viduals to monitor and manage their BP more effectively. Smart wearable devices, such as smartwatches

and fitness trackers, now

include blood pressure moni-

toring features, providing

real-time data and tracking

trends over time. According to

health experts, these devices

# osoluten

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**NATION** 

**Congress attacks government over** reports of arms loot in Manipur ...



#### **HOLLYWOOD**

06 Rami Malek, Lucy Boynton split

after five years of togetherness...



#### **SPORTS**

Aditi makes cut narrowly as Diksha misses at Women's...



### Smart wearable devices revolutionise blood pressure control Technology is revolutionising blood pressure control, empowering indi-

Team Absolute New Delhi

obile applications and digital health platforms complement wearables by enabling users to record and analyse their BP readings, offering personalised insights and actionable recommendations. This integration fosters better self-awareness and encourages proactive lifestyle changes to improve overall cardiovascular health," Dr MukeshGoel, Senior Consultant Cardiothoracic and Heart Surgery, Indraprastha Apollo Hospitals, New Delhi, said.

Telemedicine and remote patient monitoring have also emerged as valuable tools in BP management. Patients can consult healthcare professionals virtually, receive personalised guidance, and have their BP remotely monitored, enhancing care accessibility and convenience, especially for those in remote areas.

"With technology's continuous advancements, data-driven approaches and AI algorithms are being explored to predict and prevent blood pressure fluctuations and potential complications," said Goel.

These innovations promise a future where precision medicine and personalised interventions can optimise blood pressure control and promote better cardiovascular outcomes. However, it's essential to strike a balance between technological reliance and professional medical advice to

ensure safe and effective blood pressure management, advised health

experts US engineers recently developed a simple, low-cost clip that uses a smartphone's camera and flash to monitor blood pressure at the user's fingertip. The clip, devel-

oped by a team at the University of California San Diego, works with a custom smartphone app and currently costs about 80 cents to make. The researchers estimate that the cost could be as low as 10 cents apiece when manufactured at scale.

22sec

t helps to rest your

rms on a table or

The technology, published in the journal Scientific Reports, can help make regular blood pressure monitor ing easy, affordable, and accessible to people in resource-poor communities. It could benefit older adults and pregnant women, for example, in managing conditions such as hyper-

"Because of their low cost, these clips could be handed out to anyone who needs them but cannot go to a clinic regularly," said Edward Wang, Professor of electrical and computer engineering at UC San Diego.

A blood pressure monitoring clip could be given to you at your checkup,

offer convenience and accessibility, promoting regular monitoring and early detection of any anomalies.

much like

how you get

a pack of floss

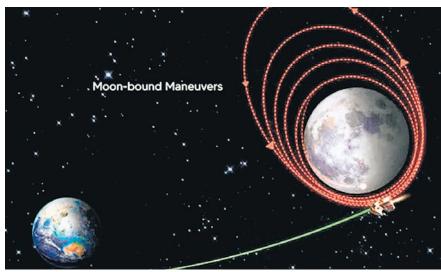
and toothbrush at your dental visit," he

To measure blood pressure, the user simply presses on the clip with a fingertip. A custom smartphone app guides the user on how hard and long to press during the measurement.

The researchers tested the clip on 24 volunteers from the UC San Diego Medical Center. Results were comparable to those taken by a blood pressure cuff.According to Dr (Maj Gen) Susheel Kumar Malani, HoD, Cardiology, DPU Private Super Specialty Hospital in Pimpri, Pune, the proper control of blood pressure requires regular self-monitoring by the patient and also by the treating doctor."There are various gadgets available for self-blood-pressure monitoring at home that are quite reliable. These are digital blood-pressure measuring instruments that use an oscillometric method to record your blood pressure," Dr Malani said.

It is important for patients to understand that these real-time blood pressure records should be maintained in writing in order to show them to the doctor as and when required. There are 24-hour ambulatory monitors available these days for patients whose blood pressure is not very well controlled despite good medication or keeps fluctuating irregularly at various times a day.

"Also, there are various AI-backed blood pressure-analysing instruments available that help the patient monitor blood pressure along with other key vitals. It can be done through wearable tech and applications that map the vitals," said Dr Malani.



### **Chandrayaan-3** enters lunar orbit, 'says' feeling lunar gravity

CHENNAI | Agencies

he Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) on Saturday evening successfully injected the Chandrayaan 3 spacecraft into the lunar orbit, an official said.

According to the official, the firing of the onboard motors began at about 7.15 p.m. and the spacecraft was steered towards the moon orbit.The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), in a tweet, said: MOX, ISTRAC, this is Chandrayaan-3, I am feeling lunar gravity.

"Chandrayaan-3 has been successfully inserted into the lunar orbit.A retro-burning at the Perilune was commanded from the Mission

Durand Cup: Rajnath Singh asserts on

Operations Complex (MOX), ISTRAC, Bengaluru.The next operation - reduction of orbit - is scheduled for Aug 6, 2023, around 23:00 Hrs. IST."The Chandrayaan-3 spacecraft was put into orbit on July 14 in a copybook style by India's heavy lift rocket LVM3.The spacecraft comprises a propulsion module (weighing 2,148 kg), a lander (1,723.89 kg), and a rover (26 kg). The main object of the mission is to safely send the lander onto the lunar soil. The lander will get separated from the propulsion module a couple of days and later expected to make a soft-landing near the South Pole of the moon on August 23 evening at 5.47

p.m.The lander will descend

to the moon from a height of

about 100 km from the moon's surface. The soft landing is a tricky issue as it involves a series of complex manoeuvres consisting of rough and fine braking. Imaging of the landing site region prior to landing will be done for finding safe and hazard-free zones.

Subsequent to the soft landing, the six-wheeled rover will roll out and carry out experiments on the lunar surface for a period of one lunar day which is equal to 14 earth days. On August 1, Chandrayaan-3 completed orbiting around the earth and headed towards the moon. On that day a successful perigee-firing performed at ISTRAC, ISRO has injected the spacecraft into the translunar orbit.

#### Ileana D'Cruz welcomes a baby boy, introduces her son as Koa Phoenix Dolan by sharing his first picture

Team Absolute Mumbai

Tleana D'Cruz has finally become a mother to her first child. She welcomed her baby boy on August 1 and she has named him Koa Phoenix Dolan. She took to Instagram to share the first picture of her newborn baby

"No words could explain how happy we are to welcome our darling boy to the world .Hearts beyond full," she wrote on Instagram. However, Ileana is yet to reveal the identity of her partner and introduce him to the world. A few weeks ago, Ileana had dropped pictures from the date night with the man in her life. She had taken to Instagram stories and treated her fans with glimpse of her dinner date. Ileana was seen dressed in a beautiful strappy red dress, while her ysterious man opted for a



black shirt and trouser for tfor the date night and sports a beard and moustache look. From leaning on his shoulder,

posing for a selfie and cutely looking at him, their pictures had highlighted the glow and happiness on Ileana's face.

### maintaining rules in game and society **GUWAHATI** | Agencies

efence Minister Rajnath Singh stressed the importance of maintaining rules and regulations within a society by drawing a comparison with a football game as he inaugurated the 132nd edition of the Durand Cup in Assam's Kokraihar on Saturday.

In his remarks on the occasion, he said: "Rules and regulations are very important in football. You all must be aware of the offside rule in football. Even if a player scores a goal by going offside, it is not considered a goal, meaning that as soon as you go against the rules, even if any of your efforts become successful, it is not

meaningful. "Be it a game, a society, or a nation, rules are very important, and it is the responsibility of all of us to maintain them," he said.

"A true sportsperson and a true citizen is the one who does his duty according to all the rules of the game



and society.

Rajnath Singh noted that football is a game that unites people, and this is a game of peace. Recounting an instance of Brazilian soccer legend Pele, he said: "In the 1970s, a civil war broke out in Nigeria. Thousands of people had lost their lives in that war, and the atmosphere was extremely

tense. No appeal from the police or leaders was able to calm the situation. But when Pele reached there to play a friendly match, it is said that for 48 hours, there was no incident in the whole country.'

Addressing the enthusiastic crowd at the Sai Stadium, he complimented the efforts of the Armed Forces and

Bodoland Territorial Council (BTC) Kokrajhar, which resulted in the event being organised in the city for the first time. He commended the people of the northeast for their excitement and love for football, describing 'the beautiful game' as not just a sport but an emotion.Stating that Assam has produced many football talents in recent times, Rajnath Singh exuded confidence that the Durand Cup will encourage the youth to join the sport with renewed vigour.

The opening ceremony was witnessed by nearly 12,000 football fans from across the state and the region. The main attractions of the ceremony included a flypast by Sukhoi-30 MKI aircraft and Mi-17 helicopters, martial displays, Gatka and Bhangra, and the display of Bodo cultural dance by the local troupe

The inaugural ceremony was followed by the opening match of the tournament between Bodoland FC and Rajasthan United FC.

#### Laos receives over 1.6 mn int'l tourists in H1

Vientiane Agencies

aos has witnessed a significant increase in the number of visitors in the first six months of 2023, with more than 1.6 million foreign tourists visiting the country.

The most recent data revealed by the Tourism Marketing Department of the Lao Ministry of Information, Culture and Tourism in July, showed that the largest number of visitors came from Thailand with 668,595, followed by 398,937 from Vietnam and 317,604 from China, reports Xinhua news

agency. The number of visitors has increased hugely compared to the first six months of 2022, when only 42,197 foreign nationals entered Laos

on tourist visas. Tourism authorities and operators have improved services at hotels, guesthouses and restaurants, and added more facilities at



tourist sites, to provide a better and more interesting visitor experience.

Lao government has organised promotional campaigns to attract tourists attracting many visitors.

In 2023, the Lao government has made tourism a top priority in efforts to revitalise the economy, while rolling out a plan to attract at least

1.4 million foreign tourists. In addition, the Lao government is preparing for Visit Laos Year 2024 and expects to attract at least 4.6 million visitors next year, which will generate a revenue of \$712

### Centre to deploy artificial reefs in 3,477 fishing villages with CMFRI support

**Lucknow** Kochi

he Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI) has taken part in a pioneering project of the Union Department of Fisheries to deploy artificial reefs (AR) in a total of 3,477 fishing villages in the country with the aim of promoting sustainable fisheries and livelihood.

An artificial reef is a sheltered human-built structure, placed on the sea bed as a substitute for natural habitats. With a fixed scientific design, it functions as a self-sustaining production system on the sea bed

As part of this ambitious project, a nationwide campaign has been launched in association with respective state governments and the technical support of the CMFRI, starting from Kerala where ARs' placement is

proposed in 220 villages In the first phase of the implementation of the project, five pre-stakeholder workshops were conducted from Tuesday to Friday for 42 villages in Thiruvananthapuram district, providing a platform to educate and



engage village-level fishermen leaders about the potential of AR in transforming the marine fishing landscape.

The project is under the Prime Minister's MatsyaSampadaYojana (PMMSY) scheme, with 60 per cent funding from the Centre and 40 per cent from the state governments.

For the last few years, the CMFRI has been successfully undertaking the installation of artificial reefs in the coastal waters of Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Guiarat, and Kerala on an experimental basis under the leadership of Principal Scientist Dr Joe K.

The positive outcome of the project in terms of enhanced fish availability to the small-scale fishers at lower operation costs was instrumental in prompting the Central government to expand the technology across the country.

CMFRI Director Dr A. Gopalakrishnan said that the CMFRI has developed protocols for site selection, design, fabrication, deployment and impact assessment of this innovative technology.

"ARs would help restore the marine environment and boost coastal fish production. It will discourage bottom trawling in the near shore areas, helping the marine environment to regenerate and the small-scale fishers to get a higher catch," he said.

According to the CMFRI, over 300 species coexist in a settled AR habitat. The commercial varieties being attracted to the AR include breams, groupers, snappers, perches, cobia, sea bass, rabbit fishes, silver biddies, seer fish, barracuda, mackerel, trevallies, queen fishes etc.

#### SRINAGAR RANKS 1ST DISTRICT ACROSS INDIA IN 'EAT RIGHT CHALLENGE'

Srinagar | Agencies

rinagar district has achieved the top rank across the country in implementation of third phase of "The Eat Right Challenge for Cities and Districts" of the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India, an official statement said. The 'Eat Right Creativity Challenge -- Phase III' started from May 2023 and will end in October has been launched as a part of the celebration of

'AzadiKaAmritMahotsav', is aimed to capture the creative talent of students and enable them to inculcate healthy dietary habits.

"The targets fixed by Food Safety Standards Authority of India were satisfactorily achieved, hence Srinagar district figured as top district across the country as of August 3, 2023." the statement added on Thursday.

The 'Eat Right Challenge'

movement' envisioned as a competition among districts to recognise their efforts in adopting and scaling-up of various initiatives under the 'Eat Right India' initiative. These initiatives include

also known as 'Eat Right

strengthening food safety through the food regulatory environment, to provide safe and healthy food options by enabling the supply side and to engage with citizens for adoption and demanding healthier diet.

"The activities which were carried out under this challenge include registration and licensing drives, surveillance drives, lifting of enforcement samples, special camps for consumer awareness, hygiene rating, clean street food, no food waste certification, reusing of cooking oil, training to Asha and Anganwadi workers, eat right campuses to promote eat right message," the statement

### 'DIDN'T HAVE INFO ON TENSION BUILD-UP **IN NUH': HRY HOME MINISTER**

Chandigarh | Agencies

aying he did not have information about intelligence on the possible build-up of tension in Nuh, Haryana Home Minister Anil Vij on Saturday said the police are investigating and the conclusion that will emerge will be made public.

"The police are investigating point by point. The conclusion that will emerge after the investigation will be made public," Vij told the media here.

He was replying to a question about the role of Pakistan in the violence in Muslim-dominated Nuh, where the curfew was relaxed from 12 noon to 3

"The police are taking action and so far 104 FIRs have been registered and 216 people arrested. Likewise, 80 people have been detained on suspicion," Vij said.

On a question of a viral video of a CID inspector claiming that he knew everything in advance about the violence, the minister said: "I have also seen this video. Will take appropriate



a link between the Punjab-registered vehicle and Hyder Ali during the violence, Vij said this information has been forwarded to the authorities for investigation.

Earlier on Saturday, Vij said he was not given any intelligence input on the Nuh violence. "I even asked ACS (Home) and the DGP, they said they also did not have the information. Now, a video is going viral in which a

then who did he inform about this?" The state Home Minister smells big game plan behind the violence.

"People climbed hills next to the temples, had lathis (canes) in their hands and gathered at entry points, all this is not possible without a proper plan. Bullets were fired ... all this was part of a plan. We will not rush to an early conclusion without a thorough investigation being done," he said.

day on Saturday as authorities bulldozed illegal constructions on 2.6 acres of land around SKM Government Medical College

Around 45 temporary structures were demolished as part of the drive, police said. SDM Ashwani Kumar told the media owners of some of these structures were involved in the violence. Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) Inspector-General Jasbir Singh Sandhu said the situation in

### Congress attacks government over reports of arms loot in Manipur

YDER

Armed Police's 2nd Battalion

in Bishnupur and took away

The mob, comprising men

and women, also attempted

a huge cache of arms and

ammunition.

Team Absolute New Delhi

ongress on Saturday attacked the government over deteriorating situation in Manipur and reports of government arms loot in the violence ridden state.

"No wonder that on August 1, the Supreme Court observed that from the beginning of May there was an 'absolute breakdown of constitutional machinery', as also law and order machinery in Manipur. Yet the Prime Minister continues to be silent and allows the totally discredited Chief Minister to continue," Congress General Secretary Jairam Ramesh said in a tweet.

He also shared a news report of the looting of the

government arms. The Manipur Police said that it is undertaking a highlevel probe into the loot of a large amount of arms and ammunition from two police outposts in Bishnupur district. Manipur Police in a

tion from Heingang police statement late on Thursday station and Singjamei police night said that a mob ranstation in the same district sacked Keirenphabi Police outpost and Thangalawai but security forces repelled Police outposts of Manipur

Reports said that the mob looted sophisticated weapons, including AK and 'Ghatak' series of assault rifles, many self-loading rifles and over 19,000 bullets of dif-

#### action at the appropriate time." CID inspector claimed that he knew Meanwhile, the demolition drive in Responding to a question regarding everything in advance. If he knew, Woman killed over property in K'taka; PUNJAB POLICE ARRESTS TWO MP-BASED ARMS SUPPLIERS son, daughter-in-law arrested

Bengaluru | Agencies

n a shocking incident, a man along with his wife hacked his mother to death in Devanahalli near Bengaluru over property, police said on Saturday.

The incident took place at Yarthiganahalli village in Bengaluru Rural district.

The deceased mother has been identified as 60-yearold Chinnamma. The accused have been identified as the deceased's 40-year-old son -- Raghavendra and his 38-year-old wife Sudha. Police explained that there was a dispute over property between the deceased and

Raghavendra had got the property registered in his name without the knowledge of his mother Chinnamma. The dispute is subjudice in the court. Meanwhile, Chinnamma had come to the



farm to collect fuel and her accused son had started a quarrel with her.

While quarreling, the accused attacked his mother with a stick. His wife Sudha also joined and attacked her. The couple had taken the injured Chinnamma to the

hospital and tried to pose as innocents.

Chinnamma died due to severe bleeding. The police arrested the accused couple after the probe revealed their involvement in the murder. Investigation is on in the

#### Chandigarh | Agencies

unjab Police on Saturday said it busted an inter-state illegal weapon smuggling module with the arrest of two Madhya Pradeshbased arms suppliers involved in large-scale illegal manufacturing and supply of weapons into Punjab and

The accused were apprehended from Madhya Pradesh by a team of

the Counter Intelligence of Jalandhar. Director General of Police Gauray Yadav has identified the accused as Harpal Singh and Kishore Singh Rathore of Madhya Pradesh. The police teams have also recovered a cache of 17 pistols of .32 bore along with 35 magazines from their possession."The preliminary investigations revealed that these weapons were meant to be supplied to criminal gangs associated with Jaggu Bhagwanpuria and Ravi Balachauria," he said. The development came after the Counter Intelligence unit arrested

a person identified as Lovedeep, alias

Love, from Jalandhar after recovering

one pistol along with two cartridges

pliers, suspected to be based in MP's

from his possession.

The DGP said during the investigation of linkages, it came to the fore that the recovered weapon was part of a consignment, supplied by interstate weapon manufacturers and supKhargone and Bharwani districts. Following inputs, a team of

Counter Intelligence went to MP on Tuesday and managed to trace out

suppliers, he added.

AIG, Counter Intelligence, Navjot Singh Mahal said the operation is still going on and there is a high possibility of more recovery of arms and

### 24-HOURS SHUTDOWN CRIPPLES LIFE IN 5 MANIPUR VALLEY DISTRICTS

Imphal | Agencies

ormal life was crippled in five valley districts of Manipur on Saturday as various Meitei organisations called a 24-hour-long shutdown demanding to convene an urgent session of the state Assembly to pass a resolution on the ethnic vio-

Shops and business establishments, educational institutions, government and non-government offices, and banks were closed and all kinds of vehicles, save those of security personnel, went off the roads due to the shut down in five valley districts -- Imphal East, Imphal West, Thoubal, Bishnupur, and Kakching.

The hill districts, however, remained unaffected in view of the shutdown.

No untoward incident was reported from any of the five districts.

L. Binod, who is one of the conveners of the shutdown, said that the strike was called to give a "pressure to the government" to restore peace and normalcy in the state.

Meanwhile, the Manipur government has convened a session of the state Assembly from August 21. The previous session was held in March. "The Assembly session should be



convened much earlier and before the monsoon session of the Parliament ends, so that a suitable resolution is adopted in the house and it can be referred to the Parliament," Binod told the media.

Ethnic violence broke out in Manipur on May 3 and so far over 170 people killed and over 600 injured while damaging a large number of

properties including houses, business establishments, government buildings and other assets. Over 70,000 people of different communities have been displaced from their houses and villages and taken shelter in the relief camps in Manipur and several other neighboring northeastern states

including Mizoram and Assam. The ethnic flare-up and hostilities

between the two warring communities -- the Meiteis and Kuki-Zomis -further resurfaced recently after the tribal organisations announced mass burial of tribals killed during the ongoing strife. However, Thursday's mass burial in Churachandpur was postponed after the Manipur High Court ordered to maintain status-quo at the proposed burial site.

#### Those who fight will win': Tejashwi Yaday on Rahul Gandhi's SC verdict

ihar Deputy Chief Minister Tejashwi Yadav on Saturday attacked Prime Minister Narendra Modi-led government saying that 'Jo Ladega Wo Jitega' (those who fight will win).

His statement comes in wake of Supreme Court verdict giving relief to Rahul Gandhi in 'Modi surname'.

Tejashwi Yadav, after returning to Patna from New Delhi said that the decision of Supreme Court is a win for justice.

"Everyone knows how the people sitting in the central government were penalising Rahul Gandhi. I firmly believe that those who fight will win and those who are scared get defeated," he said.

Tejashwi Yadav and Lalu Prasad Yadav had gone to Delhi to appear in the special court of ED in land-for-job case.The Special ED court will hear the case again on August 22. On Friday, the SC



stayed the conviction of Congress leader Rahul Gandhi in a 2019 defamation case over his Modi surname remark, restoring his status as an MP.A three-judge bench of Justices B R Gavai, P S Narasimha and Sanjay Kumar said no doubt that the utterances were not in good taste and that a person in public life is expected to exercise caution while making

"No reason has been given by the trial judge for imposing maximum sentence, the order of conviction needs to be stayed pending final adjudication," the bench said.

The top court was hearing a plea by Rahul Gandhi challenging the Gujarat High Court verdict which dismissed his plea seeking a stay on his conviction in a defamation case over his

# Akali Dal criticises raids on Khalsa Aid offices

Chandigarh | Agencies

he Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD) on Saturday reacted against "the spate of raids being conducted in Punjab on mere suspicion against individuals and organisations linked with Sikhism" and engaged in carrying on social welfare and relief work in the state, the country and abroad.

Addressing the media here, senior SAD leader Prem Singh Chandumajra took strong exception to the manner in which raids were conducted on individuals and offices belonging to

Chandumajra also condemned the manner in which Sikh NRI Tanmanjit Singh Dhesi, a sitting member of British Parliament, was stopped and harassed before being allowed to board his flight from the international airport in Amritsar.

"Deplorable incidents like these remind the Sikh masses of the era of the Congress rule, especially under Indira Gandhi, when even the most highly respected Sikhs like the country's only Marshall of the Air Force, Arjan Singh, and eminent journalist Khushwant Singh were targeted by anti-Sikh mobs in Delhi or when the Akali workers and leaders like Sardar



Parkash Singh Badal and Jathedar Gurcharan Singh Tohra were stopped from entering the national capital during the Asian Games," he said. "Raid and others modes of harassment, including false cases, against innocent Sikhs on the merest suspicion intensify the already deep sense of hurt and emotional alienation of the Sikh masses from the national mainstream. It is natural for us to feel targeted," said Chandumajra.

Referring to the raid on Khalsa Aid branch in Punjab, he said: "If there was any specific complaint against any individual, he should be questioned and treated under due process of law instead of being harassed and humiliated by government agencies as the Khalsa Aid workers were being subjected to

"Why should an entire organization, engaged in humanitarian work, be defamed and harassed for the wrong doings of any single individual connected with it, even if the said individual may have violated some clauses of the law of the land," he

He urged the Union Home Minister to intervene to get such discriminatory acts stopped.

Chandumajra said his party will continue to champion the cause and interests of Khalsa Panth and Punjabis against all repressive measures and methods being adopted by the governments of the day.

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# LS SHOULD IMMEDIATELY RESTORE Earthquake tremors felt in RAHUL'S MEMBERSHIP: ADHIR

Taking a swipe at the Centre, Leader of Congress in Lok Sabha Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury on Saturday said that the speed at which senior party leader Rahul Gandhi was disqualified as an MP, the Lower House should now immediately reinstate his membership after the Supreme Court stayed his conviction in the Modi surname remark defamation case.

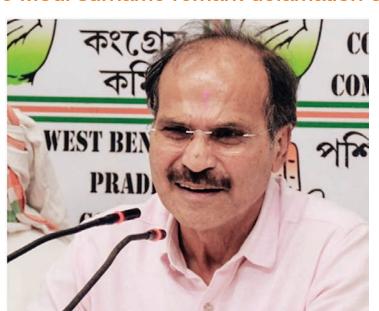
Team Absolute New Delhi

howdhury also wrote a letter to Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla requesting restoration of Rahul Gandhi's membership at the earliest so that he can participate in the House proceedings.

Addressing a press conference at his residence here, Chowdhury said: "The Supreme Court is in its order stayed the conviction of Rahul Gandhi. It means that he should be allowed to participate in the proceedings of the House. And before this is the responsibility of the Lok Sabha secretariat to take note of the

Taking a swipe at the government for disqualifying Rahul Gandhi within a day of the Gujarat court order on Arpil 24, Chowdhury said: "The speed at which they had disqualified him same should be seen in reinstating his membership.'

The Congress leader said that he called the Speaker on Friday night saying that he needed to submit the



letter of stay on conviction of Rahul Gandhi by the Supreme Court. "He suggested that I will talk

tomorrow morning. Today (Saturday(

morning I called up Lok Sabha speaker again over phone and he asked me to submit the documents in the Lok Sabha Secretariat office, I

called the Lok Sabha Secretariat and he said that the office is closed. And thus I asked if I need to submit it today with him, he said submit it with the Lok Sabha Speaker. And today is holiday.

"When I asked what is the other way to submit the letter, he said it can be sent through post. I sent it through post and the letter was received and signed but they did not

put the stamp," he added. Chowdhury also said that the House should function and Rahul

Gandhi comes back there. "When he has been granted relief by the Court, we are requesting the Speaker to see that he faces no issues in returning," the Congress leader

In a big relief, the Supreme Court on Friday stayed the conviction of Rahul Gandhi in Modi surname remarks defamation case, which cost him his membership, saying that no reasons were given by the trial judge for imposing the maximum punishment of two years in the case.

# Delhi, Noida, Gurugram& jammu and Kashmir



Team Absolute New Delhi

powerful 5.8 magnitude earthquake struck 'Afghanistan on Saturday night, leading to tremors being felt in Delhi and surrounding areas.

According to a tweet by the National Centre for Seismology (NCS), the earthquake of magnitude occurred on Saturday at 9.31.48 IST, at a point at latitude 36.38 degrees and longitude 70.77 degrees, at a

Home Minister Amit Shah inaugurates

depth of 181 km in the Hindu Kush region of Afghanistan.

Another earthquake measuring 5.8 on the Richter scale jolted Jammu and Kashmir on Saturday evening.

National Center for Seismology (NCS) said that an earthquake measuring 5.8 on the Richter scale occurred at 9.31 p.m. today evening with epicentre in Hindukush Afghanistan.

The depth of the earth-

quake was 181 Kms and its coordinates were latitude 36.38 degrees north and longitude 70.77 degrees east.

Officials said no report of any casualty or damage to property was reported from anywhere so far. At 8.36 a.m on Saturday an

earthquake measuring 5.2 on the Richter scale with epicentre in Pakistan region

Seismologically, Kashmir is situated in an earthquake prone region.

#### Mehbooba Mufti alleges house arrest along with other party leaders



I've been put under house arrest along with other senior PDP leaders today. This comes after a midnight crackdown where scores of my party men are illegally detained in police stations. GOIs false claims about normalcy to the SC stands exposed by theirs actions driven by paranoia.



Srinagar | Agencies

ormer Jammu and **▼** Kashmir Chief minister and Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) president, Mehbooba Mufti on Saturday questioned the Centre's claims of normalcy in the union territory and alleged that she has been put under house arrest.

On this day in 2019, the Centre had abrogated Article 370, removing the special status and downgrading the state into two union territories of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh.

PDP leaders today. This comes after a midnight crackdown where scores of my party men are illegally detained in police stations. GOIs false claims about normalcy to the SC stands exposed by theirs actions driven by paranoia. @barandbench @LiveLawIndia," she said in

a post on X (formerly known as Twitter). In another comment she said: "On one hand, giant

Kashmiris to 'celebrate' the

"I've been put under house arrest along with other senior

hoardings calling upon

illegal abrogation of Article 370 have been put up across Srinagar. Whereas brute force is being used to choke the actual sentiment of the people. Hope the Hon'ble SC takes cognisance of these developments at a time when Article 370 has come up for hearing."

Authorities have made elaborate security arrangements to maintain law and order in the valley.

No report of any protest or untoward incident has so far been reported from anywhere.

#### Kamakhyanagar-Duburi section in Odisha Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Saturday inaugurated four laning of the Kamakhyanagar-Duburi section of NH-53

here in the presence of Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik and **Union Minister** Dharmendra Pradhan.

Bhubaneswar | Agencies

hah also laid foundation stone for widening and strengthening another highway project from Moter to Banner via Ludugaon Road of Kalahandi district.

The 51 km Kamakhyanagar-Duburi project was constructed with a cost of Rs 761 crore. This project will connect mineral

rich Angul and Dhenkanal districts

with other parts of Odisha and country, said Shah. It consists of two major bridges, 10 minor bridges, seven vehicles under

passes, two animal-under passes

and a 1.73 km-long bypass road. Country's development and economic development is directly connected with the national highways and the Modi government has taken a lot of steps for development of NHs during the last nine years, Shah

The Union Home Minister further said the 15 km project from Moter to Banner in Kalahandi district will be constructed with a cost of Rs 34

The Union Home Minister went on to say that in 2014-15, only 12 km of national highway were constructed each day in India, which was increased to 29 km per day in the year 2020-22, he pointed out.



will leave no stone untouched for the

"During UPA government time, he said, Odisha had got Rs 1.14 lakh crore from the devolution fund and grant-in-aid. However, the amount has not been enhanced to Rs 4.57 lakh crore. In total funding to Odisha, the amount has been enhanced from Rs 3 lakh crore to Rs 18 lakh crore. The Modi government

development of Odisha," he assured. During nine years, the left wing extremism (LWE) activities have dra-

matically come down in the country including Odisha.

"The number of LWE incidents have decreased by 30 per cent in between 2015 to 2019, while the causality in Naxal attacks went down by 32 per cent and there was a 56 per cent decrease in causality of security personnel in LWE menaces, the Home Minister said.

On his part, the Chief Minister said connectivity is key to progress and empowerment of the people and pointed out the annual budge of the Works department has seen a quantum jump from Rs 280 crore in 2000 to more than Rs 15,000 crore

"Odisha always believes in cooperative federalism and I thank the Government of India for its support to the state in its development agenda. I once again warmly welcome Union Home Minister Amit Shah to

Odisha. Meanwhile, Dharmendra Pradhan said the Modi government has provided Rs 18.83 lakh crore to Odisha while the previous government had provided Rs 2.93 lakh crore to the

state during 2004 to 2014. Shah, who arrived here last night, will hold crucial meetings with state

BJP party leaders this afternoon. He is also likely to make strategy for the 2024 general and Assembly elections and will return to Delhi in the evening.

# 'The Elephant Whisperers': Mahouts Booman, Bellie raise exploitation issue

**Chennai**Agencies

fresh controversy has cropped up around the celebrated Oscar winning documentary, 'The Elephant Whisperers' with the mahout couple Bomman and Bellie alleging that they were exploited by

the documentary makers. The allegation was raised in a

recent interview. The duo had alleged that the documentary makers did not give them remuneration and had been irresponsive after the Oscar win.

Bomman and Bommie, in an interview to a local publication, said that they had spent huge money during the shoot of the documentary to cover the expenses

They also alleged that they have filed a case against the makers of the documentary who have threatened them to take it back.

The makers of the documentary, Sikhya entertainment and the direc-



tor Kartiki Gonsalves, in a statement on Saturday said: "The goal in creating 'The Elephant Whisperers' has always been to highlight elephant

conservation and the tremendous effort of the forest department and its mahouts Bomman and Bellie. Since its launch the documentary

has raised awareness of the cause and had a real impact on the life of Mahouts and Cavadis community.

"Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin has made donations towards assisting the Mahouts and Cavadis who looks after the state's elephants, constructing eco-friendly houses for the caretakers and developing an Elephant camp in Anamalai Tiger Reserve."

The statement said that the documentary had brought widespread fame to the works of mahouts like Bomman and Bellie.

The documentary makers said that all claims made were untrue. It said: "We have a deep respect for all the contributors of this story and remain driven by the desire to

create positive change. The allegation had come immediately after Bellie was appointed as the first permanent women elephant caretaker at Theppakadu elephant camp in the Nilgiris region.

#### CJI DY Chandrachud unveils year-long training calendar for SC officials

Team Absolute New Delhi

hief Justice of India (CJI) D.Y. Chandrachud on Saturday inaugurated a year-long training programme for the officials of the Supreme Court.

In the inaugural session, one day-workshop on 'Leadership and Ethics' was organised by the top court in collaboration with Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA), where

the keynote address In his address, he laid special emphasis on the the importance of Gender Sensitization training along

CJI Chandrachud delivered

with training in ICT skills. CJI Chandrachud stressed upon the need for empathy and compassion in the officials in their dealings with public.

He said that the trainings will not only improve the job performance of the employ-



ees but "will also equip them to foster their personal development".

He motivated the employees of the apex court to embark on the journey of transformation and growth and reiterated his commitment towards making the Supreme Court a fully digitised institution having

"paperless functioning". The training calendar, unveiled by CJI Chandrachud for 2023-2024, contains notable trainings planned throughout the year on subjects like Induction Training for newly joined officers, Legal Training, ICT training, Personal Training, Language Training among others.



### maharashtra



### "DEMAND FROM ALL CORNERS": MAHARASHTRA **MAY BRING ITS OWN LOVE JIHAD LAW**

Nashik | Agencies

aharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis on Saturday said the state government was thinking about introducing a law to curb "love jihad" but will study similar legislations in other states before taking a decision.

Love jihad is a term used by right-wing activists and outfits to allege a conspiracy by Muslim men to convert Hindu women to Islam through marriage.

"Many cases have come up of girls getting married and converting. There is demand from all corners to make a law against this. Earlier, I had made an announcement in the House also. Accordingly, study of laws in various states is on and then the decision about it in Maharashtra will be taken," Fadnavis said. Speaking about the Supreme Court on Friday staying Congress leader Rahul Gandhi's conviction in a 2019 defamation case related to a remark on the Modi surname, Fadnavis made a veiled attack on the opposition party by saying "some people think if the Supreme Court rules in their favour, then it (decision) is good or else it is

Such people are trying to destroy the institutions created under the Constitution of India, the senior Bharatiya Janata Party leader claimed.

"The Supreme Court has said that the statement made by Gandhi was not appropriate. The Congress and some parties have been praising the SC verdict," he said.



He also slammed Shiv Sena (UBT) leader Aaditya Thackeray for calling the BJP "Maharashtradweshi" (one who hates Maharashtra) in connection with the clean chit given to the state government by a White Paper on projects allegedly leaving the state and setting up base at other sites.

"I was under the impression Aaditya Thackeray will speak after studying the issue but he has kept his eyes shut. What is the use of responding to someone who opposes just for the sake of opposition," the deputy CM

Fadnavis was talking to reporters after attending the passing-out parade at the Maharashtra Police Academy here. Fadnavis holds the Home portfolio in the Eknath Shinde government.

Fadnavis said the state government will soon recruit 18,000 police personnel, while

the force will get 650-700 sub inspectors by September over and above the 500 PSIs who graduated from the MPA during the day. "We are also creating the biggest cyber platform in the country to bring together banking, nonbanking, other financial institutions and police to eradicate online crimes," he said.

The MPA at Nashik is one of the most reputed training institutions in the country and the PSIs joining the force must be fully ready to tackle and curb economic and cyber offences, the CM said.

He told the PSIs they have got the opportunity to serve society and must remember that getting accolades from the people will be their most important service medal.

After the passing-out parade, Mr Fadnavis conducted 'bhoomi pujan' (ground breaking ceremony) of the proposed new educational complex, Motor Transport Department building, main entrance of the Academy and the protection wall.

The new educational complex will come on a 13846 square metre plot at an estimated cost of Rs 79.68 crore.

The MPA training of the 122nd batch began on August 1 last year and saw 494 PSIs, comprising 349 men and 145 women from Maharashtra as well as one individual from Goa, completing the course.

An official said 88 per cent of them are graduates and the rest have completed post graduation. Abhijeet Bharat Kale received 'Revolver of Honour' as best trainee and Yeshwantrao Chavan Gold Cup for all round cadet, the official added.

### **Amit Shah reaches** Pune, to attend party meet tomorrow



Team Absolute Pune

nion Home and Cooperation Minister Amit Shah arrived in Pune for a visit to the state's cultural and academic capital, here on Saturday.

He was accorded a warm welcome by Chief Minister Eknath Shinde and Deputy CM Ajit Pawar, and other officials and Bharatiya Janata Party leaders this evening.

On Sunday, he is scheduled to inaugurate the webportal of the Central Registrar of Cooperative Societies, at the Ramakrishna

Multipurpose Hall in the city. Later, he is likely to attend a party meeting where senior

leaders will brief him on the preparations for the upcoming parliament elections.

In Maharashtra, the BJP has set a target -- 'Mission 45 -- to bag 45 of the state's 48 Lok Sabha seats.

Deputy CM Devendra Fadnavis, state BJP President Chandrashekhar Bawankule and others would meet and discuss the strategies for the

The Pune Police have made strong security and traffic arrangements for Shah's trip -- coming just four days after Prime Minister Narendra Modi had made a trip on August 1 to receive the Lokmanya Tilak National

#### Case Against Ex-Mumbai Mayor, 2 Officials In Covid Body Bags Purchase 'Scam'

Team Absolute | Mumbai

he Economic Offences Wing of the Mumbai police has filed a case against former city mayor and Shiv Sena (UBT) leader Kishori Pednekar and two civic officials over alleged corruption in the purchase of body bags meant for COVID-19 victims, an

The case was registered at the Agripada police station on Friday, he said.

The complaint in this regard was filed by BJP leader Kirit Somaiya in July, the police official added. Pednekar belongs to the Uddhav Thackeray-led faction of the Shiv Sena. She held the position of mayor from November 2019 to March 2022.

The case against Pednekar and the two senior officials of the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) was registered under various Indian Penal Code (IPC) sections, including 420 (cheating) and 120 (B) (criminal conspiracy), he said.

The police official did not share any further information regarding the case. When contacted, BJP leader Kirit Somaiya said, "We had



filed the complaint in connection with the body bag scam in July this year. Body bags worth Rs 1,500 each were purchased at Rs 6,700 apiece and funds worth crores of rupees were siphoned." "Based on the complaint, the Mumbai police has now registered the first information report (FIR) against Kishori Pednekar and Assistant Municipal Commissioner. Earlier, the Enforcement Directorate (ED) had also conducted raids in this connection," the former MP added.

#### COUPLE HELD FROM MAHARASHTRA FOR MULTI-BANK MORTGAGE FRAUD Team Absolute New Delhi

he Economic Offences Wing (EOW) of Delhi Police arrested a couple from Jalgaon,

Maharashtra, for mortgaging the same property with seven different financial institutions using forged documents and duping them to the tune of Rs 25 crore, an official said on

The accused, identified as Jitender Jain and his wife Anjana Jain, were wanted in other cases, and a reward of Rs 1 lakh was declared for information leading to their arrest.

Their arrest follows the registration of an FIR by the EOW police station in Delhi on the complaint of Deepankar Sinha, of Karvy Finance Services Ltd, alleging that Anjana and Jitender Jain had obtained a loan of Rs 2.6 crore against their residential property in 2014, located in the main market of

During the investigation, it was dis-



covered that the accused managed to secure a loan of Rs 25 crore by mortgaging the same property with seven different financial institutions, including Central Bank of India, Syndicate

Bank, Oriental Bank of Commerce, Cholamandalam Finance, Karvy Finance, among others.

"The accused had been absconding since July 2016, continually

changing their addresses across the country, including Delhi, Theni in Tamil Nadu, Bangalore, Nasik, and Jalgaon," said Deputy Commissioner of Police (EOW) Vikram Porwal.

The couple was arrested from a rented accommodation at Grahkul Colony in Jalgaon after technical surveillance provided specific information about their location.

The DCP further explained the modus operandi of the accused, stating that they obtained loans based on forged and fabricated Sale Deeds of the property offered as collateral security to the banks.

"The loan amounts were withdrawn as cash, and some of it was used to set up a temporary factory at Narela Industrial Area to obtain further loans by showing the factory in working condition," said the DCP.

"The cheated amount was primarily used to support the accused's existing 'sweets' business and their lavish lifestyle," the DCP added.

### Five Congress workers held for throwing ink at BMC official during protest

Team Absolute | Mumbai

ive Congress workers were arrested on Saturday for allegedly throwing ink at a BMC engineer in his office in suburban Deonar as part of a protest against civic corruption, a Mumbai police official said. The Congress had held protest marches at all BMC wards, including M East ward where the incident happened, during the day, the Deonar police station official said. "While speaking to BMC engineer Anil Jadhav in his cabin, one of the protesting Congress workers, identified as the party's youth wing district chief Arif Sayyed, threw ink on the civic official and threatened him. Sayyed and those accompanying him were nabbed by BMC security personnel there," he said. On Jadhav's complaint, a case was registered against five persons under Indian Penal Code sections 353 (Assault or criminal force to deter public servant



from discharge of his duty), 120-B (criminal conspiracy) and 506-2 (criminal intimidation), the official

duced in court on Sunday, the police official added.

#### **DRUGS WORTH RS 43 LAKH SEIZED; SEVEN HELD**

Mumbai: The Mumbai Police's Anti Narcotics Cell (ANC) has seized drugs including MD worth Rs 43 lakh during a special drive. The police

arrested seven per sons who were booked under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act. "More arrests are likely in the case," he said. "The drive was conducted in Kandivali, Sakinaka and Mazgaon areas from Wednesday to Saturday, and different types of drugs including Codeine Phosphate cough syrup, tablets and mephedrone (MD) besides Rs 3.5 lakh in cash were seized," he said.

"The drive was conducted by Azad Maidan and Ghatkopar units of ANC," the official added."Since the beginning of this year, the ANC has arrested 17 people involved in the trafficking of cough syrups and recovered 1,191 kg of contraband. As many as 98 people were arrested in 49 cases where MD worth Rs 22.82 crore was seized," the official said.

#### Nitin Desai's daughter urges Maharashtra govt to look into his death case

Team Absolute Mumbai

rt director Nitin Desai was found hanging at his ND Studio in Karjat on August 2, and since then several reports have been circulated online that he may have died by suicide owing to financial constraints Nitin Desai's daughter Mansi said revealed

that her father had borrowed a loan of Rs 181 crore from a company. Out of the total amount he had repaid Rs 86.31. Desai's daughter said that her father had no intention to cheat anyone. "He was going to make all the payments that he promised. They (lenders) also demanded a six-month interest in advance which my father provided by selling his Powai office. He had no intention to fraud anyone and he was going to make all payments that he had promised," Mansi said.

Mansi claimed that the loan company gave him "false assurances" while initiating legal action against him.

"Due to the pandemic, the industry was affected, there was no work and the studio was closed. He could not make regular payments and there were some delays. Even after that, he repeatedly made attempts to meet with the company to negotiate with them for



restructuring or some kind of leeway so he could still finish paying what he owed. The company gave him false assurances and start-

ed legal proceedings on the side," she said. Nitin Desai's daughter further urged the government to look into this matter."I appeal to the government of Maharashtra to look into this matter and also, as per his last wish, take charge of ND Studios. Please give him justice," the bereaved daughter urged.

#### ISIS Maharashtra module case: NIA makes sixth arrest in Bhiwandi

Team Absolute Mumbai

Saturday, the **National** Investigation Agency (NIA) arrested one person from Bhiwandi for allegedly being part of a module of the terror group Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS). The sixth accused as been identified as - Aakif Ateeque Nachan. "He was allegedly involved in the "fabrication and testing" of Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs) for commission of terrorist acts and arranging a hideout for two other terror operatives," the NIA said in a press release. Last month, the NIA had arrested

Tabish Nasser Siddiqui from Mumbai, Zubair Noor Mohammed Shaikh alias Abu Nusaiba from Pune. Sharieel Shaikh and Zulfikar Ali Barodawala from Thane, and Dr Adnan Sarkar from Kondhwa, Pune.

"Aakif was found actively involved in promotion of terror-related activities of the ISIS in collaboration with Zulfikar Ali Barodawala, Mohammed Imran Khan, Mohammed Yunus Saki and Abdul Kadir Pathan (all arrested recently by Pune unit of the Maharashtra Anti-Terrorism Squad) along with some other sus-

pects," the agency said. "The NIA nabbed Aakif

after a series of raids in Bhiwandi tehsil of Thane," the release further added. Several incriminating materials, such as electronic gadgets and documents, were seized during the raids. "Aakif had also facilitat-

ed the stay of Imran and Yunus at a house in Kondhwa, Pune, and organised and participated in bomb-making workshops in Kondhwa in 2022," the NIA said.

"He had planned "to commit terrorist acts to disturb the unity, integrity, security and sovereignty of the country, and wage a war against the Government of India," the release said.

### BEST BUS STRIKE CONTINUES ON FOURTH DAY, COMMUTERS HASSL

Team Absolute Mumbai

he bus strike by the drivers of private bus operators hired by the BEST - Mumbai's civic transport utility - over salary hike and other demands entered the fourth day on Saturday with more than 1,000 buses staying off roads, leaving commuters hassled.

According to Brihanmumbai Electric Supply and Transport's (BEST) spokesperson Sunil Vaidya, 1,077 buses did not leave 18 depots, including Backbay, Colaba, Worli, Andak, Pratiksha Nagar, Dharavi, Deonar, Shivaji Nagar, Ghatkopar, Mulund, Marol, Majas, Dindoshi, Shivaji Nagar, Oshiwara, Malvani, Gorai and Magathane. The BEST operates buses from 27 depots across the city. The Maharashtra State Road Transport Corporation (MSRTC) - the state government's bus service operator - chipped in as it ran 104 buses from six depots of the BEST to provide relief to commuters, he said.



The drivers of private bus operators launched the strike on Wednesday over the salary hike and other demands. Majority of drivers of the BEST's four big private bus operators - Mateshwari, SMT (Daga group), Hansa and Tata Motors are part of the strike."These private operators have

been asked to sort out the issues as early as possible by holding talks with their protesting employees. The BEST is also taking action against the bus operators as per the terms and conditions in the agreements with them," Vaidya said. The BEST is doing maximum utilisation of its own drivers,

who are now deployed on 390 buses of wet leased operators, he added. On the first day of the stir, only 160 wet leased buses were off roads, while the number went beyond 1,000 on the second day, which further rose

lar commuters. The protesting drivers have claimed that they did not get an adequate salary hike in the last three years and find it difficult to manage household expenses. Their salaries

to more than 1,300 buses on Friday,

causing immense hardships to regu-

are quite low compared to those of BEST employees, they added. The BEST has hired buses on a wet lease model under which private operators have the responsibility of the vehicle ownership, maintenance,

fuel and driver costs. The undertaking's fleet of around buses) ferries more than 30 lakh peo-

3,100 buses (including its own 1,340 ple in Mumbai and neighbouring Thane, Navi Mumbai and Mira-Bhayandar every day.



### madhya pradesh

### Ladli Bahna Yojana is a campaign to transform 'Two cheetahs - Tejas & Suraj lives: Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan

Team Absolute Bhopal

hief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan has said that the MukhyamantriLadliBahnaYoj ana launched in the state is not just a scheme but a campaign to change the lives of sisters. The MukhyamantriLadliBahnaYojana, along with providing funds to women, has also boosted their selfconfidence and self-esteem. The life cycle cannot go on without a daughter. Keeping this in mind, the Madhya Pradesh government has started ambitious schemes focused on girls and women. One crore 25 lakh sisters are benefitting from this scheme in the state, in whose bank accounts an amount of Rs. 1000 is being deposited on the 10th of every month. In the second phase of the scheme, 21 to 23 year old sisters are being registered. The registration of the sisters who missed out will be done next month. Chief Minister Chouhan was addressing the LadliBahnaSammelan at Verwar village of Jatara tehsil of Tikamgarh district. During the VikasParv, the Chief Minister dedicated and per-

Up to 50 percent participation in

formed Bhoomi-Pujan of develop-

ment works worth Rs. 138 crore 8



Earlier, the state government

own behalf, now it has been

farmers in the whole year.

**Ken-Betwa Project** 

increased to Rs. 6000. Now an

Thanking Prime Minister

Bundelkhand by the Central

NarendraModi for the approval of

the ambitious Ken-Betwa project of

Government, the Chief Minister said

that now along with Tikamgarh, the

area under irrigation will increase in

a large area of Bundelkhand and

deposited in the accounts of the

deposited an amount of Rs. 4000 in

amount of Rs. 12 thousand is being

the accounts of the farmers on its

Chief Minister Chouhan said that Madhya Pradesh is such a state, where participation of women in local bodies has been ensured up to 50 percent. Women are successfully running panchayats and urban bodies in the state. Both the participation and power of women in the society have increased.

Amount of MukhyamantriKisan-KalyanYojana has been increased by Rs. 2000

Chief Minister Chouhan said that to improve the financial condition of small farmers, an amount of Rs. 6000 is being given in three installments in the PradhanMantriSammanNidhi.

there will be no water shortage. In the previous government, farmers could get agricultural loans at the rate of 15 to 18 percent.

Special attention to children's education Chief Minister Chouhan said that

the state government has paid special attention to the education of children. Talented children are being encouraged to study. An amount of Rs. 25 thousand has been given for laptops to the students who have secured 75 percent marks in the board exams. The children who have topped in their school are being given scooters and the girls are being given scooties.

MukhyamantriSeekho-KamaoYojana

Chief Minister Chouhan said that the state government is making a lot of efforts to provide employment to the youths in the state. MukhyamantriSeekho-KamaoYojana will prove to be helpful in providing self-employment as well as respectable employment to the youths of the state.

LadliBahnas presented 102 feet Rakhi to brother

In the LadliBahnaSammelan, LadliBahnas presented 102 feet Rakhi to their Chief Minister brother. Benefits were also distributed to the beneficiaries in the programme.

died of infection': Minister

Team Absolute Bhopal

resolve the issue.

nion Minister BhupenderYadav on Saturday said that two cheetahs -- Tejas and Suraj, died at Madhya Pradesh's Kuno National Park (KNP) due to infection. The Forest and Environment Minister said

heavy rains. Yadav, however, said that even as infections were noticed, wildlife officials along with Namibian cheetah experts were working to

that the cheetahs developed infections due to

The minister's statement, though, was different from what the Centre and National Tiger Conservation Authority of India (NTCA) had stated earlier.

The nodal agency of the ambitious 'Project Cheetah' and the Centre have so for maintained that Tejas and Suraj died a natural death, and denied all speculation and other media reports.

The minister said: "We are committed to make this project successful. It is a long project wherein cheetahs would be trans-located from the overseas countries every year. The experts are working to find out a solution to the problem of infection causing death of

He further claimed the cheetah management team is engaged in this project with full seriousness, and worried about making the project successful, so that the cheetahs can be translocated every year.

As many as nine cheetahs have died so far at KNP. Namibian female feline Dhatri was

JUNIOR DOCTORS IN MP ON STRIKE, MEDICAL SERVICES AFFECTED



the latest casualty.

A female Cheetah, Sasha, was the first to die on March 27 due to a kidney ailment. Subsequently, Uday passed away on April 23 due to cardio-pulmonary failure while Daksha, another female cheetah, lost her life on May 9.

Two Cheetah cubs also succumbed to "extreme weather conditions and dehydration" on May 25. Tejas died on July 11 while Suraj died on July 14.

#### DHIRENDRA SHASTRI'S 'KATHA' IN CHHINDWARA

Team Absolute Bhopal

ageshwarDham chief DhirendraShastri, who is popularly known as 'BagheshwarDhamSarkar', will do a four-day 'katha' (spiritual discourse), beginning Saturday in Madhya Pradesh's Chhindwara, home district of former chief minister and state Congress president Kamal Nath.

Shastri reached Chhindwara where he was welcomed by Chhindwara MP and Kamal Nath's son NakulNath. Shastri's convoy then reached Kamal Nath's residence in Shikarpur in Chhindwara where the event is organised.

Kamal Nath welcomed Shastri at his residence in a traditional manner offering tilak on his forehead head and flowers. Meanwhile, score of followers of Shastri and Congress workers were seen rushing to find a



glimpse of him and chanted slogan like - 'Jai Sri Ram' and

The event is being organised by Chhindwara MP NakulNath.

A couple of days back, NakulNath had issued a video and appealed to people of Chhindwara to participate in the programme.

"PanditDhirendraShastri's katha is being organised at Semaria Hanuman temple

appeal to people of Chhindwara to participate in 'Jai BagheshwarDham'. katha," NakulNath had said in a video message. A KalashYatra was organised on Friday at Hanuman tem-

> A huge-size temple of Lord Hanuman was constructed in Chhindwara'sSemaria by Kamal Nath, and whenever the BJP targets him on Hindutva issue, Kamal Nath talks about Chhindwara's

#### Team Absolute Bhopal

mergency and OPD services in all state government-run hospitals in Madhya Pradesh were affected as the junior doctors, along with members of medical teachers association, went on a protest on Saturday.

The junior doctors and teachers of Bhopal's Gandhi Medical College (GMC) have been in protest after the death of Dr BalaSaraswati on July 31.

Extending support to GMC doctors, the junior doctors of all major cities - Gwalior, Indore, Jabalpur, Sagar, Rewa and others have gone on strike affecting medical services especially in OPD and emergency wards.

The protest is being carried out under the banner of Junior Doctors Association (JUDA).

Adequate infrastructures, grievance redressal system, health working environment, resolution of seat-leave bonding and some others have been constant demands of junior doctors associated with medical colleges in



They have staged protests for pushing their demands several times in the past, however, the state administration was yet to come out with any

concrete steps to resolve the issues. The fresh round of protest began after the alleged suicide of a female junior Dr BalaSaraswati, a resident of Hyderabad.

She was pursuing her post-graduate (PG) in gynaecology from Bhopal's GMC.

In her suicide note, Dr Bala has alleged that toxic work culture and harassment forced her to take extreme steps. The doctor was 14 weeks pregnant when she injected an overdose of anesthesia at her room in Koh-e-Fiza area in Bhopal on July 31.

It is the second such incident reported at Bhopal's GMC in the last seven months blaming the same toxic work culture.

On January 24 this year, a 27-yearold junior doctor AkankshaMaheswari, a resident of

Gwalior, had died by suicide and she had also blamed toxic culture at

### "ARREST HIM IF HE'S GUILTY": BJP MLA AFTER SON SHOOTS AT TRIBAL BJP should put 'solution box' instead

Team Absolute Bhopal

BJP MLA's son is on the run after firing at a tribal man in Madhya Pradesh on Thursday. The incident comes a month after the alleged representative of a BJP MLA had urinated on a tribal man in the state.

The back-to-back crimes in the Shivraj Singh Chouhan-led state have invited scathing criticism from the opposition months ahead of the Assembly polls. State Congress chief Kamal Nath asked whether the only work BJP leaders had left was to "harass tribals. Dalits, women and people of all communities".

over the incident and said his son should be arrested if he is guilty. VivekanandVaishya, son of BJP Singrauli MLA Ram LalluVaishya, allegedly fired at 34-year-old Surya Kumar Khairwar on Thursday evening. An FIR has been filed against him for attempt to murder and under sections of

The MLA has expressed grief

the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act as well as the Arms

Police said Vaishya was travelling in his car about 25 km from the Singrauli district headquarters when he had an altercation with a group of persons standing on a narrow road. Mr Khairwar stepped in to defuse the situation when Vaishya allegedly shot at

"The bullet hit the palm of Mr Khairwar's right hand, and he was admitted to the district hospital. He has undergone treatment and his condition is much better now," said Assistant Superintendent of Police (Singrauli) Shiv Kumar Verma.

Vaishya is on the run and a reward of Rs 10,000 has been announced for information leading to his arrest. This is not Vaishya's first run-in with the law. He had been arrested last year for allegedly assaulting forest guards and had been granted bail. The

police said they will also move court for the revocation of his bail in the assault case.

MLA Ram LalluVaishya said the law should take its course. "I have always believed in brotherhood. The people in my constituency are my people and have elected me thrice. I have never applied pressure on the police. Let the law take its course," he said.

"If Vivek is guilty, they should arrest him. Surya Kumar is from my village and the incident has made me sad. Vivek has not been living with us for the past five to six years. There should be an independent investigation. The demonstrations being done by the Congress party are wrong, an FIR has already been filed," Vaishya said.

In a video that went viral last month, PraveshShukla, who claimed to be the representative of Sidhi BJP MLA

KedarnathShukla, was seen smoking a cigarette while urinating on a tribal man's face, hair

Hitting out the Shivraj Singh Chouhan government, Kamal Nath tweeted yesterday, "There is a competition among the BIP leaders of Madhya Pradesh to persecute the tribal community. Not long after the incident of urination on a tribal youth in Sidhi, VivekanandVaishya, son of BJP MLA Ram LalluVaishya, has shot at a tribal youth in Singrauli. The young man is seriously injured. I

wish him speedy recovery.' "I want to know from the chief minister whether the only work left for BIP leaders is to harass tribals, Dalits, women and people of all communities. Far from curbing crimes, you are seen promoting criminals," Nath added.

"Recently, you have made it clear how fast you are progressing in the campaign of forming a criminal BJP by including a person convicted for running a sex racket from Harda in the party. State-backed crimes are shaming Madhya Pradesh," the tweet said.

### of 'suggestion box', says Kamal Nath

Team Absolute Bhopal

aking at jibe at the BJP which is inviting people's suggestion for preparing election manifesto for the Madhya Pradesh Assembly elections, state Congress president Kamal Nath said the saffron party should put "solution box" instead of "suggestion box".

The state BJP unit has decided to put "suggestion box" at every block and district office to get suggestions.

Besides putting the boxes, the BJP is also working on an online platform to invite people to send their suggestions for the same.

The Congress has prepared its election manifesto after several rounds of meeting chaired by former chief minister Kamal Nathat his residence.



Hitting out at the BJP, Kamal Nath said the people will ask the saffron party as to why it toppled the elected government.

"The public will give some suggestions to the BJP that don't divide the country any more and stop the agenda of spreading hate and fear. People will ask BJP to stop insulting women anymore

and to provide employment to youths," Kamal Nath said.

Veteran Congress leader also suggested that the BJP should put 'Solution Box' instead of 'Suggestion Box' to solve the problems of the people, but BJP will not do this because it considers its political success only in "misleading" the people on useless issues.

#### TIGRESS ENTERS PRIVATE **UNIVERSITY CAMPUS IN BHOPAL**

**Bhopal:** A tigress entered the premises of a private university in Madhya Pradesh capital Bhopal, a forest



official said on Saturday. The big cat went back to its habitat and there was no man-animal conflict, he said.

Earlier in the day, CCTV footage showing the wild animal near the gate of the private university surfaced on social media. Divisional Forest Officer (DFO) AlokPathak said the CCTV footage showed a tigress on the varsity campus on the outskirts of Bhopal.There is a forest adjoining the university campus and the tigress entered the place on Thursday night after jumping over a lower fencing, he

"Later, the feline returned to the forest," he said, adding that the tigress lives in the adjoining jungle with its four

## MP'S LOCAL HERO, 9TH-CENTURY KING MIHIRBHOJ, DRAGGED INTO CASTE DISPUTE

Praveen Dwivedi | Bhopal

dispute over the legacy of 9th century king MihirBhoj between the Kshatriya (Rajput) and Gurjar communities which started in northern India, has gradually started taking a

larger shape for the last few years. Both the Kshatriyas and Gurjars claim that MihirBhoj belonged to their community or caste and a dispute over this had reached the Madhya Pradesh High Court in 2021.

Although, the debate over MihirBhoj's legacy was centuries old as reports suggest, a fresh controversy in Madhya Pradesh began after a life-size statue of the king was installed in Gwalior city in

The dispute escalated after the Gwalior Municipal Corporation (GMC) prefixed "Gurjar" with the inscription of MihirBhoj's name on a plinth of the life-size statue, which did not go down well with the people of Kshatrya community and they unanimously stood to oppose it.

On their part, the Gurjars argued that

MihirBhoj belonged to the community and therefore the word "Gurjar" needed to be added with his name on all his statues across the country.

Upon receiving a bunch of petitions from both the communities, the Gwalior bench of the Madhya Pradesh High Court had appointed an expert committee to examine the issue and present its recommendation in 2021.

As the appointed committee is yet to submit its report, the matter is currently sub judice.

Fresh tension prevailed last week after some people attempted to remove the "Gurjar" prefix from MihirBhoj's statue, despite the area having been earmarked as prohibited due to back-toback clashes between the two communities since the statue was installed.

The police claimed to have arrested two persons who attempted to erase the word.

The dispute over MihirBhoj's legacy is also because the two communities have a sizeable population in the Gwalior-Chambal and Malwa-Nimar regions of the state and they have a strong hold over the local politics as well.

As the Assembly elections in Madhya Pradesh are just four months away, the dispute over MihirBhaj's legacy has started to escalate again.

Whether MihirBhoj was a Kshatriya or Gurjar, different historians have their own opinions and views on this issue.

SushilDwivedi, a senior professor of history in Thakur Ranmat Singh Singh (TRS) College Rewa, said that although researchers have different views over the legacy of MihirBhoj, many historians have claimed that he belonged to the "GurjarPratihar" dynasty, which had established its kingdom in Kannauj (in what is now Uttar Pradesh) and Ujjain (in what is Madhya Pradesh).""Pratiharas were Kshatriyas and they ruled in Madhya Bharat's Malwa-Nimar and part of (what is now) Uttar Pradesh. But, many writers mentioned Gurjar-Pratihar, and perhaps this is

the reason a dispute started on MihirBhoj's lega-

Pratihar dynasty in Ujjain between 730BC to 760

have also suggested that Gurjar-Pratihar dynasty

cy. Nagabhata-1 was the founder of the Gurjar-

BC," he said. He also said that some historians



had its origins in Gurjratra, a part of Rajputana in the present day Rajasthan

### hollywood

# Rami Malek, Lucy **Boynton split after five** years of togetherness

Los Angeles | Agencies

Rami played the rock legend Freddie Mercury in 'Bohemian Rhapsody' has split with girlfriend of five years, Lucy Boynton. Actor Rami Malek, who played the rock legend Freddie Mercury in 'Bohemian Rhapsody' has split with girlfriend of five vears, Lucy Boynton. Actor Rami Malek, who played the rock legend Freddie Mercury in 'Bohemian Rhapsody' has split with girlfriend of five years, Lucy Boynton. The two actors

met on the set of 'Bohemian Rhapsody'. Lucy played Freddie's girlfriend,

Mary Austin in the film, reports Mirror.co.uk. Rami went on to win an Oscar for his role in the

film. Insiders told The Sun that the couple broke up earlier this year after slowly drifting apart. The last time the duo were photographed together was in February of this year.

A source told The Sun: "Rami and Lucy split earlier this year without much fanfare. They were together for a long time but had grown apart. They are both moving on with their lives and are busy with work." As per Mirror.co.uk, Rami is rumoured to be hanging around various friends since the

break-up for emotional support, including The Crown's Emma Corrin. The two were spotted at a Bruce Springsteen concert in Hyde Park in July.

The source claims: "He asked Emma to join him to watch Bruce at BST last month and they had a great time. Rami is enjoying life and living it up. Rami has surrounded himself with his mates and has spent the sum-

> mer enjoying himself," they continued. Lucy seems to be enjoying the single life as well, attending Wimbledon without Rami.

The two seemed head over heels with each other and

feelings. When Rami won the Oscar for Best Actor in 'Bohemian Rhapsody', he said in his speech: "Lucy Boynton, you are the heart of this film, you are beyond immensely talented, you have captured my heart" as the blonde looked on fondly from the crowd.Rami most recently appeared in 'Oppenheimer', as David Hill as a nuclear physicist who helped create the atomic bomb during World War Two. He also appeared as the main villain, Lyutsifer Safin, in the latest 'James Bond' film



were very public about their relationship and

'No Time to Die' opposite Daniel Craig.

**KSA** mulls over possible ban on 'Barbie' due to censor board disagreements, LGBTQ themes

Los Angeles | Agencies

reta Gerwig's 'Barbie' has been a point of contention in the Middle East and a lot of Islamic countries, with certain countries having banned it altogether such as Qatar and Kuwait.

The movie was released in the UAE, and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia was planning on releasing it on August 31 after making a few edits. But now the country is pondering over the possibility of a full on ban.

The movie was a big point in the Middle East because despite it being a fun hearted family comedy movie, the films' LGBTQ+ themes alongside its consumerist attitude did not fare well in the Middle East, with Israel having released it.

Earlier, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia had begun promoting its own local pictures such as

'Sattar' which overtook James Cameron's 'Avatar 2: The Way of Water' by a massive margin. While they had surprisingly declared that they will release 'Barbie', much to the surprise of many, now the country has hinted at a possi-

As reported by 'Variety', the reason for this stems from a multi-layered web covering both the country's politics and religious aspects as well as social and cultural apprehensions.

The censor board of the country remains divided on the issue as some suggest that the movie has little to no harm to do the country's norms and social fabric, and with some edits to the movie, such as Barbie deriding aspects of patriarchy and whatnot, the movie could be released.

But now there is a growing fear that the movie will promote too many Western values in the country and also result in people cashing in on Barbie dolls at a difficult economic time.

Plus there is the additional fear that this could potentially damage the social fabric of the country, promoting values incompatible with the country's values.

Greta Gerwig's 'Barbie' has been a point of contention in the Middle East and a lot of Islamic countries, with certain coun-

tries having banned it altogether such as

Qatar and Kuwait.

The movie was already aired in the UAE and was even given a massive appearance on the Burj Khalifa, and KSA also had little problem with the movie, but with the increasing criticism the movie has gotten from global audiences regarding its preachy attitude regarding patriarchy and promotion of LBGTQ themes has resulted in the country reconsidering its August 31 release date.

As such the movie has been postponed until KSA censor boards come to a full agreement, but as of such, the movie may well just end up facing a ban as many religious clerics have also

Some of the other countries where 'Barbie' was banned include Bahrain, Iran, Vietnam, Philippines and Russia among others.

### **TAYLOR SWIFT HALTS SHOW, RUNS ACROSS STAGE TO COMFORT KOBE BRYANT'S DAUGHTER** Los Angeles | Agencies

inger-songwriter Taylor Swift has proven that she has a huge heart as she made a heartwarming gesture to Kobe Bryant's daughter Bianka. While performing on her Eras tour, the Blank Space singer ran over to Bianka in the crowd to give her a hug. During the show in Los Angeles, Taylor knelt down by the six-year-old, who had been lifted up onto the stage, and gave her herRed tour hat, before embracing her sweetly, reports Mirror.co.uk.

Kobe's wife, Vanessa and her daughter were among the Swifties in the audiences for the first of Taylor's six sold-out shows at the So-Fi Stadium.

In honour of her late husband, who died alongside their daughter Gianna in a horrific helicopter crash along with seven other people in 2020, Vanessa had decked out her daughter in a custom jean jacket with a tribute to the late Lakers legend printed on the back.

As per Mirror.co.uk, Taylor, who had been presented with a banner to honour her record for sold-out shows at the Staples Center by Kobe back in 2015, said a few words to Bianka before gifting her the hat.

Gianna, who sadly passed aged 13, was also a huge fan of Taylor and Vanessa and recently shared a video of her and her late daughter singing along to 'You Belong With Me' before she attended the show. After Taylor's sweet gesture, the audience erupted with cheers and Vanessa shared the moment on Instagram, writing: "We love you @taylorswift."

It comes after the Bryants celebrated Gianna's birthloved ones in various posts in the three years since her late husband and daughter passed



**Los Angeles** Agencies

inger Rita Ora and her Hollywood director husband Taika Waititi have finally shared details of their wedding, a year after the intimate ceremony.

The singer-actress married Waititi back in August 2022, in an impromptu wedding, marrying after having known each other for four years and dated for one.

The ceremony was planned in just two weeks with eight people in attendance, after Ora, 32, popped the question during a trip to Palm Springs

Ora shared a gallery of images from their wedding with Vogue magazine, and revealed she wore three different Tom Ford looks for her big day, as she and Waititi exchanged vows at their home in Los Angeles.

As per Daily Mail, Taika, 47, revealed: "She proposed to me, and I said 'yes' instantly.' Discussing the ceremony, the director

were about

### RITA ORA, TAIKA WAITITI SHARE DETAILS OF THEIR INTIMATE WEDDING ON ANNIVERSARY

eight people there - just close friends and family, and parents on Zoom." Ora's sister Elena was a bridesmaid, while

Waititi's best friend, actor Jermaine Clement, flew over from New Zealand for the ceremo-

Talking about the British designer Tom Ford, Ora said: "He's now one of my close friends, and I adore and admire him so much. To get married in his dress was a dream come true."

"And because it wasn't planned, I didn't now if the right dress w in town, and I just took the risk and went to the Tom Ford shop, and they had it perfectly waiting with the veil, in my size, no alterations needed to be done.

She revealed that she wore her mother's pearls with her wedding dress, while Waititi wore a suit by Brunello Cucinelli.

Elena walked her sister down the aisle, while Waititi was joined by his two daughters for the ceremony.

The pop star said the day was "really simple and blissful and calm and private and

Following their wedding, the newlyweds headed to their friend Guy Oseary's house for a celebratory dinner, and were surprised with an Elvis impersonator who offered music for proceedings.

The newlyweds shared snaps from their big day which shows them both posing in front of the iconic Hollywood sign as well as a beaming Ora under her veil. The couple were first linked in April 2021, with their relationship quickly turning serious as Ora moved into Waititi's stunning



### Jamie Foxx deletes recent social media after it was called out for being 'anti-semitic'

Los Angeles | Agencies accident. I want to make it clear to my friends and anyone hurt by ollywood star this showing in their feed - I Jamie Foxx do NOT support any form raised a lot of of Anti-Semitism. And I truly don't tolerate eyebrows this time with his cryptic post about 'fake friends' on his Instagram story. It was unknown earlier who or what exactly the actor was referring to, but now the post has been bashed publicly as people have called it a very 'anti-Semitic' post, causing Foxx to delete it. The 'Django Unchained' actor had posted the following story in bold letters: "They killed this dude name Jesus... what do you think they'll do to you?" running the hashtag #'Fake Friends' as people in

the Jewish circle have deemed it

Jennifer Aniston had earlier liked the

post but the resulting public backlash has

caused her to withdraw her like, and has now slammed Foxx. Talking to Instagram, the

'Friends' actress wrote: "This really makes me

sick. I did not "like" this post on purpose or by

anti-Semitic.

HATE of any kind. Period. Jews in the US, Europe and Israel have accused the actor of collectively putting the blame of killing Jesus Christ on all Jews, therefore accusing the entire community of deicide.Some others have mocked Foxx saying that he has gone all Kanye West on them, as West too has been called out for his anti-Semitic remarks made in 2022 when he expressed his admiration for Adolf Hitler and

how he protected Germans in Nazi Germany, as well as denying the Holocaust. Following this, West had received a lot of backlash with major brands owned by Jews slamming him and a

massive loss in ticket sales for his concerts in North America. Jamie Foxx so far has not issued any reply whatsoever, though some are doubting whether the post even came from Foxx at all because of its extremely cryptic



**Monica Sims** 

**ABSOLUTE PIC OF THE DAY** 

### **WORLD ARCHERY CHAMPIONSHIPS: ADITI GOPICHAND SWAMI CLINCHES INDIVIDUAL COMPOUND GOLD MEDAL**

ndia's Aditi Gopichand Swami clinched the gold medal in the women's individual compound event at the World Archery Championships 2023 after defeating Andrea Becerra of Mexico 149-147 in the final, here on Saturday.

Berlin (Germany), Aug 5 (IANS) India's Aditi Gopichand Swami clinched the gold medal in the women's individual compound event at the World Archery Championships 2023 after defeating Andrea Becerra of Mexico 149-147 in the final, here on Saturday.

With her gold, the 17-year-old Aditi, who was seeded sixth in the qualifying round, has become the youngest archer to top the podium in an individual category at the senior world championships.

Aditi, a U18 world champion and world record holder, defeated fellow Indian Jyothi Surekha Vennam, seeded second, 149-145 in the semifinals



to book her place in the final. Meanwhile, Jyothi Surekha Vennam beat Ipek Tomruk of Turkey the women's individual compound

Another Indian archer, Parneet

terfinals after losing to Jyothi. Earlier, Jyothi, Parneet Kaur and Aditi Gopichand Swami had teamed up to win the women's compound

Sports

ever gold at the archery world championships. In the compound men's and mixed team events, Indian archers failed to progress beyond the quar-

team event and clinched India's first-

None of the Indian recurve archers made the medal rounds, thereby failing to win any Olympic quota places for the Paris Olympics on offer in

Only recurve archery competitions are held at the Olympics.

India have so far won three medals -- two gold and one bronze -- in the World Archery Championships 2023, which is the first qualifier event for the Paris 2024 Olympic Games for

#### Australian Open: Prannoy stuns Priyanshu, to face China's Weng Hong Yang in final

Torld No. 9 Prannoy HS reached his second final in a BWF World Tour Super 500 event this year after he got past compatriot Priyanshu Rajawat 21-18, 21-12 in men's singles semifinal at the ongoing Australia Open 2023, here on Saturday.

Sydney, Aug 5 (IANS) World No. 9 Prannoy HS reached his second final in a BWF World Tour Super 500 event this year after he got past compatriot Priyanshu Rajawat 21-18, 21-12 in men's singles semifinal at the ongoing Australia Open 2023, here on Saturday.

Prannoy, who won the Malaysia Masters -his maiden World Tour title in May, will be up against world no. 24, China's Weng Hong Yang for the Australia Open title on Sunday. In the all-Indian semi-final clash, Prannoy and Priyanshu went toe-to-toe in the early exchanges. As the match progressed, both the Indian badminton players battled to gain the upper hand.

With the scores tied at 18-all, Prannoy, seeded sixth won three consecutive points to

take the lead in the match. The 31-year-old Prannoy carried the

WI v IND: India aim for better showing in the batting

department for bouncing back against West Indies



momentum in the second game and raced to a 7-3 lead. However, the 21-year old won four consecutive points to level the scores at 7-all.

Prannoy, though, upped his game to go into the mid-game break with a 11-7 lead. On return, Prannoy dominated Priyanshu and won the match in 43 minutes to seal a berth

With this win now, Prannoy now leads Orleans Masters champion Priyanshu Rajawat 2-0 in the head-to-head record.

### Aditi makes cut narrowly as Diksha misses at Women's Scottish Open



Chennai | Agencies

rvine, Dundonald Links, Scotland, Aug 5 (IANS) Aditi Ashok survived the cut line narrowly while Diksha Dagar missed it by a big margin at the end of the second round of the FREED Open Presented by Trust

Aditi totaled 3-over 147 and was lying T-65th while Diksha Dagar with 9-over 153 missed the cut.

Aditi survived the cut despite two late bogeys on the front nine, which was her second nine as she started from the tenth. She h with dropped shots on the

12th and 14th, but birdies on the second and the fifth seemed to have saved her before bogeys on the seventh and eighth put her in trouble. At 3-over for 36 holes, she just scraped through to the weekend rounds. Diksha after her 7-over 79 needed a low under par round, but she carded 74 with one birdie and two bogeys and missed

Hinako Shibuno produced a round of 68 (-4) on the second day to hold a two-shot lead. The major champion started with a bogey on the first but soon turned her day around with a birdie on the second before adding another on the fifth. Three more birdies on the back nine saw Shibuno seal a round of 68 as she leads at the top with a total of 12-under-par after 36 holes.Maja Stark fired a 65 (-7) to climb into second place on 10-under-par, two shots behind the leader. France's Celine Boutier and Australia's Sarah Kemp are in a share of third place on seven-underpar after they both fired rounds of 68 (-3) on day two at Dundonald Links. Boutier. who won last week's Amundi Evian Championship, only dropped two shots and rolled in six birdies. The cut fell at through to the weekend.

#### Georgetown (Guyana) | Agencies

fter losing the T20I series narrowly by four runs to the West Indies in Trinidad, India will be aiming to put up a better show in the batting department when they face West Indies in the second T20I at the Providence Stadium here on Sunday.

The pitch was slow and not easy to bat at the Brian Lara Cricket Academy in Trinidad, but young left-handed batter Tilak Varma shone brightly on debut. After scintillating performances in IPL 2022 and 2023 as well as in domestic cricket took him to the national team, Varma slammed two beautiful sixes on facing his first three balls in international cricket.

With the likes of Shubman Gill, Ishan Kishan, Suryakumar Yadav, Hardik Pandya and Sanju Samson all struggling to get going in the opening T20I, Varma showed fearlessness of youth and looked at ease during his 22ball 39, providing a good glimpse into a possibly glorious future.

In the first T20I, one can argue that India not having players who can hit boundaries in the lower order did hurt them in their inability to go over the line, especially with the tail starting from number eight, causing the balance of the playing eleven to go a bit

With less than 12 months to go for the 2024 Men's T20 World Cup to be held in the West Indies and the USA, the performances of various players in the Indian team during this series assume huge importance w



selected for the mega event in the shortest format of the game.

The pitches in Guyana have been on the slower side, which means the importance of spinners and pacers with a repertoire of slower deliveries go up, though scattered thunderstorms have been predicted to cause an interruption in Sunday's clash.

West Indies, who managed to win mainly due to Jason Holder's superb spell of 2-19 and Romario Shepherd defending 10 runs in the final over, could look to add another spinner to

With the bat, they would expect a better show from others to give ample support to Nicholas Pooran and captain Rovman Powell, the top two run-

scorers for them in the first T20I to add another win to the current 1-0 series scoreline.

India: Ishan Kishan (wicketkeeper), Shubman Gill, Yashasvi Jaiswal, Tilak Varma, Suryakumar Yadav (vice-captain), Sanju Samson (wicketkeeper), Hardik Pandya (captain), Axar Patel, Yuzvendra Chahal, Kuldeep Yadav, Ravi Bishnoi, Arshdeep Singh, Umran Malik, Avesh Khan, Mukesh Kumar

West Indies: Rovman Powell (captain), Kyle Mayers (vice-captain), Johnson Charles, Roston Chase, ShimronHetmyer, Jason Holder, Shai Hope, Akeal Hosein, Alzarri Joseph, Brandon King, Obed McCoy, Nicholas Pooran (wicketkeeper) Romario Shepherd, Odean Smith, Oshane Thomas

#### 132nd Durand Cup: Mumbai City FC open campaign with hard-fought win over Mohammedan Sporting



Kolkata | Agencies

he reigning Indian Super League (ISL) League winner Mumbai City FC (MCFC) had a good workout in their 3-1 victory over local favourites Mohammedan Sporting, here at the Kishore Bharati Krirangan here on Saturday.

Playing their first match of the 132nd Durand Cup, the Islanders were three up in the first 35 minutes of the

game, but the Black and White brigade made a game of it after their confidence was boosted by a David Lalhlansanga strike.

Rostyn Griffiths, Jorge Peryra Diaz and LalianzualaChhangte scored for the winners. This was the first match of Group B which also has Jamshedpur FC and the Indian Navy as part of it.

The Islanders got on the board as early as the 12th minute when Australian defender Griffiths rose high

at the back post off a corner by talisman Greg Stewart, to head home. The ball hit the underside of the bar before going in. The second goal came just over 10 minutes later from another foreigner, this time their Argentine forward Jorge Peryra Diaz, who tapped in a rebound off

Ripoll then helped put the issue to rest about 10 more minutes later, when he

keeper Jongte, after Spaniard

Alberto Ripoll had shot at

found Bipin Singh's surging run on the left flank. Bipin's measured cross across the face of the goal found Chhangte at the end of it, who made no mistake.The Black and White brigade then brought the spectators to life with a goal of their own when off a corner taken short, Samad Mallick's cross saw David rise brilliantly to head in. The lemon break gave the local fans a lot of In the 55th minute, Alexis

Gomez missed a sitter and a golden opportunity to reduce the deficit, when off a Remsanga cut back inside the Mumbai box, he found himself in the clear, but his right footer was way off target. That was Remsanga's last contribution as Ganesh Besra replaced him soon

At the hour mark MCFC manager Des Buckingham brought in two changes. Dutchman Yoell Van Nieff and Vikram Pratap Singh replaced Peryra Diaz and Chhangte, as Mohammedan were beginning to get more positive in the game.

Bipin Singh then had a shot hit the bar in the 65th as MCFC pressed hard to put the game beyond the local side. Mohammedan were also getting their chances and in the 79th, substitutes Besra and Tanmoy Ghosh combined with the latter's flying header just off the tar-

That was perhaps the last real chance secured by either side as Mumbai City did well to pick up full

#### Asian Champions Trophy: 'We know what we need to do,' says captain Harmanpreet Singh ahead of Malaysia clash



Chennai Agencies

fter coming back from a goal down to hold reigning Asian Games champion Japan to a hard-fought draw, the Indian men's hockey team faces another tough opponent in Malaysia in a key match in the six-team league in the Asian Champions Trophy here on Sunday.

As the event enters the third round of thrilling group-stage matches, all eyes will be on the clash between the formidable Indian men's team, which needs to win this match to maintain its chances of advancing to the next stage.

The hosts had made an impressive start by winning their opening game against China 7-2 but failed to make the most of their chances against Japan and had to settle for a hard-fought 1-1 draw against Japan in their second encounter played on Friday.

India's dominant performance against China showcased their attacking flair and goal-scoring ability, leaving spectators in awe of their offensive capabilities. However, in the second match against

Japan, despite creating numerous scoring opportunities, the Indian team faced a resilient Japanese defense and had to settle for a draw.

The India team, currently placed second on the points table, will undoubtedly analyse their performance to identify areas of improvement and come back even stronger in the upcoming match

against current table toppers Malaysia. Speaking ahead of their next match, the Indian men's hockey team captain Harmanpreet Singh said, "We know what we need to do in our next game against Malaysia. Our focus is on capitalising on the areas that led to our successful goals in the opening game against China. Additionally, we're eager to try some-

thing new in our upcoming match." India's head coach, Craig Fulton said the team will take lessons from the game against Japan and make necessary improvements in their upcoming games. "We wanted to win against Japan and had enough chances. It's not a nice feeling, but we have got to get better and be ready for the next game," Fulton said during the post-match press conference

on Friday. "It's every coach's concern if you are not converting your chances, whether corners or field goals. So, you always try to work out 'why?' and try to find a solution for that and combinations of players together." "However, the fact that we are winning a lot of corners is good. We also had a few shots. So, it's not that we are not playing in our system. We are playing the way we want to play, and even against Japan, we had two-three really good counters. We are one phase away from finishing the way we want to," he was quoted as saying in a release on Saturday. Malaysia are currently on top of the points table with two wins in as many games. They defeated Pakistan 3-1 in their opening game, while in the second match, they came from behind to beat China 5-1.

Moreover, in the previous editions of the tournament, Malaysia have proven to be a tough nut to crack, and India are well aware of the challenges that await them on the field, hence the hosts will aim to be fully prepared for the clash on Sunday.





Team Absolute Mumbai

ollywood superstar Salman Khan, who was most recently een in 'Kisi Ka Bhai Kisi Ki Jaan', recently left his fans and the Internet amazed when he slipped into a pair of hot pink

The superstar attended the birthday bash of his brother Arbaaz Khan recently and chose hot pink coloured pants for the occasion.

As the photos & videos from the occasion went viral, it left the Internet bemused about Salman's sartorial choice as the actor, who is known for his hyper-mascu

line roles on screen, chose a colour which is considered feminine as per societal norms.

The Internet had a field day as netizens joined the dots and put together Salman in the 'Barbiecore' trend which emanated from the Margot Robbie and Ryan Gosling-starrer 'Barbie'. The Hollywood extravaganza is currently clashing its swords against the Christopher Nolan directorial 'Oppenheimer' in theatres.

Netizens were quick to react to the viral pictures and images of Salman from Arbaaz's birthday. They shared hilarious com-

ments like, "Glad

Salman bhai gracing the Barbie trend". One user wrote, "Bhai-bhi". Another wrote, "Bhaibhenheimer"

A third wrote, "Salman bhai couldn't resist giving into the Barbie trend". Salman and Arbaaz have collaborated on several films together. Arbaaz even directed Salman in 'Dabangg 2' with Sonakshi Sinha. He also produced 'Dabangg' and 'Dabangg 3'.

Meanwhile, after 'Kisi Ka Bhai Kisi Ki Jaan', which received a rather lukewarm response as per Salman Khan standards, on the work front, Salman

> will next be seen in Tiger 3' which has booked a Diwali release this year.



Jay Bhanushali speaks of his love for Mahhi Vij

Actor Jay Bhanushali opened up on his love story with his wife Mahhi Vij, and how she, and their daughter Tara changed have his life.

Team Absolute New Delhi

ctor Jay Bhanushali opened up on his love story with his wife Mahhi Vij, and how she, and their daughter Tara changed have his life.

Jay is currently hosting the dance reality show 'India's Best Dancer 3'. The talented contestants along with their choreographers will weave a magical tapestry of love through their mesmerising performances in the 'Romance Special' episode, this weekend.

One of the highlights of the episode will be the heartwarming performance by contestant Shivanshu Soni and choreographer Vivek Chachere, who beautifully convey the feeling of longing love through the iconic song 'Údja Kale Kawan', leaving everybody in awe. Shivanshu's performance made everyone's heart flut-

ter, reminding one and all about their first romance, so much so that the ever-charming host Jay shared: "I met Mahhi when I went clubbing. And three months was enough for me to know that Mahhi is the girl I want to marry. She was my first girlfriend. I had a principle that I'd get into a relationship when I genuinely feel she is the girl I want to marry, and spend the rest of my life with. Within three months, I decided that I would get into a relationship. On December 31, 2009, I proposed

to her, and in 2010, we got married. "I invited everyone, but no one arrived as everyone thought I was a casanova. But, when the right person is in front of you, you keep everything else aside. Mahhi has changed my life; after Tara, she is the reason for me to live," he said.

An emotional Jay further added: "In films, we often see heroes giving up their lives for their loved ones, and I never felt that way until I met Tara. She's the one for whom I can give up my life. I have never shown this side of mine in front of Mahhi, and I never wanted to."



Team Absolute Mumbai

ctress Samantha Ruth Prabhu, who has been on a break and has been treating her fans with beautiful pictures from her holiday, has refuted the claims of her taking Rs 25 crore from a Telugu superstar for her treatment of Myositis. The actress also called out the media for false reportage

Actress Samantha Ruth Prabhu, who has been on a break and has been treating her fans with beautiful pictures from her holiday, has refuted the claims of

her taking Rs 25 crore from a Telugu superstar for her treatment of Myositis. The actress also called out the media for false reportage.

Myositis is a medical condition causing inflammation in muscles. Weakness, swelling, and pain are the most common Myositis symptoms. In October last year, the actress shared on her social media that she was diagnosed with Myositis a few back and that the fight against the disease is taking longer

than she expected.

Stories section of her Instagram and penned a note in which she outrightly denied taking any kind of financial help.

She wrote, "Rs 25 crores to treat Myositis!? Someone got you a pretty bad deal. I am glad I am only spending the smallest fraction of that. And, I don't think I was paid in marbles for all the work I've done in my career"

She further mentioned that she is capable of taking care of herself and her medical expenses given her work in the

industry during all these years. "So, I can easily take care of my

Thank you. Myosotis is a condition thousands suffer from. Let's please be responsible with the information we put out regarding the treatment," she

After wrapping up the Indian counterpart of the web series 'Citadel', as well as her Telugu film 'Kushi'. Samantha is taking a break from acting for at least one year. During this period, she would primarily focus on her health, and undergo treatment for the autoimmune condition Myositis in the

### Allu Arjun to start marathon shooting schedule for 'Pushpa: The Rule' from Sunday

Team Absolute | Mumbai

elugu superstar Allu Arjun, who has kept fans of his blockbuster film 'Pushpa: The Rise' brimming with anticipation with regards to the sequel, is about to kick start another marathon shooting schedule of his much-awaited film 'Pushpa: The Rule' on Sunday.

The actor will shoot at the popular Ramoji Rao studio in Hyderabad. Ever since the makers have launched the poster and teaser of 'Pushpa: The Rule', it has piqued huge curiosity and anticipation amongst the audience across the globe.

A source informed that after completing major shooting schedules at different locations across the country, the makers of 'Pushpa: The Rule' will be starting their new schedule from Sunday. All the pre-production work for the new schedule has been done



and the actors including Allu Arjun and others are all geared up for the shoot. The source said: "Interestingly, it's learnt that the cast is going to shoot some important scenes at Ramoji Rao film city in Hyderabad with huge sets being erected at the place. Since it's a sequel, the makers are leaving no stone unturned to make the movie a visual spectacle for the audience."



**MTV Roadies** 

### New mysterious contestants to be seen in upcoming episode

Team Absolute Mumbai

s the Kurukshetra fight in the reality youth adventure show MTV Roadies - Karm va Kaand' reaches its culmination, the contestants are gearing up for the next destination - the majestic mountains of Chail. In the upcoming episode, viewers will witness a thrilling road trip unfolding, taking Roadies from the serene fields of Patiala to the mountains as new mysterious contestants make their way to the show. As the Kurukshetra fight in the reality youth adventure show 'MTV Roadies - Karm ya Kaand' reaches its culmination, the contestants are gearing up for the next destination - the majestic mountains of Chail. In the upcoming episode,

viewers will witness a thrilling road trip unfolding, taking Roadies from the serene fields of Patiala to the mountains as new mysterious contestants make their way to the show.

As the journey progresses, the Roadies' camp will welcome four newcomers from Roadies Battleground, sparking curiosity and uncertainty among the group. Sonu will ask the Gang Leaders, "Leaders, koi naye chehere dikh rahe haain aapko?" to which Rhea will be saying, "Do toh puraane bhi dikh rahe hain jo auditions me aaye the". The unexpected arrival of the new contestants will leave everyone burning with questions. The host, Sonu Sood will be seen explaining the 'Tod Faad Entry' task, where three teams of five Roadies each, including a new mem-

ber, will face a multi-stage challenge that will happen simultaneously. The task will involve scaling a wall where the contestants will retrieve a ladder using a rope, descending to the next phase where pouches with numbers await. After unlocking a box they will discover silver balls. Two team members will then climb up the wall, aiming to break coloured tiles using the silver balls to complete the task.

Prince seems unimpressed with his gang members with their overall performance and will be seen expressing his disappointment. He will give an earful to his gang members saying, "Main agar itne saare show jeeta hoon woh luck se nahi jeeta. Mehnat lagti hai. Hard work lagta hai. Jisko jeetne ki chaah hoti hai na, wohi jeet ta hai."



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