Crop Insurance in 1 Rupee; Government shall pay rupees 3312 Crore towards Crop Insurance premiums.
- The Jalyukta Shivar campaign (Phase-2) resumed in 5000 villages, aiming to restore water abundance in the state's villages.

Employment

- The recruitment process for 75000 posts in Government has been expedited, examinations to be conducted through TCS and IBPS.
- More than 12,000 entrepreneurs granted loans through the Chief Minister's Employment Generation program, leading to the employment of over 1 lakh youth.
- A separate corporation has been established for unorganized workers, providing relief to crores of workers.

Industry

- Maharashtra once again ranks first in Foreign Direct Investment (FDI), attracting an investment of rupees 1 crore 18 lakh Crore rupees in the last year.
- MoUs of rupees 1 lakh 37 thousand crores of investment in Maharashtra has been signed at Davos.
- A New Information Technology policy has been announced, expected to attract an investment of rupees 95,000 crores.
- The approval of a New Textile policy is expected to attract an

- 29 water resource projects accorded revised approvals, which will irrigate 6 lakh 50 thousand hectares of land.
- A fund of Rs.7093.19 crores has been distributed to 62 lakh 60 thousand farmers for the period of June to October 2022.
- An incentive of Rs. 50,000 each has been disbursed to 12.84 lakh farmers, totaling Rs. 4683 crores.
- Mukhyamantri Saur Krushi Vahini Yojana 2.0, revolutionary decision for farmers to provide electricity to agricultural pumps during the day.

Infrastructure

- The Hindu Hriday Samrat Balasaheb Thackeray Samruddhi Maharashtra Samriddhi Highway is now operational up to Nagpur-Shirdi-Bharveer (601 Km)
- Bandra- Versova Coastal Bridge has been named Swatantra Veer Savarkar Bridge.
- The state plans to construct 5000 km of access control highways.
- The Mumbai Trans-Harbor Link project is 95% complete and has been named Atal Bihari Vajpayee Smriti Shivdi-Nhava Sheva 'Atal Setu'.

Women and Child Development

- The 'Lek Ladki' scheme has been introduced in a new form, providing benefits to the girl child of families holding yellow and orange ration cards. Financial assistance of up to 1 lakh will be provided until the child reaches 18 years of age.
- Women will receive a 50 percent discount on ST travel, benefiting women travellers.

With Blessings of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj, One year of 'Surajya'

Education

- Students will now receive substantial scholarships, with a significant increase in the amount.
- Free uniforms, shoes, and socks will be provided to all students up to class VIII.
- PM SHRI Schools (PM Schools for Rising India) to emerge as exemplar schools in providing high-quality education in an equitable, inclusive and joyful school environment

Cultural Affairs

- The song "Jai Jai Maharashtra Majha, Garja Maharashtra Majha" has been officially recognized as the Maharashtra State Anthem.
- 'Shiv-Srishti', will be built on 45 acres at the base of Fort Raigad.
- An authority envisaged for the conservation of For Pratapgad



investment of rupees 25,000 crores.

Health

- 'Mahatma Jyotirao Phule Jan Arogya Yojana' and 'Ayushman Bharat - Pradhan Mantri Arogya Yojana' have been merged. 2 crore health cards will be distributed, providing health coverage up to 5 lakhs rupees per annum.
- In Maharashtra, 700 "Hindu Hriday Samrat Balasaheb Thackeray Aapla Dawakhana" will soon be started. Additionally, 160 health centres have been established in Mumbai, benefiting 7 lakh citizens.
- Approximately Rs. 82 crores in assistance was provided last year through the Chief Minister Medical Assistance Cell (Mukhayamantri Sahayta Kaksha).
- New government colleges will be established at 9 new locations in the state, with a provision of Rs. 4365 crore.

For All Inclusive Development

- The 'Modi Awas Gharkul Yojana' aims to build 1 million houses for Other Backward Classes in 3 years.
- Financial assistance in the 'Sanjay Gandhi Niradhar/ Shravanbal Yojana' has been increased from rupees 1000 to rupees 1500 (50% increase).
- Petrol tax has been reduced by Rs. 5 per litre, and diesel tax by Rs. 3 per litre.
- Senior citizens who have completed 75 years of age are eligible for free ST travel as part of the Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav, benefiting over 10 crore senior travellers.
- "Anandacha Shidha" (ration) is distributed to all ration card holders in the State on the occasion of Diwali, Gudipadwa, and Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Birth Anniversary.
- Under the "Shasan Aplya Daari" program, 40 lakh citizens have received direct benefits through the State government.
- A separate policy will be implemented to obtain affordable sand and prevent illegal mining.
- Prolonged slum-redevelopment plans expedited; MHADA authority to speed up the redevelopment of dangerous, cessed buildings.

माहिती व जनसंपर्क महासंचालनालय, महाराष्ट्र शासन 👜 www.mahasamvad.in 🔞 🕜 📿 💟 MaharashtraDGIPR 💽 MahaDGIPR



absolute edit



EDITOR'S SPECS

Scientists find gene preventing bird flu virus from spreading to humans

An international team of scientists has identified a gene that is prevent-ing the bird flu viruses from spilling over into humans. Scientists led by the MRC-University of Glasgow Centre for *Virus Research (CVR) found that BTN3A3* is commonly expressed in human airways, as a key human defence against avian flu. *Avian influenza A virus, also commonly* referred to as bird flu, primarily spreads among wild birds such as ducks. Since 2022 there has been a rise in bird flu cases around the world in both domestic and wild birds. The recent outbreak of avian influenza A (H5N1) virus has killed a record number of birds and also spread to otters, sea lions, foxes, dolphins and seals, cats among others. Scientists expect that bird flu that can cross the species barrier is expected to cause the next pandemic. Although rare, influenza A viruses have occasionally infected humans. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), from 2003 to 2023, a total of 873 human cases of infection with influenza A (H5N1) and 458 deaths have been reported globally from 21 countries. In the case of H7N9 virus, which since 2013 has infected more than 1,500 humans with 40 per cent case fatality rate, the team found these strains have a genetic mutation that allows them to 'escape' the blocking effects of the BTN3A3 gene. The team also found that all the human influenza pandemics, including the devastating 1918-19 global flu pandemic and the swine flu pandemic in 2009 were caused by influenza viruses that were resistant to BTN3A3. As a result, this study suggests that having resistance to this gene may be a key factor in whether any flu strain has human pandemic potential.

DEMYSTIFYING ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

D.C. Pathak

rtificial Intelligence (AI) is the new gift of (IT) that enables the handling of data created and stored in the binary of computer language - with a speed that surpassed the human capacity for collation and analysis.

Just as IT made human processing 'smart', AI makes the Technology itself 'smart' - being 'smart' basically means being able to enhance 'productivity' per unit of 'resource' whether it is the 'human' resource or 'time'.

The first thing to know about AI is that it is an advanced application of IT but within the fundamental constraint of an 'input-output' process - which is a sober reminder that it was not a panacea for all human problems.

The progress is by way of a phenomenal increase in the capacity to analyse data but the basis of that exceptional performance was still the use of 'keywords' or 'patterns' fed into the computer system as was happening earlier - the only difference being that this capacity-building required the instrumentality of supercomputers.

A supercomputer comprises a very large number of processor chips that can perform billions or trillions of computations per second. Various facets of AI such as 'Machine learning', 'Deep learning', 'Natural language process' or 'Computer vision' are all dependent on the same input-output principle.

To the 'data processing' capacity is now added the AI's new achievement of being able to emulate human functions. In this era of multi-media applications, AI is enabling the simulation of voice, 'looks' and personal choices to produce authentic looking identities which may lie on the turf of entertainment presently but which should raise alarm for the potential it had of encouraging 'misinformation', fraud and social-media misuse for multiple purposes including the game of politics. This identity reproduction is again possible only because technology has the capacity to integrate multiple data fed into the system and collate them for responding to 'specific commands'.

Of course, the wherewithal for using this kind of AI application is elaborate and expensive - the computer has to have GPU (Graphic Processing Unit) in place of a CPU.

AI has surpassed the human capacity to absorb and analyse information but only in quantitative terms - not in terms of the versatility of thought that the human mind is capable of harnessing for examining a situation.

Albert Einstein, the world's greatest scientist, famously said that 'imagination is more



important than knowledge' - he was alluding not to any wild imagination but to the ability of the human mind to look beyond the facts in front, and to envisage 'what lay ahead'.

AI essentially serves people in the present without guaranteeing any capacity to control the future - beyond producing some learnings for human beings about what to do or not to do to safeguard the collective good. It is making a huge contribution in the fields of health, education, agriculture, environmental research and above all entertainment.

Technology companies are already offering newer forms of apps for entertainment and making commercial gains for which they cannot be blamed. If a product sells like a hot cake it is legitimate for the producer to offer it at a premium. The flip side of this entertainment is that children were becoming addicted to it in a way that would hamper their mental growth and create a problem for their parents. The educational impact of exposure to the

knowledge offered by IT platforms like mobile phones, iPads and robotic instruments, however, should not be underestimated.

What has brought AI into the news is the versatile and prolific ChatGPT, an artificial intelligence chatbot developed by OpenAI and released only a few months ago. It is a Generational PRE TRAINED Transform class of language models and is task specific. Its very description, however, confirms the inputoutput matrix of AI.

ChatGPT can have attractive applications. It can mimic the style of celebrities and highly successful business leaders, write business pitches, compose fairy tales and facilitate student essays. Its own acknowledgement of the

possibility that incorrect responses could be made, puts an element of risk in its operation.

A fundamental point about the information on the internet is that its reliability should never be presumed. In matters requiring seri ous decision-making, other corroborating inputs, therefore, should always be sought.

In matters of security, AI may have its use in detecting a breach of a technologically secured perimeter but the real call of security is to have Intelligence - classically defined as information about 'what lies ahead or what can happen in future' as regards the plans of an enemy.

AI works on data already fed into the system and does not go beyond indicating what would essentially be a repetition made based on collation and interpretation of a combination of patterns already known to it. It can at best throw light on the modus operandi of the adversary as assessed from the latter's past record without laying any claim on knowing what the current thinking in the enemy camp would be.

The human mind can use readings of the total environment around an issue as input which is not a given in an AI process. Even the importance of the 'prompt' is limited because this trigger essentially lies in what the system has in the present and does not enable AI to respond in the realm that belonged to the future. Predictive findings through AI are useful in a very limited sense in the sphere of security and defence - satellite imagery, signal intelligence and surveillance or

communication interception could be helped by it. However, in the fragile geopolitics of

today while identification of a 'threat' could be refined through the use of highly developed technology symbolised by AI, the nature of 'response' must be determined on an exercise of the action taker's discretion which is a trait given to only a human mind.

In a nuclear setting, however, it is the first strike that has to be determined by the human mind though the second strike could always be automated. This was in fact the deterrence behind the Mutually Assured Destruction (MAD) - the American strategy followed in the Sixties during the height of the Cold War. Nuclear deterrence somewhere still works on the certainty of the far more pervasive second strike.

The best field of AI application, however, is the socio-economic life of the people and it seems the world is already moving towards a consensus on that. It is at present that data analytics and emulation using the 'Internet of things' and cloud computing, offer the best utility whether it is distance learning, medical care, diversifying agriculture, aiding business operations or innovating games for entertainment. New services have made life more purposeful and richer. AI-assisted new models of digital education and human resource development through skilling can help to prepare people for the present knowledge economy.

Domestic use of robots in household chores like vacuum cleaning, cutting work in lawns and cleaning the bottom of a swimming pool, can upgrade the quality of day-to-day life. AI in its own ways can prove to be a socioeconomic equaliser and work for the amelioration of acute class divides in the society. It is a measure of India's advancement in digital technology that Prime Minister himself, in his recent meeting with OpenAI's CEO Sam Altman at Delhi, appreciated AI's role in enriching the technology eco-system, particularly for the youth of India - Sam Altman later gave out that ChatGPT had been fully embraced in this country.

IT applications are powerful instruments of economic growth but they are also vulnerable to being misused against India by our adversaries and an awareness of threats to cyber security must therefore run through our sensitive establishments, government organisations and even public bodies engaged in national projects

(The writer is a former Director of the Intelligence Bureau. Views expressed are personal)

international

150 ARRESTED IN FRANCE AMID VIOLENT PROTESTS OVER POLICE KILLING TEEN

Paris Agencies





ing of the interministerial crisis unit

Russian General arrested over Wagner mutiny: Report

Moscow Agencies eneral Sergei Surovikin, the deputy commander of Russian militar

t least 150 people have been arrested in France amid violent Anationwide protests that erupted over the fatal shooting of a 17vear-old driver by the police at a traffic stop, authorities said on Thursday.

Taking to Twitter on Thursday, Interior Minister Gerald Darmanin said that "town halls, schools and police stations were set on fire or attacked" during a second straight night of "intolerable violence" on Wednesday, reports CNN.

On Tuesday, Nahel M was shot at point-blank range as he refused a traffic stop and drove away.

Videos circulating on social media showed protesters setting cars ablaze and ransacking shops on Wednesday night.

In Nanterre, the suburb from where Nahel came from, the police were forced to partially withdraw, the BBC quoted French newspaper Le Monde as saying.

In Paris, the demonstrators targeted police stations with fireworks

NEW AGE COUNTING SYSTEM **IN S.KOREA MAKES CITIZENS** YOUNGER

Seoul: The international age counting system has been officially implemented in South Korea, replacing the nation's traditional methods of counting age and making all Koreans one or two years younger.

Implemented on Wednesday, the international system counts a person's age from zero at birth, whereas the abolished traditional systems added one or two years to a person's age depending on the birth date.

There was not much confusion in government offices, as the international age has long been used in all administrative, civil and judicial affairs, such as the legal age to drink, smoke, go to school and join the military, Yonhap news agency reported.

Nevertheless, it is expected to take time for the new age counting method to become customary in Korean society due to confusion in many "age-sensitive" fields of social life and personal relations.

Indeed, many matchmaking service companies and travel agencies that charge different rates by age group have decided not to embrace the international age counting system for the time being to minimize confusion.

despite the presence of 2,000 additional security personnel.

On Tuesday night, 24 police officers were injured and 40 cars were set ablaze in the capital city. Meanwhile, in the northern city of Lille, clashes broke out between the protesters and police.

Also on Wednesday, about 300 people gathered in the town of

Renne to pay tribute to the teenager were dispersed by police, reports the BBC.

The officer who allegedly shot the teenager was taken into custody on Tuesday and will undergo questioning by prosecutors, Nanterre prosecutor's office told CNN.

On Thursday morning, President Emmanuel Macron chaired a meetprotests, according to the Interior Ministry.

"We have seen scenes of violences against the police stations but also schools, city halls, therefore against institutions and against the republic,' Macron told reporters before the meeting. "These actions are completely unjustifiable.

Macron's earlier reaction to the shooting, which he termed "unforgivable", drew criticisms from police unions, who accused him of rushing to judge the officers involved.

The Alliance Police union called for them to be presumed innocent until found guilty, while the rival Unite SGP Police also spoke of political interventions that encouraged "anti-cop hatred".

Darmanin said he would be taking legal action against another group, France Police, after it published what he called an "unacceptable and abject" tweet seeking to justify the teenager's killing.

Utions in Ukraine, has been arrested over his alleged involvement to the shortlived rebellion staged by the Wagner mercenary group last weekend, a local media report said

Although there was no official confirmation of his arrest. The Moscow Times reported citing sources close to the Defence Ministry, saying that the "the situation with him (Surovikin) was not 'OK'".

The General, who is also Commander of the Aerospace Forces, has not been seen in public since June 24, the day when Wagner chief Yevgeny Prigozhin launched an armed rebellion against the country's military leader ship

One of the sources told The Moscow Times that the arrest was carried out "in the context of Prigozhin".

"Apparently, he (Surovikin) chose Prigozhin's side during the uprising.'

When asked about the General's whereabouts, the source replied: "We are not even commenting on this information through our internal channels." Earlier on Wednesday, pro-war military blogger Vladimir Romanov

had said that Surovikin was detained on June 25, a day after the mutiny, and claimed that

the General was being held in Moscow's Lefortovo detention centre.In a Telegram post, Alexei Venediktov, editor-in-chief of the shuttered Ekho Moskvy radio station, said that Surovikin had not been in contact with his family for three days and his guards were also not responsive, The Moscow Times reported.

On June 24, mercenary troops led by Prigozhin took over the southern Russian city of Rostov-on-Don, marched on Moscow and shot down Russian military helicopters and a plane on their way, the BBC reported.

Their mutiny was later aborted after a deal was struck with the help of Belarusian President Alexander Lukashenko.

policy law to counter US Hong Kong Agencies

China unveils sweeping foreign

hina has unveiled a sweeping foreign relations law enshrining its right to impose 'countermeasures' against actions that it deems a threat -- in Beijing's latest bid to bolster its position amid strained relations with the West, according to a media

report. The law, coming into force from July 1, comes as China's authoritarian government pushes back against what it sees as American efforts to suppress its development, following US export controls on some hightech goods and efforts to reduce reliance on Chinese suppliers in the sensitive sectors, CNN reported.The two countries have entered a period of deep suspicion and tension that marks a low point in their relations, even as US Secretary of State Antony Blinken visited

Beijing earlier this month in an effort to stabilise ties. The new law stresses its right "to take corresponding countermeasures and restrictive measures" against acts that violate international law and norms and that "endanger China's sovereignty, security and development interests", CNN reported.It is China's first foreign policy legislation of this scope and lands as Xi Jinping -- the country's most powerful leader in decades -- has seen his drive to amplify China's power and influence on the world stage clash with concern from the US and other nations over Beijing's ambitions and increasingly assertive foreign policy.

17 DEAD AMID HEAT WAVE IN SOUTHERN US

Houston Agencies

t least 17 people have died from heat-related illnesses Las a severe heat wave continued in Texas while spreading into other parts of the southern US.

In Webb County, southern Texas, medical examiner Corinne Stern said that 11 residents over the age of 60 have died due to the abnormal heat, reports Xinhua news agency.

"This is heat like we've not seen here before," said Stern.

"Deaths due to heat stroke are ruled as accidents, and accidents, by definition, are preventable deaths. All these deaths could have been prevented.

A 14-year-old boy from Florida died of heat-related fatigue in Big Bend National Park in Texas, when temperatures there rose to 48 degrees Celsius, the second-highest mark ever



Also among the confirmed victims were a 17-year-old hiker, a utility lineman, a postal worker all from Texas and two residents in the coastal state of Louisiana,

recorded in the state.

local media reported. A Texas Tribune report said

that since the heat wave gripped the state, at least nine inmates, including two men in their 30s, have died of heart attacks or

unknown causes in prisons lack ing air conditioning.

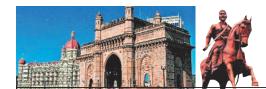
It has been 11 years since the state's prison system last classified a death as heat-related.

According to Stern, the number of heat-related deaths also rose near the US-Mexico border in the past few weeks.

Five bodies have been found since last week in a desert close to the Mexican border and near human smuggling zones in the Sunland Park area, New Mexico, the El Paso Times reported.

It is unknown whether the bodies are those of migrants.

The US National Weather Service forecast temperatures will likely reach 43 to 46 degrees on Thursday and Friday in Texas as the heat spreads into Arkansas, Louisiana, Kansas and Oklahoma.More than 150 heat records could be broken during the next six days



maharashtra



1 KILLED IN MUMBAI DUE TO HEAVY RAINFALL, WATERLOGGING SEEN IN MANY AREAS

Team Absolute Mumbai

eavy rains led to waterlogging in many areas of Mumbai on Wednesday, forcing the closure of the busy Andheri subway, civic officials said.

A tree collapse incident claimed a man's life in suburban Malad, the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) said in a release.

The local train traffic on the Central and Western Railway routes was mostly normal though the trains were running a few minutes late, railway officials said.

"Due to accumulation of 1.5 to 2 feet of water, Andheri Subway is closed for vehicular movement. Traffic is diverted towards SV Road," Mumbai Traffic Police tweeted in the afternoon.

The civic-run Brihanmumbai Electric Supply and Transport or 'BEST' buses on three routes were diverted at Ketki pada in Dahisar East.

In the 24 hours since previous morning, there were 26 incidents of tree fall, 15 incidents of short-circuit and five incidents of collapse or partial collapse of houses, the BMC said.



Rains also pounded neighbouring Thane city, leading to waterlogging and incidents of wall and house collapse

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has predicted more showers in Mumbai, with moderate to intense rain spells in isolated places. Kaushal Doshi, 38, was severely injured in a tree fall at Mamledarwadi junction in the western suburb of Malad. He was rushed to the civic-run Shatabdi Hospital where the doctors declared him "brought dead", a BMC official said. The island city (south Mumbai),

eastern and western suburbs received 12.44 mm, 42.41 mm and 40.46 mm of rainfall, respectively, between 8 am to 12 noon on Wednesday, as per civic officials. IMD Mumbai issued a 'nowcast'

warning at 9.30 am, saying "moderate to intense spells of rain very likely to occur at isolated places" in Mumbai along with some other coastal districts

Municipal commissioner Iqbal Singh Chahal and other senior officials visited the Mithi river bank in Bandra-Kurla Complex area, the under-construction coastal road in Worli and some other locations in Mumbai to assess the situation in view of the heavy showers.

Ironically, though the city has been receiving heavy rains over the last two-three days, the BMC has decided to implement a 10 per cent water cut from July 1 as the stock in the lakes supplying water to the city is down to about seven per cent.

In Thane, a 36-year-old woman was injured when a portion of a single-storey chawl (tenement) collapsed on Tuesday evening in Mahagiri Koliwada area, authorities said.

The protection wall of a housing society in Chandanwadi locality collapsed around 11 on Wednesday morning due to heavy rains but nobody was injured in the incident.

Vegetable prices soar in Mumbai retail outlets, but score on e-markets

Quaid Najmi | Mumbai

umbai and other major cities have been rattled by a sudden and steep spurt in the prices of most daily consumption vegetables, with the tomato commanding almost a king's ransom, in the past few days, and the situation may continue to be grim until at least August.

In contrast, the prices of the same daily use, popular vegetables are between 20-40 per cent cheaper in e-markets or on most major online portals like Jio Fresh, Amazon, Reliance Smart, Amazon, BigBasket, Natures Basket.

A perusal of several of these sites showed that not only are the prices lower compared with the markets, the fresh vegetables are in great demand and so some companies promise delivery only after 24-48 hours.

For instance, the prices of tomato on the online portals range between Rs 70-90, compared with Rs 100-130 in the open markets, plus there are gaping differences in the rates of most other veggies online and offline.

Other popular but smaller online retailers or departmental stores in the city have either dropped the pricey veggies off their lists or quote near-similar rates veggies, thus giving a tough competition to the friendly neighbourhood streetcorner 'bhajiwala' or the mobile 'feriwala' roaming the Mumbai streets.

Experts and market players claim that the



recent steep hike in prices since mid-May from double to triple to quadruple, depending on the vegetable -- is due to an array of reasons.

Prime among these are the delayed onset of monsoon in most parts of India, coupled with unexpected shortages, changes in cropping patterns and scalding fuel prices.

Market expert and Vashi APMC Director, Ashok Walunj said what the market is getting in the past few days is old stock, due to the delay in rains, that has led to an unusual shortage, fuelling the price hikes.

Plus, huge quantities of onions and potatoes were spoiled and there are no takers for the stocks which are now going for Rs 10-12/kg in the APMCs, and around Rs 20-25/kg in the retail markets, but these will shoot up to Rs 35-45/kg by August, he cautioned.

Flutter as speeding motorbike rams Aditya Thackeray's car, no injuries

attempted to slow and con-

trol his vehicle but it still hit

the SUV. Scared of the conse-

quences, the unidentified

man attempted to start his

security personnel hopped

removed the ignition key

questioning.

before taking him away for

Team Absolute Mumbai

speeding motorcyclist banged into the slowmoving SUV of Shiv Sena-UBT leader Aditya Thackeray outside the Shiv Sena Bhavan in Dadar on Wednesday afternoon, creating a minor security flutter, party leaders said.

The incident occurred when Thackeray junior was proceeding to the party headquarters for a meeting when the motorcycle, apparently out of control, rammed into the right side of his vehicle and the rider fell down.

He again got up with the bike even as Thackeray's police and security detail rushed towards him to help. From viral videos, it

appears that the motorcyclist apprehended a collision and



the driver, enquired after the condition of the motorcyclist and was told that "he's fine, all normal" Meanwhile, the incident -

coming days after his security motorcycle and escape, but a cover was reportedly after him, rook him aside and trimmed - sparked concerns in various quarters. Thackeray was barraged

with phone calls and messages prompting him to tweet

On reaching the Shiv Sena Bhavan, Thackeray, who was that "all are safe and nobody sitting in the front seat beside was injured" in the accident. Team Absolute Mumbai

he arrival of two goats at a private housing colony near Mumbai sparked tensions,

prompted slogans of Jai Shri Ram and recitals of the Hanuman Chalisa on Tuesday before police intervention managed to bring matters under control.

A police case has now been filed against 11 individuals in connection with the incident, news agency ANI reported.

The incident took place in the Thane district's Mira Road, next to Mumbai, where resident Mohsin Sheikh had brought the animals into his home ahead of the Muslim festival of Bakrid, traditionally marked by the sacrifice of livestock.

The move sparked uproar among many society members, who subsequently gathered to protest. Protesters chanted religious slogans and recited the Hanuman Chalisa, a

Hindu devotional hymn. "Our society had passed a rule that no livestock would be allowed inside



the society, but they violated it and brought two goats inside. We are opposing it and will not allow it." Police were called to the scene to manage the escalating tensions and encountered a heated exchange with

the residents. "We appeal to all to maintain communal harmony and follow the rules of the society," another resident said. Despite the police's intervention, there was a brief clash between the officers and some of the

society's members.

Sheikh stated that in previous years, the building's owner had provided space for Muslim families to keep livestock for the festival. This year, however, he was told that there was no space available. He also claimed that he had requested a place within the society to keep his goats but was denied.

With no other option, Sheikh brought the two goats into his home early Tuesday morning. He maintained that the animals were not intended for sacrifice within the society, stating, "We always get the slaughter done elsewhere."

The police informed society members that according to the rules, no sacrifices were permitted within the society, and urged Sheikh to remove the animals in consideration of the sentiments of other residents.

The incident has set off a fierce debate on social media, with a video of the event circulating on multiple platforms. The video shows residents shouting and preventing Sheikh from taking the goats into his home.

WhatsApp Pink scam on rise, Mumbai Police issues red alert for Android users

After National Award, makers of '72 Hoorain' are upset over CBFC rejecting its trailer

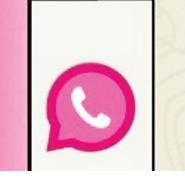
Team Absolute Mumbai

umbai Police have issued a red alert for Android users who have downloaded WhatsApp in Pink.

In a Twitter post, the Mumbai Police said, "WHATSAPP PINK - A Red Alert For Android Users", along with a picture explaining the consequences as well as the measures to protect yourself from the scam.

"The news about 'New Pink Look WhatsApp with extra features' which is recently doing rounds among the WhatsApp users is a hoax which can lead to hacking of your mobile through malicious software," the picture reads.

"It is not an uncommon instance, to see the fraudsters come up with variety of new tricks and ways to lure gullible users into falling into their trap to commit cyber frauds. It is for the users to be Aware. Alert, and



Attentive to these kinds of frauds and remain safe and secure in the digital world." Downloading WhatsApp in Pink can lead to misuse of contact numbers and pictures saved on mobile phones, financial loss, misuse of your credentials, spam messages, and more.

People are advised to immediately uninstall the fake app downloaded on

WHATSAPP PINK A Red Alert **For Android Users**

their mobile by navigating to settings> apps> WhatsApp (pink logo) and uninstall it.

You should never click on links received from unknown sources without proper verification or authentication. Also, you should always install applications through the official app store of Google or iOS or a legitimate website. Always keep in mind to

never share your personal details or financial information like login credentials, passwords, credit or debit card details and other such information online with anyone, as it can be misused. aware and alert about such attempts of cyber criminals by keeping track of the latest news and updates on the activities of cyber fraudsters.

he makers of the National Award winning movie '72 Hoorain', at the movie's trailer launch, expressed disagreement with the Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC) for their decision to reject the trailer.

Labeling the decision as regressive to the artistic spirit, Ashoke Pandit who is the co-producer of the movie, said: "We are extremely hurt and disturbed because of CBFC's unfair decision of rejecting the trailer without any reason.

This action raises a big concern about creativity, freedom and realistic filmmaking. We will not take this lightly and will knock on the doors of the high court too, if needed.



"Further, we will also be requesting the I&B ministry to intervene and question the authority at CBFC for rejecting the trailer." The director of the movie. Sanjay Puran Singh Chauhan, a two-time

CBFC'S decision, added:

"The movie has won the

National Award by the gov-

ernment and has received a censor certificate already. The trailer carries the same essence of the movie."

"So on what basis has CBFC rejected the trailer!" He added: "We would request everybody to watch National Award Winner, who the movie and then jump to seemed visibly unhappy with any conclusion. The movie only states facts and certainly does not target any religion or hurt religious sentiments.'

OLD MAN KILLED BY SPEEDING CAR; DRIVER ARRESTED

Mumbai: A 76-year-old man was killed in a hit-andrun case after a speeding car rammed into him in Mumbai's Mulund on Tuesday night, police said. The car's driver has been arrested, they added.

According to Mulund police, the accident took place at 8.45 pm when 22-year-old Amresh Yadav hit Tukaram Sawant, who was walking on the side of a road, and scooter driver nearby with his car. The driver then abandoned his car and fled.

While Sawant died on the spot, the scooter driver was badly injured and is receiving treatment at a hospital.

A case has been registered against Yadav for rash driving, causing hurt and death by negligence under relevant sections of the Indian Penal Code and Motor Vehicles Act.

"BJP's Team B": Team Uddhav 's dig at KCR's party 'Saamna', the official newspaper of the Uddhav Thackeray faction took a dig at the Telangana Chief Minister K Chandrasekhar Rao in its editorial calling Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) the 'B' team of BJP.

Team Absolute Mumbai

elangana CM is on a two-day trip to Maharashtra from Tuesday.

"KCR is making an emotional appeal to the farmers of Maharashtra, seeking votes in the name of farmers. But the overall picture is that his party will pave the way for BJP to divide votes. BJP's politics has always been like this. In Maharashtra, BJP has already kept many horses and mules as the 'B' team. Another party from Telangana has joined it," it said.

"KCR has decided to enter national politics by establishing a party called the Bharat Rashtra Samithi. However, there was no need for this. He had a regional party and it was doing well, but the worm of national politics had entered Rao's mind," it added.

The mouthpiece of the Uddhav Thackeray faction said that although Rao has contributed a lot to the establishment of Telangana and has successfully implemented various schemes to improve the standard of living of the farmers, even then it's not sure whether he'll remain in power in 2024 or not. "In the establishment of the state of Telangana, K.



Chandrasekhar Rao's struggle is big. It is equally true that if Rao had not fought, the Telangana state would not have been formed. Rao became the Chief Minister of Telangana twice. Although he has successfully implemented many such schemes to improve the standard of living of the farmers there but still no one can guarantee whether KCR's party will remain in power in 2024," it stated.

Pointing out the relationship between All India Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimeen (AIMIM) chief Asaduddin Owaisi and BIP, the mouthpiece said that earlier BJP used Owaisi for dividing votes but now after understanding Owaisi's ploy, it is clear that Muslims and Dalits will not go with him. So is BJP trying to field KCR instead of Owaisi?

"Since 2019 the AIMIM's Owaisi is being used by the BJP for the purpose of dividing votes. Owaisi moved to Maharashtra and other states to divide votes.

They did their job well, but after understanding Owaisi's ploy, it is clear that Muslims and Dalits will not fall for him. So is that why BJP has now fielded KCR instead of Owaisi? Are KCR and his party acting as the 'B' team of the BJP?" it said.

Sanjay Raut said that KCR came to Maharashtra fearing loss in Telangana where, he said, the fight is between KCR and Congress.

absolute india hollywood

Mumbai, Friday, June 30, 2023





DOJA CAT SHOWS OFF HER NEW TATTOOS IN TOPLESS INSTAGRAM POST



Los Angeles | Agencies

apper Doja Cat has got inked and she is showing it off. The 'Need to Know' rapper, 27, added a spider to her back tattoo collection and more elaborate designs to her right hand.She shared two topless photos

on her Instagram recently, which showed off the spider tattoo added to her lower back. The insect appears to be spinning a web that continues from the tail of the bat skeleton tattoo she got in May, reports 'People' magazine.In the photo series, Doja Cat also included a photo of her right hand, which has a tattoo of an eyeball with a sword through it. She also has designs on her middle finger, as well as small dots near each nail.Doja Cat tagged the tattoo artiste, Mr. K, adding a spider emoji.

"Another session w @dojacat in LA and perfectly healed," the artiste wrote on his own Instagram page, where he shared the same photos.

As per 'People', the 'Streets' rapper's lower back ink is a fine-line tattoo like her bat tattoo. While Doja Cat did not provide context for her newest body art, she did explain the meaning behind the skeletal bat.

"Bats often represent death in the sense of letting go of the old, and bringing in the new," the rapper's May 4 message read.

"They are symbols of transition, of initiation, and the start of a new beginning," she added The "new beginning" Doja Cat is looking forward to might be the start of her new tour.



Boris Becker's lookalike model daughter Anna turns heads at gala

Berlin | Agencies

ormer German tennis ace Boris Becker's daughter Anna Ermakova turned heads on Tuesday night when she attended the Media Night at Aachen in Germany.

According to the Daily Mail: "The model looked stunning in a long black strapless figure-hugging dress which clung to her slim frame and accentuated her sculpted shoulders.

They added: "The 23-year-old model, who looks just like her famous father, finished the look with a Louis Vuitton black bag and 15,800 pounds Vintage Alhambra long necklace from Van Cleef and Arnel "Her signature red locks were bumped up with volume as she posed with her arms raised above her head, finishing the look with a bold red lip."

from the evening with her 131 thousand followers on her Instagram.

In March, Anna won the final of Germany's equivalent of 'Strictly Come Dancing' with a record number of votes.

Boris, 55, had then taken to social media to express his deep love and admiration for his daughter. He conveyed that he could not be more proud of the remarkable young woman she is blossoming into. "I wish my beautiful daughter only the very best on her special day! I couldn't be more proud of the woman she is becoming in front of our eyes! Love," he wrote.

According to Mirror.co.uk, Anna was conceived during an infamous encounter etween Becker and Russian mod Angela Ermakova in a broom cupboard in London's Nobu restaurant in 1999.



Los Angeles | Agencies

ollywood actress Kim Cattrall has opened up on her highly-anticipated 'And Just Like That' cameo.

The actress, 66, detailed how she came to reprise her iconic role of Samantha Jones for the season 2 finale of the 'Sex and the City' revival series. Her character was only featured in the first season via text message exchanges with Carrie Bradshaw (played by Sarah Jessica Parker), reports People magazine.

"It's very interesting to get a call from the head of HBO say ing, 'What can we do?' and I went, 'Hmm, let me get creative, Cattrall shared that during her appearance on 'The View' on Wednesday. "And one of those things was to get Pat Field back because I just thought that if I'm going to come back, I gotta come back with that Samantha style. I gotta push it. And we did." she revealed.

Cattrall made headlines earlier this month when it was announced that her 'Sex and the City' character Samatha Jones would be making an appearance in this season's finale of 'And Just Like That ... ' and that she was outfitted by none other than Field, 82.As per People, Field, who famously dressed the cast of the Sex and the City series and its two spin-off movies, notably didn't return for the TV series 'And Just Like That'. However, she made an exception for her good friend Cattrall's return.

According to Variety, Cattrall filmed the cameo on March 2 in New York City. The outlet also reported that

Excited to attend, Anna shared clips

THE BEE GEES WOULD ARGUE **CONSTANTLY DURING RECORDING SESSIONS, SAYS** NEW BOOK



London: Disco legends, the Bee Gees would argue constantly in recording studios, but always made up over a cup of tea, a new book reveals

According to the book Bee Gees: Children of the World', the 'How Deep Is Your Love' singers, Barry Gibb, 76, and his twin broth ers Robin and Maurice, knew it was "time to get back to work" once the kettle had boiled, reports Mirror.co.uk. Studio engineer John Merchant tells how the brothers were 'world champions of sniping at each other" until they had made a cuppa. The book's author, pop historian Bob Stanley, wrote: "John reckoned the spats were part of the work process, 'They knew what the other was capable of, and would not rest until their brother had delivered. 'They would challenge each other consistently. And, like an unrealistic sitcom, everyone knew the situation would be resolved as soon as the kettle went on'." Tragedy struck when Maurice died aged 53 in 2003, and Robin died in 2012 aged 62 from cancer. When the Bee Gees beaked in the 70s with hits such as 'Saturday Night Fever', Barry never lost his taste for home.

later confirmed he was the father.



her scene "without seeing or speaking with the stars of the series," including Parker, Cynthia Nixon and Kristin Davis, nor did she reportedly interact with series creator Michael Patrick King



Boris initially refused to acknowledge paternity of his daughter before a DNA test

'Celebration **Tour postpones'**

Madonna rushed to NYC hospital after being unresponsive

Los Angeles | Agencies

nternational pop star Madonna was found unresponsive, and was rushed to a New York hospital after suffering from a bacterial infection leading to a multi-day hospital stay. Though she is on the mend with expectations of a full recovery, her upcoming 'Celebration Tour' has been postponed.

According to The Hollywood Reporter, "Guy Oseary, the singer's talent manager and producer, confirmed that she had been admitted to an intensive care unit on June 24 due to the infection."

"Her health is improving, however, she is still under medical care. A full recovery is expected,' he wrote in an Instagram statement. 'At this time we will need to pause all commitments, which includes the tour'." Back in 2020, Madonna underwent hip

replacement surgery, post her injury during her 'Madame X Tour', which forced her to cancel several North American shows.

The Grammy winning pop sensation had announced her 'Celebration Tour' back in January with a video featuring other big names such as Amy Schumer, Lil Wayne, Kate Berlant, Jack Black, Judd Apatow and Eric Andre among others. As per The Hollywood Reporter, "It paid tribute to her 1991 'Blond Ambition World Tour' documentary Truth or Dare.

USA Today states that Madonna's upcoming 'Celebration Tour' was expected to cover all sides of Madonna's 40-plus year career, and was scheduled to begin in Vancouver July 15.

Oseary added that a new start date for the Tour along with the dates of the rescheduled shows shall be announced soon.



Bruce Springsteen set to rock Hyde Park after 11 years



Los Angeles | Agencies

ock music legend Bruce Springsteen is returning to London's Hyde Park -- where he was famously cut off 11 years ago

-- in July But this time, the organisers said, 'The Boss' will not be silenced. Bruce is going to take stage earlier, at around 7 p.m., so his 'notoriously' long set won't run over and fall foul of the 10.30 p.m. curfew dedaline, reports 'The Mirror'. A source said the scheduling would ensure that the icon gets to play all his hits with no interruption when he takes to the stage

next on July 6 and July 8. The source told 'The Mirror', "Fans needn't worry... There will be plenty of time to hear what will be

two historic sets. The 73-year-old, whose hits include 'Born In The U.S.A.', 'Dancing In The

Dark', and 'Streets of Philadelphia', among many others, last played at the Hyde Park in 2012 as part of the festival Hard Rock Calling, which was arranged by a different promoter. Sir Paul McCartney had joined Springsteen and his E Street Band to play Beatles classics 'I Saw Her Standing There' and 'Twist and Shout'. But as the stars appeared ready to launch into another number, their microphones were switched off.

Westminster Council insists on a 10.30 p.m. finish, which caused Steve Van Zandt, one of the E Street Band guitarists, to vent his fury at the "police state".



Duleep Trophy

FIFA Rankings

NISHANT SINDHU'S 150, HARSHIT RANA'S MAIDEN **HUNDRED PUT NORTH ZONE IN DRIVER'S SEAT**

Bengaluru | Agencies

Ticketkeeper-batter Nishant Sindhu slammed 150 while pacer Harshit Rana notched up his maiden hundred in first-class cricket to put North Zone in the driver's seat against North East Zone on Day 2 of the Duleep Trophy quarterfinal at M Chinnaswamy Stadium, here on Thursday

After opener Dhruv Shorey made 135 on day one's play, it was the turn of Sindhu and Rana, who remained not out on 122, to make merry against North East Zone bowlers, before the North Zone innings was declared at 540/8 in 136 overs. Before rain caused an end to day two's play, Rana, Siddharth Kaul and Baltej Singh took a wicket each to leave North East Zone at 65/3 in 20 overs, trailing North Zone by 475 runs. Sindhu began the day by reaching his hun-



dred in 165 balls, also his third century in first-class cricket. But North East Zone struck back as Palzor had Pulkit Narang dismissed for 46, ending a crucial 130-run stand

Brief scores North Zone 540/8 declared n 136 overs Nishant Sindhu 150, Dhruv Shorey 135; Kishan Singha 2/74) lead North East Zone 65/3 in 20 overs (Nilesh Lamichaney 35 not out; Siddharth Kaul 1/3) by 475 runs.

for the seventh wicket. However, the inexperienced bowling line-up had little respite as Rana came out all guns blazing, smashing all over the park to reach his fifty in just 37 balls.

Sindhu, a member of India's 2022 Men's U19 World Cup winning squad, continued his sublime batting to reach his 150, before falling on the same score to Imliwati. But Rana's stunning counterattacking knock continued and with clean shots in hand, he reached his hundred off just 75 balls, as North Zone went past 500.

After 40 more runs, North Zone declared their innings as Rana went back with 122 not out against his name, laced with 12 fours and nine sixes at a strike-rate of 141.86. After some quiet overs, North Zone drew first blood as Kishan Lyndoh was castled by Kaul. Baltej joined the wickettaking spree by having Thankhuma nicking behind. After rain arrived, play was disrupted, before the skies cleared up. Captain R Jonathan was then trapped lbw by Rana, before covers came back again, causing an end to day two's play.

India move up by one spot, reach top 100 for first time in five years

Team Absolute New Delhi

he Indian football team has risen by one place in the latest FIFA Men's World Rankings, from 101 to 100, which was released on Thursday.

This is the first time in five years that the Blue Tigers have reached the top 100, having last been ranked at the 97th place in 2018.

"India move up to 100 in the latest FIFA Men's World Ranking. Steadily we rise," said the Indian football team's official handle in a tweet. In April, India moved up to 101 in the FIFA Rankings. They have now gained 4.24 points which have helped them move into the top 100 after going unbeaten in June in the Intercontinental Cup and the SAFF Championships.

India have been on a hot streak of form recently and have been unbeaten since their 0-3 defeat to Vietnam in the 2022 VFF Tri-Nation Series

They have won seven out of nine games in 2023 while drawing twice, recently against Kuwait in the ongoing SAFF Championship and one against Lebanon in the Hero



Intercontinental Cup. Igor Stimac's men have also won two titles this year -- Tri-Nation Series and the Intercontinental Cup.

In the nine games since the loss to Vietnam in September 2022, India have also netted 15 goals while registering eight clean sheets in a row -- a new national record.

Sunil Chhetri and Co. will look to continue their unbeaten streak as they face Lebanon in the SAFF Championship semi-finals on Saturday.

Asian Kabaddi C'ship

Ashes 2023 Steve Smith equals Steve Waugh's tally of 32 Test centuries



London Agencies

dding another feather to his cap, star batter Steve Smith on Thursday equalled Steve Waugh's record of 32 Test

centuries for Australia on Day 2 of the second Ashes 2023 Test against England at Lord's

Smith now has only Ricky

mark. The 34-year-old also become the fourth Australian to have his name etched onto the Lord's Test batting honours board multiple times, joining Warren Bardsley (1912, 1926), Sir Don Bradman (1930, 1938) and Bill Brown (1934, 1938) to score multiple Test hundreds at Lord's, according to cricket.com.au. This achievement only amplifies Smith's extraordinary connection with Lord's, a venue that holds significant moments in his career. It was at the same where he made his Test debut against Pakistan in

Australia's all-time Test ton

playing his 174th innings in

scoring charts. Moreover,

his 99th Test, Smith is the

fastest to reach the 32-ton

2010 and showcased his bril-Ponting, who has scored 41 liance by smashing a remarkcenturies, in his sights on able 215.

KERALA READY TO HOST LIONEL MESSI'S ARGENTINA FOR FRIENDLY: MINISTER

Thiruvananthapuram: Days after the All India Football Federation (AIFF) turned down a proposal from Argentina to play a football friendly in India citing its staggering appearance fee, Kerala Sports Minister V. Abdurahiman said the state is ready to host the Lionel Messi-led world champions, provided they are willing to come.

Abdurahiman said he has already spoken to Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan in this regard.

"Everyone knows how passionate the Chief Minister is about sports. It was Vijayan who first mooted the idea of hosting Argentina for a friendly, which has been conveyed to them. Once we get a confirmation from Argentina, will go forward with it. We will also approach the AIFF, and I don't see any reason for it to turn down our proposal," said Abdurahiman, who hails from Malappuram, the most football crazy district in Kerala.When asked about the likely expenses and if the state will be able to afford it, Abdurahiman replied, "Kerala's love for football is known to all, so funds will not be an issue at all."

INDIA BEAT IRAN 33-28 TO QUALIFY FOR FINAL

Busan (South Korea) Agencies

ndia stormed into the final of the Asian Kabaddi Championship after registering a narrow 33-28

win over Iran at the Dong-Eui Institute of Technology Seokdang Cultural Center, here on Thursday. With a win over Iran, India stood

strong on top standing. This was India's fourth win on the trot.

The Indian men's kabaddi team will play Hong Kong on Friday in the last league stage game before the final, scheduled on the same

The top two teams after the conclusion of the league stage will play the final. India captain Pawan Sehrawat led from the front, scoring 16 of the 33 points for India.

India and Iran, both on unbeaten runs coming into the contest, had a watchful start and were going headto-head in the first quarter. Aslam Inamdar earned a 2-point raid in the 11th minute. Later, India inflicted an All-Out to extend their lead to 11-5.



Iranian defenders to stretch their lead to 17-7 with four minutes left in the first half. Iranian defenders produced a Super Tackle against Inamdar to end the first half trailing by 19-9.

Sehrawat escaped past two

Iran, the reigning Asian Games champions, mounted a terrific comeback after the break as they inflicted an All-Out, cutting down the deficit to four points at 26-22

with six minutes left.

A super tackle by India with 30 seconds to go in the match followed by a two-point raid by Arjun Deshwal helped India seal a thriller with a 33-28 scoreline to continue their unbeaten run in the tournament.India have won seven of the eight Asian Kabaddi Championship editions played so far while Iran won the title once, in 2003

TOPS clears training stints of wrestlers Vinesh **Hockey Pro League** NETHERLANDS MEN BEAT NEW ZEALAND, REMAIN IN TITLE HUNT Phogat, Bajrang Punia in Kyrgyzstan, Hungary

Amsterdam | Agencies

he Netherlands men's team thrashed the already relegated New Zealand as they continued their quest for the FIH Hockey Pro League title on the final day of the mini-tournament here

The Dutch claimed a comfortable 4-1 victory on Thursday to take a step closer to overtaking Great Britain at the top of the standings, with two matches remaining. Both Spain and Belgium also remain in the running for the men's title, making for a thrilling final mini-tournament in Antwerp, starting on Friday.

The Dutch maintained their chances on Wednesday with a comfortable win against the Black Sticks.

Some sensationally speedy teamwork saw Teun Beins and Thijs van Dam combining to feed the ball through to Bijen Koen who lifted it into the roof of the net for the Netherlands's opening goal.

Just three minutes later, an attack down the lefthand side finished with Tjep Hoedemakers passing the ball back from the baseline for Jair van der Horst to tap it in as the home team doubled their lead.

A spectacular save from New Zealand keeper



Leon Hayward in the opening seconds of the third quarter prevented his side from dropping further behind. Instead, the Black Sticks pulled one back towards the end of the period with a move down the right. Sam Lane had a swing and a miss after

taking it into the circle (which was deemed not to be dangerous on review) and recovered well to cross it in for Dylan Thomas to slot it in. After a goal from Thierry Brinkman, playing his 150th match for the Netherlands, was disallowed, Jip Janssen fired in the home team's third off a penalty corner, dragging it through the keeper's legs, the FIH said in a

report on its website. Moments later, the Netherlands were awarded a penalty stroke after a bad tackle during a goalmouth scramble, and Jasper Brinkman drilled it into the left corner to wrap up a 4-1 victory

Terrance Pieters was named Player of the Match. "We started pretty well I think. We were 2-0 up at half-time and then we had the feeling that we still needed one more goal to seal the game, which we couldn't quite get in the third quarter. New Zealand came back to 2-1 so then it was very close again. but I think we managed to play well at the end, stay calm and get the victory," was quoted as saying by the FIH.

The win took the Netherlands men, who have 29 points from 14 matches, to the third position behind Great Britain (32) and India (30). Belgium are in fourth position with 24 points from 12 matches while Spain are sixth with 21 points from 12 matches.

Team Absolute New Delhi

he Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS) of the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports has approved proposals by Vinesh Phogat and Bajrang Punia for training in Kyrgystan and Hungary as they prepare for the upcoming trials for the Asian Games in Hangzhou.

The duo, who along with fellow Olympian Sakshi Malik, was leading a protest by wrestlers against the Wrestling Federation of India (WFI) chief Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh till a few days back, sent in their proposals to the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports (MYAS) TOPS team and the same was cleared within 24 hrs of their request.



While Olympic bronze medallist Bajrang Punia will head out to Issyk-Kul, Kyrgyzstan for 36 days training camp, World Championships medallist Vinesh Phogat will first head out to Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan for a week-long training camp and then to Tata, Hungary for 18 days of training, the ministry informed in a release on Thursday. While Vinesh will be accompanied by physiotherapist Ashwini Jeevan Patil, sparring partner

Sangeeta Phogat and coach Sudesh, Bajrang will be accompanied by coach Sujeet Maan, physiotherapist Anuj Gupta, sparring partner Jitender and strength and conditioning expert Kaazi Hasan.

The government will fund Vinesh, Bajrang, their sparring partners, Sangeeta Phogat and Jitender, and coaches Sudesh and Sujeet Maan's air tickets, board and lodging costs, camp expenses, airport transfer costs, OPA and other miscellaneous costs.

Additionally, the cost for the other support staff accompanying the wrestlers will be borne by Olympic Gold Quest (OGQ).

Both Vinesh and Bajrang are set to leave in the first week of July

Youth Women's National Boxing C'ship SUPRIYA DEVI ADVANCES TO QUARTER-FINALS

Team Absolute Bhopal

ndian pugilist TH Supriya Devi showcased her exceptional skills to secure a commanding victory and advance to the quarter finals on the third day of the ongoing 6th Youth Women's National Boxing Championship, here on Thursday.

Facing Kuldeep Kaur of Punjab, Supriya (54kg) utilised her smart attacking strategy and emerged victorious with a unanimous decision of 5:0. The Manipurborn pugilist who has the Asian Junior silver medal to her name, hardly put a foot wrong throughout the bout.

She will now face Meherunnis A Becum Mohd of Andhra Pradesh in the last-8. Contrasting to Supriva's result, another pugilist from Manipur, Kajal S



Devi registered a hard fought She will take on Kafi of 4-1 victory against Harshita Madhya Pradesh in her quarof Chandigarh. She will go ters bout. head-to-head against Riva Displaying a smart combi-Toor of Punjab in the quarterfinals. In the 50kg category, Anshu of Haryana deliv-

ance against Swati Yadav of

the referee stopped the con-

test (RSC) in the first round.

Delhi to secure a victory after

nation of attack and quick movement, S Java Sree (81kg) of Telangana recorded a 5:0 ered a remarkable performwin against Ritu of Haryana

and booked her place in the quarter-finals where she will take square off against Mansi Lad of Maharashtra.

HANFMANN UPSETS TSITSIPAS ON GRASS FOR FIRST TOP-5 WIN

Mallorca Championships

Mallorca (Spain) Agencies

Zannick Hanfmann continued his strong performance in the 2023 season as he claimed his first Top 5 victim, beating top seed Stefanos Tsitsipas in three games in the pre-quarterfinals of the Mallorca Championships here.

The German player overcame defending champion Tsitsipas of Greece 6-4, 3-6, 6-2 in the grasscourt ATP 250 event in Spain's Balearic Islands for the biggest win of his career on Wednesday night. Hanfmann won 80 per cent (36/45) of points behind his first serve in a rock-solid performance to reach his first non-clay ATP Tour quarterfinal.

Hanfmann broke Tsitsipas' serve in the opening game of the match and two more times in the deciding set to seal his victory. The 31-yearold, who broke into the Top 50 in the ATP Rankings on Monday, now holds a 16-9 record for 2023. He



1000 quarterfinal in May in Madrid, reached his maiden ATP Masters

a run that included Top 10 victories against Taylor Fritz and Andrey Rublev.

In the quarter-finals on his Mallorca debut, Hanfmann will next take on home favourite Feliciano Lopez, who extended his run at the final event of his professional career with a 7-6(6), 1-6, 6-3 triumph against Jordan Thompson.

With his two-hour, six-minute victory, the 41-year-old Lopez became the oldest ATP Tour quarterfinalist since Jimmy Connors reached the last eight in Halle aged 42 in 1995.

Christopher Eubanks also upset a seeded opponent to reach his first tour-level quarterfinal on the grass in Mallorca. The American downed his countryman Ben Shelton 6-7(4), 6-4, 7-6(2) in the pair's maiden ATP Tour meeting. Eubanks hit 40 winners to Shelton's 30 for a hardearned two-hour, 43-minute triumph.







absoluteindia Mumbai, Friday, June 30, 2023



Actress Riddhi Dogra, who is known for her work in 'Asur', 'Pitchers 2' and the recently released streaming series

Team Absolute Mumbai

he actress, who has been juggling with different OTT projects, and has two big theatrical releases, 'Jawan' and 'Tiger 3', has opined that OTT is slowly becoming a

family viewing medium. Elaborating on the same, she said: "OTT is for ndividual viewing, primarily. But I feel the opposite is happening. There are many shows being made that are catering to the entire family. Or at the least is for family viewing, while he individual viewing continues. There is definitely a move in the direction of content for people to sit and watch together. We a country that lives together. on the contrary to what 're saying, any platform

will keep trying to get all eyeballs on their content, massy or not."Ever since her debut on OTT with 'Asur', the actress has picked up off beat subjects. When asked what compelled her to make such brave choices rather than massy entertainers on OTT, she said: "When I came into OTT, I had enjoyed a certain space of recognition through my work there. I never left tv for any other medium but for my growth as an artist. So I knew that if I'm leaving behind the privilege of having an entire show on my shoulders and the spotlight that it brings, I have got to push myself as an actor and do something that pushes me in a new direction. I guess that's why the choices.

entertainment

Second Front Page

The portrayal of women in Indian stories has evolved to a great extent. Expressing her views on this, the actress said: 'Badtameez Dil' is a classic example of that. You see a very refreshing and real rom com. So while content is concerned, our show is a definite attempt in that direction. It may be a story about love on the face of it. But the writing is so interesting and real that today's audiences are bound to relate to it.'



beautifully."

Talking of the show's theme, he said: "The show is a portal to the supernatural realm with spirits that gives a very unsettling feeling but the true masterstroke of the show is that it delves into the demons within us."In addition Rasika Dugal "As an actor, I found it extremely interesting to explore the life of a person who is seemingly in complete control... only to realise, as the story unfolds, that no one is free from their inner demons. That's why I was thrilled that a character like Supriya came my way," said Rasika Dugal. "As a student counsellor in a boarding school, Supriya has a complex and captivating journey in which she finds herself torn between her need to nurture and a terrifying past that she cannot seem to leave behind.

'A HORROR

SHOW WITH

MEDLEY OF

FRIENDSHIP

LOVE & LONGING

Ishwak Singh says 'Adhura' pushes

boundaries of horror genre

Team Absolute Mumbai

A ctor Ishwak Singh, who is set to act in the horror series

series pushes the bound-

aries of the horror genre

For the series, helmed

by the duo Gaurav of and

Ananya Banarjee, Ishwak

with co-stars Rasika Dugal

and Aparshakti Khurana.

Elaborating on the point, Ishwak said: 'Adhura' is a gutsy horror show with a medley of emotions, for me it's a

story of friendship, love and longing. Being authentic to the horror

storytelling Ananya Banerjee and Gaurav Chawla have brought out the essence of the genre so

Singh has joined forces

and it brings out its

essence beautifully.

'Adhura', said that the

"'Adhura' explores the delicate balance between human compassion and the unknown forces that lurk within. I'm glad to be back on Prime Video with a new genre and I am hoping audiences will resonate with the humanness of this story while enjoying the spookiness if it all", she added.'Adhura' is a horror series set in an elite boarding school harbouring a dark secret which rapidly shakes up the lives of everyone connected

Tilotama says it took a few filmmakers to imagine her in roles

Team Absolute Mumbai

ctress Tilotama Shome, who is a renowned Indian face on the global map, feels that it took a few filmmakers to take that risk and imagine her in roles which were different from representing a poorer section of our society. Tilotama Shome is a fine talent and the audience has been witness to that since her debut

film 'The Monsoon Wedding'. The actress was present at the special press conference held for the season 2 of 'The Night Manager' recently in Mumbai.

The actress has performed varied roles in her career and her performances can not be boxed in any single genre. When asked if that has always been her criteria of choosing the roles that one should be different from the other, she said: "The thing is that I get bored very easily. It's a childhood thing. My father was in the Air Force so every four years we used to change locations, learn new languages, and go to new school. Of Course then I never wanted to be an actor. But I think somewhere It was preparation for the future."

She further mentioned: "'I played a maid in my debut film 'Monsoon Wedding' but the representation of a class that is less fortunate was depicted in such a romantic, magical way that I did not realise I would have to bear the cross of having played a maid and that directors could only imagine me to play a certain class. Initially in my career I did not have much of a choice. I kept taking those roles.



Working with Anil Kapoor gives you a complex: Aditya Roy Kapur

'DOING MORE THEATRE'

Team Absolute Mumba

ollywood actor Anil Kapoor, who has been in the industry for over 40 years and

ence. Anil Kapoor's role in 'The Night Manager' was loved by all. The first season gar-

nered great response from the audience and everyone is super excited to watch part

two of the show. A press conference was organised in Mumbai with the cast and crew

of the show. Anil Kapoor spoke at length about the show, his journey in the Industry

so far and much more. Talking about his bucket list, the actor said, "My biggest re-

gret is that I couldn't do theatre. I wish I had done more theatre in my career. It

Talking about the preparation for this role, he said: "For this role, we had a book, we had an international show to look for. Apart from this, every actor

gives you great exposure to perform live in front of the audience. To do more theatre is definitely on my bucket list."

has a different way to dive into the character. I had to get emotionally,

physically and spiritually into the character. I used to dream about the

role. I used to record the voice over and send it to my director and

writer. I used to watch films which showcased a role like this.

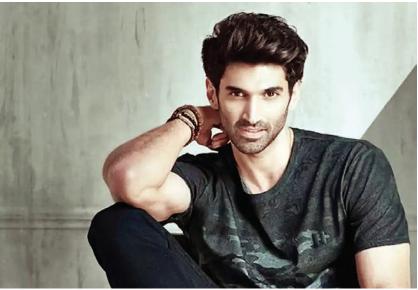
When we started our career, we had to travel to Pune to watch the archives. Today everything is available at

the tip of the finger and that is the reason today

our actors are at par with international actors."

has entertained the audience with many memorable roles, spoke about his

bucket list - he wants to do more theatre and perform live in front of the audi-



Team Absolute Mumbai

ditya Roy Kapur, who has worked with Anil Kapoor on various projects, says there is a flip side of teaming up with an energetic star.

Aditya Roy Kapur was interacting with the media on 'The Night Manager 2' in Mumbai along with the Disney+ Hotstar show's creator, Sandeep Modi, and co-stars Anil Kapoor, Shobhita Dhulipala and Tillotama Shome.

After 'Malang', the 2020 action thriller directed by Mohit Suri, 'The Night Manager' marks the second outing of Aditya Roy Kapur with Anil Kapoor, so he was naturally asked about the pros and cons of working with a senior actor.

"One complex you do get while working

with Anil Kapoor is that you feel you aren't working hard enough, as he is the most hard-working actor," Aditya said. "I can only think of that as a con, for you feel like shit and keep thinking you need to pull up your socks.'

Continuing in the same vein, he added: "There is plenty to learn from him. I was working with him for the second time, yet he never ceases to amaze you -- the kind of zest he approaches his work with, the passion with which he approaches his roles, his attention to detail, and being a team player who wants everyone to succeed.

"He has the wisdom, and he wants everyone in the team to succeed, so in return the whole project becomes successful. His love and experience have been invaluable to this project," Aditya added.



Owned, Published and Printed by Yogendra Chaturvedi at M/S Dangat Media Pvt. Ltd. Marwah Estate, Mehra Centre, Sakinaka, Mumbai-400072 and Published from Dilkap chamber, 202, Veera Desai Industrial Estate, Andheri (West) Mumbai. Pin-400053 Editor- Yogendra Chaturvedi (*responsible for selection of news under PRB act). Advisory Editor - Sarika Chaturvedi RNI Regn. No.- MAHENG/2013/53548. Postal Regn. No.- MH/MR/N/261/MBI/13-15. Phone: +022-49635590, www.absoluteindianews.com, E-mail: absoluteindiadesk@gmail.com (Bhopal will be the jurisdiction of any dispute.)