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NATION

Succeeded in bringing PM Modi to Parliament, but justice for...



HOLLYWOOD

Meghan Markle attends Taylor

solutein

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SPORTS

Sindhu, Chirag-Satwik get firstround bye; unseeded Srikanth...



NO-TRUST MOTION LUCKY FOR US, IT'S A FLOOR TEST FOR OPPN: PM

Prime Minister Narendra Modi lead NDA government on Thursday defeated a noconfidence motion in parliament after a fiery speech by the premier at the climax of a three-day debate. The motion was defeated in a voice vote called by the speaker of the lower house, television images showed, shortly after opposition MPs including Congress party leader Rahul Gandhi walked out of the chamber.

Team Absolute New Delhi

rime Minister Narendra Modi said on Thursday that the no-confidence motion is lucky for the BJPled Centre as the floor test is not for the NDA, but for the Opposition which has moved the motion in the Parliament.

Stating that the people of the country have shown their trust in the NDA government a number of times, Modi said, "I am here to show my gratitude to the people of India.'

Taking a dig at the Opposition, the Prime Minister said that God is kind and if he decides, then through any medium he fulfils the desires of people.

"And I consider this as a blessing that the God suggested the Opposition and they came up with the (no-trust) motion," he said.

"In 2018 too, it was God's wish when the members of the Opposition brought the no confidence motion. And then also I had said that it is not our government's floor test, but it is their (Opposition's) floor test.

"And the same happened when the voting was done. The number of votes could not control the votes which they had earlier. And not only this, when we went to the public, the people announced their no-confidence for them (Opposition) and the in elections, the NDA as well as the BIP got more votes. This means the no-



confidence motion is lucky for us," Modi said.

Prime Minister assured the people of ethnic violence-hit Manipur that the country is with them and everyone, together, will work to ensure peace returns soon. He blamed previous successive Congress governments in Manipur and the northeast for leaving behind an

extremely unstable situation. "The centre is working

The portrait of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose was put up in Parliament only after a non-Congress government came to power, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said today, accusing Congress of putting dynasty above everyone else.

"In Congress's darbar system, they stole opportunities from many leaders, including BR Ambedkar. They made fun of his clothes. Their darbarwaad destroyed several leaders. Netaii Subhas Chandra Bose's portrait found a place in Parliament only after a non-Congress came to power," the Prime Minister said.The Prime Minister referred to Congress leader's Rahul Gandhi's remarks in which he said Lanka was not reduced to ashes by Hanuman but due to Ravan's arrogance. He then turned the tables by saying it is arrogance that reduced the Congress to 44 seats in Lok Sabha from being the largest party in the

Manipur tribal body, Mizoram MP slam Amit Shah over his 'infiltrators' comments in LS



New Delhi/Imphal | Agencies

day after Home Minister Amit Shah told the Lok Sabha that the ongoing violence in Manipur started because of the "Kuki infiltrators", a tribal body from the northeastern state on Thursday slammed him and said his statement reflected the opinion of N. Biren Singh-led government.

Lone Mizo National Front (MNF) Rajya Sabha member from Mizoram K. Vanlalvena also protested Shah's com-

ments on Manipur tribals. "Home Minister said that tribals in Manipur are Myanmarese. We are not Myanmarese, we are Indians, We have been living in India since British administrations, we have been living here for over 200 years," Vanlalvena told the Rajya Sabha amid noisy scenes. Tribal leaders on Thursday said that the Indigenous Tribal Leaders' Forum (ITLF) and all Kuki-Zo tribals feel let down by the Home Minister for his comments in

the Lok Sabha on Wednesday regarding the ethnic conflict in Manipur. The ITLF said that the Scheduled Tribe demand by the majority community, the government notification on forest reserves which would evict tribals from their lands, and the demonising of tribals by the Manipur Chief Minister Biren Singh) and radical Meitei intellectuals are the reasons why the trust deficit grew between Meiteis and tribals, which culminated in the sectarian clashes. It said that accusing refugees, who are some of the most deprived and helpless sections in any community, of starting a conflict at this scale is just plain wrong. The Home Minister on Wednesday held a meeting with the six-member delegation of ITLF, led by its secretary Muan Tombing, in Delhi to discuss their demands, which include a separate state for the tribals. Sources said that Shah rejected the demand of a separate administration or separate state for the tribals in Manipur.

"Unhappy" over Manipur violence, BJP's Mizoram ally to back no-trust motion

New Delhi: In a setback for the BJP, albeit a symbolic one, its ally in Mizoram has declared that it will support the no-confidence motion moved against the central government. The Mizo National Front, which is the ruling party in Mizoram, said it has taken the decision because it is unhappy with the way the BJP governments in the state and the Centre have dealt with the Manipur violence issue. C Lalrosanga, the lone Lok Sabha member from Mizoram, said he would vote against the government in the no-confidence motion, which was moved the Congress and is backed by the newlyminted INDIA coalition. "We are extremely unhappy with the way the BJP governments have dealt with the Manipur issue. Our brothers and sisters in Manipur are badly affected and distressed by the violence in the state," Mr Lalrosanga said, adding that the issue was discussed with the party leadership, including the state Chief Minister and MNF President Zoramthanga. The Mizos and the Kukis share close ethnic ties. The Chin people of Myanmar, the Mizo people and the Kukis are collectively called the Zo

Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury suspended from LS

hard to give the harshest

involved in crimes in the

the people of Manipur

the country is with you.

ficulty and ensure peace

of Manipur, the state will

ment journey," PM Modi

Manipur violence. I request

mothers, sisters, daughters -

Together, we will face this dif

returns. I promise the people

once again take the develop-

punishment to those

New Delhi: The leader of Congress in the Lok Sabha, Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury, was suspended from the House on Thursday for making objectionable comments on the Prime Minister in his speech during the no-confidence motion discussion. His suspension will be in place till the report of the privileges committee comes.

During his speech, Chowdhury compared the Prime Minister to Nirav Modi as well as mythical blind king Dhritarashtra, while alluding to sexual violence against women in Manipur. His remarks led to a furore among the treasury benches and infuriated BJP MP Virendra Singh, who even tried to charge towards Chowdhury, but was stopped by BJP MP Nishikant Dubey, Joshi and Law Minister Arjun Ram Meghwal. Modi was present in the House when the Congress leader has made these comments.

Another Manipur gang-rape horror comes to light after over 100 days

the survivor -- now living in a relief camp -- filed a detailed complaint with the police unfolding the crime that took place on May 3. The 37-year-old married woman said in her complaint: "Five-six people got hold of me and started verbally abusing and assaulting me. Despite my resistance, I was forcefully pinned down."After this, they started sexually assaulting me... They inserted their fingers into my private part in a violent manner. There was no help coming from anybody despite my cries for help."Thereafter, some more men joined them. At that time, I lost consciousness. Later, when I regained my senses, I found myself in a house surrounded by some Meitei people."The woman from Churachandpur district filed the FIR and a separate detailed complaint at the Bishnupur women's police station on Thursday, diving details of the horrific incident that took place on May 3, the day ethnic violence erupted in the northeastern state.The non-tribal woman alleged that she was severely assaulted and gang-raped on May 3 when she, her family members and neighbours were trying to flee from their homes after a mob attacked and burnt down their houses at Churachandpur, one of the worst hit districts in Manipur amid the ongoing violence. A medical examination of the victim was con-

ducted after the registration of the FIR.The woman was treated at the Regional Institute of Medical Science and Jawaharlal Nehru

Imphal: Another horrific case of rape and torture has come to light in ethnic violence-hit Manipur after

Crime committed against Bilkis Bano was a 'crime against humanity' perpetrated on basis of religion, SC told

Team Absolute New Delhi

he Supreme Court on Thursday was told by senior advocate Indira Jaising that the crime committed against Bilkis Bano during the 2002 post-Godhra riots was a "crime against humanity" perpetrated on the basis of religion.

A bench of Justices B.V. Nagarathna and Ujjal Bhuyan was considering the arguments raised by the PIL litigants who had approached the top court against the remission granted to 11 convicts by the Gujarat government in the case of gang rape of Bilkis Bano and murder of her family members.

The final hearing continued for the fourth consecutive day in the batch of petitions filed against the release of convicts, including the one filed by Bilkis Bano.

The court posted the matter for hearing on August 17 to allow counsels for Centre, state government and convicts to advance their

The 11 men convicted in the case were



released on August 15 last year, after the Gujarat government allowed their release under its remission policy. The convicts had completed 15 years in jail.

TERROR MODULE BUSTED IN J&K, 3 LET TERRORIST **ASSOCIATES ARRESTED**

Srinagar: Jammu and Kashmir Police along with Army in North Kashmir's Baramulla district busted a terror module by arresting three terrorist associates linked to proscribed terrorist outfit Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) and recovered incriminating materials, arms and ammunition from their possession, officials said on Thursday. "During joint patrolling and area domination exercise in Churunda Uri, a joint team of Baramulla Police and Army (16 SIKHLI) noticed a suspicious person who attempted to flee upon spotting the patrolling party. However, the suspect was apprehended tactfully," police said.He has been identified as Showkat Ali Awan, resident of Churunda Uri.

During the search, two grenades were recovered from his possession. Subsequently, he was shifted to the police station where he was put under sustained questioning.

Maha reports first Covid fatality in months; experts monitor Omicron sub-variant situation

Team Absolute Mumbai

Institute of Medical Science, both in Imphal.

aharashtra recorded the first Covidelated fatality in Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) clarifying that the death had occurred in July but was included in the official

records now.

The deceased was a 75year-old Mumbai resident who suffered from liver carcinoma. While the indi vidual was diagnosed with Covid-19, authorities have stated that the virus was not the primary cause of his death.

Meanwhile, Mumbai reported 10 new Covid cases, elevating the total



infection count to 11,64,108, while the latest death took the overall fatality figures to 19,776. This is the second time in

reported Covid cases in double digits; the previous instance occurred on August 6.

Recovery rates continue to inspire confidence, with four more patients recuperating from the illness, taking the total number of recoveries to 11,44,285. Currently, Mumbai has 47 active cases. A total of 292 tests were conducted in the past 24 hours, raising the cumulative test count to 1,89,17,951, as per the

civic body's bulletin. Though there are indications of an increase in Covid cases in Maharashtra due to the new Omicron sub-variant, EG.5.1, detected in some samples, health experts have emphasised that there is no cause for immediate concern. No significant surge has been noted since the detection of this sub-variant.

Devastating hurricane-driven wildfires in Hawaii kill 36, destroy town

Honolulu Agencies

east 36 people have died as fast-moving wildfires tear through the Hawaiian island of Maui, officials say.

The deaths in the city of Lahaina, the island's main tourist destination, came as strong winds from a distant hurricane fanned the flames.

The fire is one of several ongoing blazes that have burnt entire neighbourhoods to the ground.

Thousands of people have been forced to evacuate their homes and a state of emergency has been declared.

A huge search and rescue operation is under way, with some people still unaccounted for.Five evacuation shelters have been opened on Maui and officials earlier said they were "overrun'



with people. The island is a popular tourist destination and visitors have been urged to stay away.

Firefighters are still battling active fires, with helicopters dropping water on

the blazes from above. The western side of the island, which is the second largest of the Hawaiian archipelago, was almost cut off entirely with only one main road open

CBI files FIR in case related to Pak nationals 'joining' Indian Army

Kolkata Agencies

he Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has filed an FIR as part of its ongoing probe into Pakistani nationals being employed in the Indian Army by virtue of fake identity documents.

Two persons -- Raju Gupta and Mahendra Adhikari -- have been named in the FIR. The FIR also mentions unnamed government servants who reportedly aided the conspirators in clearing the forged documents for getting

appointments in the Indian Army. The CBI is conducting a probe in the matter following an order of the Calcutta High Court.

On August 2, the CBI had informed the Calcutta High Court's single-judge bench of Justice Jay Sengupta that despite not having any definite proof in the matter as yet, following preliminary investigations, the chances of such recruitments cannot be ruled out.

assistance of international probe agencies like

The CBI also informed the court that the



the INTERPOL might be sought for further

investigation into the matter. On June 13, a petition was filed before the bench of Justice Rajasekhar Mantha by a person named Bishnu Chowdhury. The original

directive to the CBI to start investigation in the matter was given by Justice Mantha. Later, he was elevated to the division bench and the matter was referred to the bench of Justice

CBI NABS RAJNI PRIYA, **KEY ACCUSED IN RS** 1,000 CR SRIJAN SCAM

New Delhi: The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) on Thursday arrested Rajni Priya, the Secretary of Srijan Mahila Vikas Sahyog Samiti, an NGO based in Bihar's Bhagalpur, who was on the run in connection with the Rs 1,000 crore Srijan Scam. She was arrested from Sahibabad in Uttar Pradesh.

A Patna court had issued a non-bailable warrant against her.

The CBI had registered 24 cases on the allegations of misappropriation of Rs 1,000 crore of government funds by fudging records. The scam came to light after the death of the Founder-Secretary of the Bhagalpur-based NGO. The CBI had taken over the investi-

ment. It was alleged that the officials of the said NGO entered into conspiracy with officials of various banks, including Bank of Baroda, Indian Bank, Bank of India etc., for diversion of government funds into the accounts of the said

NGO by using forged documents.

gation on the request of Bihar govern-



SUCCEEDED IN BRINGING PM MODI TO PARLIAMENT, **BUT JUSTICE FOR MANIPUR NOT DELIVERED: CONGRESS**

Team Absolute New Delhi

ongress on Thursday slammed Prime Minister Narendra Modi, saying that the Indian National Developmental Inclusive Alliance (INDIA) alliance succeeded in bringing him in Parliament through the noconfidence motion but justice for Manipur did not get delivered.

The Congress added that the Prime Minister only defamed the country by not answering the questions raised on the Manipur issue and by giving a clean chit to Chief Minister N. Biren Singh.

The Congress also said that the "BJP wants to hide the truth of Manipur and it is their arrogance that has made them blind and their nationalism is fake".

Addressing the media outside Parliament after staging a walkout from the Lok Sabha before the speech of Modi, Congress MP Gaurav Gogoi, who had moved the no-trust motion in the House as a member of INDIA, said, "The Prime Minister has been speaking on no-confidence motion for last two hours. The no-confidence motion was brought in Lok Sabha by me. There were two reasons for this no-confidence motion, first for justice for Manipur and second to save the culture of the Parliamentary process to force the Prime Minister to break his silence.'

He added that our second reason was successful as the country has been able to see the Prime Minister speaking in the Parliament.

The Congress leader, hitting out at the Union government, said, "If we (INDIA alliance) would have not brought the no-confidence motion then he (PM Modi) would have been delivering his speech in the



Parliament of other countries and he might would have forgotten the Indian Parliament."

"Through the no-confidence motion we compelled him (the Prime Minister) to come in Parliament and break his silence," he

Hitting back at Prime Minister Modi, Gogoi said that our first concern is that Manipur should get justice."The Prime Minister is running away from his responsibility. First even after 90 days of the violence, he did not visit Manipur to control the situation despite the fact that Rahul Gandhi and INDIA delegation went there.

Why he is so adamant that he has not visited Manipur yet?" he added.

He also questioned why the the government has not yet removed the Manipur Chief

Gogoi also said that the arms robbed from

no appeal for peace was made.

the police stations are being used against the unarmed civilians, police officers and forces

been forced to flee their homes. "Yet, he (Manipur Chief Minister) has not been sacked by the Prime Minister," he said, adding that why the Prime Minister remained silent over Manipur for last 90 days and why

deployed there and many women have faced

atrocities and more than 60,000 people have

Attacking Prime Minister Modi, Gogoi also said that for last two hours his speech is going on and in last two hours we have been unable to see justice for Manipur. "And unfortunately the BJP has shut the

mouth of two MPs from the state. The BJP wanted to hide the truth of Manipur and thus they have closed the mouth of their two Manipur MPs," he alleged.

"It shows that they want to hide the truth of

Manipur. He is using the tactics of arrogance to hide the truth," the Congress leader added.

Referring to former party chief Rahul Gandhi's speech in the Lok Sabha on Wednesday over Manipur, Gogoi said, "Rahul Gandhi had mentioned that Ravana used to think that he is the strongest and most knowledgeable person but his arrogance got him killed and the houses of people living in Lanka were burnt."

"And due to the arrogance of the BJP, the Prime Minister and Union Home Minister (Amit Shah), today a fire has erupted in Manipur and fire erupted near Delhi, which is being seen by us," he added.

He also said that for these three questions we (INDIA alliance) were unable to get our answers, so we staged a walkout from the Lok Sabha."For the last two hours the Prime Minister is only defaming the country and is defaming the name of India and this proves that their fake nationalism has broken the sovereignty, whether it is Manipur or Haryana's Nuh," Gogoi added.

He also said that for their "fake nationalism", the Prime Minister and the Union Home Minister gave a clean chit to the Manipur Chief Minister.

"What Rahul Gandhi mentioned about them yesterday that their nationalism is fake. And in reality, in the greed of power they have become traitors," Gogoi alleged.

The Prime Minister during his over twohour long speech in Lok Sabha slammed the INDIA alliance and also took a veiled jibe at Rahul Gandhi, dubbing his 'Mohabbat ki Dukaan' with 'loot ki dukaan'.

The no-confidence motion was defeated in Lok Sabha by a voice vote.

Heavy rainfall to continue over Uttarakhand, Bihar, Sikkim, Arunachal during next 4-5 days: IMD



Team Absolute New Delhi solated heavy to very heavy rainfall is likely to continue over Uttarakhand, northern parts of east Uttar

Pradesh, Bihar, Sikkim, and Arunachal Pradesh during next 4-5 days while subdued rainfall activity is likely over rest of the country during next one week, the IMD said on Thursday.

In its bulletin, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) said that in northwest India, there will be light to moderate scattered rainfall, which will continue across Uttarakhand and northern parts of east Uttar Pradesh from till August 14. "Isolated instances of heavy to very heavy rainfall are expected, especially in Uttarakhand till August 13. Himachal Pradesh can also expect isolated heavy rainfall till August 14. On Thursday and Sunday, heavy rainfall is likely in Punjab and

Haryana," it said. "There is also a chance of isolated extremely heavy rainfall in Uttarakhand from Thursday to Sunday. The rest of northwest India, however, is anticipated to have subdued rainfall activity over the next seven days,' the IMD predicted. In east India, there will be light to moderate fairly widespread to widespread rainfall with isolated heavy rainfall in the forecast. "Northern parts of Bihar, sub-Himalayan West Bengal, and Sikkim can expect this pattern till August 14. Gangetic West Bengal is likely to experience isolated heavy rainfall on Saturday. Northern parts of Bihar might encounter isolated very heavy rainfall from Thursday to Sunday, while Sikkim could experience the same on Friday and Saturday," it said. In northeast India, light to moderate fairly widespread to widespread rainfall is predicted.

J'khand: 'Obscene dance' video in minister's presence surfaces; triggers row

Ranchi | Agencies

video of an obscene dance in the presence of Jharkhand Minister of Labour, Planning, Training and Skill Development Satyanand Bhokta at the inauguration ceremony of a new school building in Chatra has gone viral, following which the minister was criticised by the BJP and others.

The minister was present as the Chief Guest at the inauguration ceremony of the new building of a school in Hunterganj block of

Jharkhand's Chatra district. In the video, it can be seen a boy is dancing in women's clothes.Bhokta was reportedly tapping the table when the boy was dancing. District **Education Officer Dinesh**



Mishra was also present on the occasion. Meanwhile, Jharkhand unit BJP president Babulal Marandi has criticised the government over the matter.

BJP Rajya Sabha MP Deepak Prakash tweeted this video and wrote: "How obscenity is being served in front of small children on the inauguration pro-

gramme of a government school building in Jharkhand and that too in the presence of Hemant Soren-led government's minister and other officials.

On Thursday, the Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad (ABVP) burnt the effigies of Satyanand Bhokta and District Education Officer Dinesh Mishra in Chatra.

New bench of Punjab and Haryana HC to hear stay on Nuh demolitions

Chandigarh | Agencies

ust a day before the highly sensitive hearing regarding the stay on demolitions in violence-hit Nuh in Haryana, a new bench has been constituted to hear the case.

A bench of Justices Arun Palli and Jagmohan Bansal will be hearing the case on Friday.

The High Court on Monday restrained the Haryana government from the ongoing demolition drive in Nuh district that witnessed communal violence last week, leaving six people dead.

A high court bench, headed by Justice G.S. Sandhawalia, took suo moto cognisance of the matter and had asked the state to not carry out any further demolition exercise until



"We are constrained to issue notice to state as it has come to our notice that Haryana is using force and is demolishing buildings on account of the fact that some riots have occurred

in Gurugram and Nuh," it observed. "Apparently, without any demoliwithout following the procedure prescribed in law. Accordingly, the bench issued

tion orders and notices, the law and

order problem is being used as a ruse

to bring down buildings without fol-

lowing the procedure established by

buildings belonging to a particular

under the guise of law and order

community are being brought down

law."The issue also arises whether the

directions to Haryana to furnish an affidavit as to how many buildings have been demolished in last two weeks, both in Nuh and Gurugram and whether any notice was issued before demolition."If any such demolition is to be carried out today, it should be stopped if the procedure is not followed as per law," said the bench while listing the case for next hearing on August 11.

problem and an exercise of ethnic

cleansing is being conducted by the

"We are of the considered opinion

that the Constitution of India protects

the citizens of this country and no

demolitions as such can be done

134 MPS & MLAS HAVE CASES OF CRIME AGAINST WOMEN' Jadavpur University fresher dies after falling

Team Absolute New Delhi

total of 134 sitting MPs and MLAs have cases related to crimes against women, which includes 21 MPs and 113 MLAs. Seven BJP members are facing

rape charges, maximum in any party, a report revealed on Thursday.

In a report, the Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR) and National Election Watch (NEW) said that of 762 sitting MPs and 4,001 sitting MLAs analysed, 134 sitting MPs or MLAs have declared cases related to crimes against

The report said that among the 134 sitting MPs or MLAs with declared cases related to crimes against women, 21 are sitting MPs and 113 are sitting MLAs.

The report also pointed out that among various parties, BJP has the highest number of sitting MPs or



MLAs with 44 members against whom cases of crime against women have been registered.

In the second spot is the Congress with 25 followed by AAP with 13 sitting MPs or MLAs who have declared cases related to crimes against women.

The report said: "Of 134 sitting

MPs and MLAs who have declared cases related to crimes against women, 18 sitting MPs and MLAs have declared cases related to rape. Among these, 18 sitting MPs and MLAs with declared cases related to rape, four are sitting MPs and 14 are

sitting MLAs." Among the parties,

the BJP has the highest number of

sitting MPs and MLAs with cases of rape registered. The report also said that among the states, West Bengal has the highest number of sitting MPs and MLAs facing declared cases of crimes among women. The report said that 26 MPs and MLAs from West Bengal, followed by Maharashtra and Odisha each with 14 sitting MPs and MLAs, who have declared cases related crimes against women. While with one case each, Rajasthan, Manipur, Himachal Pradesh and Arunachal Pradesh have the lowest number of MPs and MLAs with declared cases of crime against women. The ADR and NEW analysed

4,763 out of 4,809 election affidavits of sitting MPs and MLAs.

It said that the report analysed 762 out of 776 affidavits of sitting MPs and 4,001 out of 4,033 sitting MLAs from all the 28 states and two union territories of India in the last

from hostel balcony, family alleges ragging

Kolkata | Agencies

ontroversy erupted in Jadavpur University here after the body of a first year student was found in front of the hostel building on Thursday, and the family alleging that he was ragged by seniors.

Police identified the deceased as Swapnadip Kundu, a first year student of Bengali Honours and suspected that he died after falling from the balcony.

However, mystery shrouds the death of the student after an allegation of ragging was made by the family members of the deceased stu-

His family members have reportedly informed the



police and the university authorities that the deceased student talked to them late Wednesday evening and complained about being a victim of ragging by some senior students of the same university. His parents were also slated to come to Kolkata on Thursday to enquire and settle things for the deceased student.

the university authorities have also decided to conduct its own inquiry in the

A committee consisting of the university teachers from various departments along with representatives from the different students' councils has been constituted for that purpose.

NO CASTE CENSUS IN UP: YOGI ADITYANATH

Lucknow: Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, on Thursday, said the state government has no plans to conduct a caste census in the state.

"The subject matter of census is mentioned at number 69 of the Union List of the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India. Census Act 1948 and Census Rules 1990 have been made by the Government of India for census work under which the work of census is done by the Government of India," he said in a written reply to a question asked by Samajwadi Party member Sangram Yadav.

The Samajwadi Party, which has been demanding a 'caste census' in the state, had included the issue in its manifesto for the 2022 assembly polls.

The issue will be top on the Samajwadi Party's poll plank for the 2024 Lok Sabha polls as part of party chief Akhilesh Yadav's new formula the PDA (Pichada, Dalit, Alpsankhyak) that is backwards, Dalits, and minorities - chiefly

MLAs oppose ban on mobile phones in Assem

Lucknow Agencies

ttar Pradesh MLAs are against the ban on carrying mobile phones in the state legislature, as proposed in the new rule book.

Legislators, cutting across party lines, have moved amendments to the draft rulebook tabled in the House on Monday.

They also demanded an increase in the duration of the question hour, 90 days' sitting of the Assembly each year, increase in the number of supplementary questions, a greater role for women members in the business of the House and action against officers who record calls made by members to make it viral on social media.

Speaker Satish Mahana said the members can suggest amendments in the new rules that will be forwarded to the state Assembly's rule committee for consideration for



inclusion in the draft rulebook, "The Rules of Procedures and Conduct of Business of Uttar Pradesh Legislative Assembly,

When the draft rulebook was tabled in the House on Monday, the members were given two days' time to move amendments.

A book will be published carrying a detailed explanation of the new

rules, the Speaker said. BJP MLA Shashank Trivedi said the proposed ban on carrying mobile phones in the House should be lifted but agreed that the usage should be restricted.

Another BJP MLA, who requested anonymity, said that in today's time, one could remain connected to one's constituency through messages on mobile phone.

"In any case, we keep our phones on silent mode during the Assembly proceedings," he stated.

LADLI BAHANA SCHEME IS A SOCIAL REVOLUTION OF ITS KIND: CHIEF MINISTER SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN

he Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan said that the Ladli Bahana Yojana is a social revolution of its kind. The beneficiary Bahana getting Rs. 1000 per month is in fact an honour for them. The aim is to boost self-confidence of our Ladli Bahana and daughters, ensuring their respectful position within family and

The Chief Minister announced that Rs. 1000 monthly will be gradually increase to Rs. 3000 per month. He said that ensuring happiness is the foremost priority. On the occasion of Raksha Bandhan, a special program will be organized on August 27 to have a dialogue with Ladli Bahana and gifts would be distributed.

The Chief Minister Chouhan was addressing the State-level Laadli Bahana Conference at Rewa here today. This state-level event was virtually attended by Ladli Bahana from gram panchayats and urban bodies. The members of the Laadli Bahana Sena presented a huge rakhi to Shri Chouhan. The Chief Minister was welcomed by the Ladli Bahana in a grand manner. Addressing them, Shri Chouhan said that women's empowerment is the priority of state government. The Chief Minister transferred an amount of Rs. 1209 crore to the accounts of 1.25 crore ladli Bahana as third installment.

Under the Nutrition Grant Scheme, an amount of 18.16 crore rupees was



lakh tribal women beneficiaries. Notably, under the Ladli Sister Scheme, an amount of more than 2419 crore rupees has been disbursed to the accounts of Ladli Bahana in the last two months, Similarly, women belonging to the Baiga, Bhariya, and Sahariya tribes have received an amount Rs. 1391 crore rupees.

Development of the Vindhya Region At All Cost

The Chief Minister said that the state government has left no stone unturned for the development of the Vindhya region. Through various initiatives in electricity, roads, water, irrigation, and education, comprehensive development has been achieved Responding to the people's warm reception during his visit to Rewa,

Development Projects Worth Rs. 161.35 Crore Inaugurated

for the blessings. Committed to Women's

Empowerment

The Chief Minister remarked that the revering the daughters has been a tradition in Indian society. Earlier, they were considered a burden in family's future. Daughters were seen as a liability and were even subjected to infanticide. The State Government is committed to altering this scenario. The Ladli Lakshmi Yojana has been launched with the goal that every girl child become wealthy. The government ensured 50% reservation for

posts in police force For Women's Self-Reliance The Chief Minister introduced the Scheme as part of women's empow-

women in Panchayat and urban body

elections, teachers, reserved 30 %

erment efforts. The aim of providing Rs. 1000 to sisters is to allow them to spend money as per their needs and wish. This empowers them. They can fulfill their small requirements without depending on others. Following the launch of the scheme, several Laldali Bahana have used the money to pay their children's fees, purchase clothing, books, and other items. Many are also utilizing the funds to start their own business ventures such as tea shops and tailoring busi-

The Chief Minister Chouhan performed the groundbreaking ceremony for development projects and inaugurated completed projects costing Rs. 161.35 Crore. This included the construction of a new 30-bedded community health center building and 2 E/F/G type housing units each in Rhat and Reeva Development Blocks, establishment of 6 lecture halls at Madho Sadashivarao Degree College Reeva, increase in the capacity of PG seats for boys and girls at Shyam Shah Medical College, construction of the Coal Building, construction of additional district panchayat building, construction of the Gargan Tola road from Reeva Sirmori Main Road, construction of the Malihan Tola to Sagar Road from Sirmori Main Road, construction of the Hariharapur approach road from Reeva Mankahari Road, and development work on the Shradhanagar Karaiha Railway Station road.

Saint Ravidas preserved Indian culture and harmony: CM Chouhan

Team Absolute Bhopal

he Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan today reviewed the preparations for function to be addressed by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi on August 12 at Dhana village after visiting the construction site of Saint Ravidas Temple being built at Badtuma in Sagar district. Prime Minister Narendra

Modi will lay the foundation stone of Saint Shiromani Ravidas Ji's grand temple and huge memorial at Badtuma (Sagar) on August 12 worth Rs 100 crore. Minister incharge Dr. Arvind Bhadoria, Public Works Minister Gopal Bhargava, Urban Development and Housing Minister Bhupendra Singh, Revenue Minister Govind Singh Rajput, MLAs Shailendra Jain, Pradeep Laria, Mineral Corporation Vice Chairman Rajendra Mokalpur, Mayor Sangeeta Tiwari, Gaurav Sirothia, Prabhu Dayal Patel, Lata Wankhede, Shailesh Kesharwani, Anil Tiwari and many public representatives

were present as well. CM Chouhan inspected the stage, helipad, dome of the venue and apprised himself about other facilities from the officials. Shivraj Singh Chouhan said that



Saint Ravidas Maharaj has done unparalleled work for Indian culture and Samrasta (harmony). Saint Ravidas valued Karma. Whatever he earned through hard work, he dedicated it to the saint service and the society. Numerous kings and Mirabai were also his disciples. Saint Ravidas was a harbinger of social harmony in true sense.

CM Chouhan said that he

announced the construction

of Saint Ravidas temple in

Sagar, regarding this a majes tic temple will be built. He informed that all the preparations have been completed at the venue. Every citizen of Sagar district is fortunate that the global leader and eminent Prime Minister Narendra Modi is arriving on August 12 for the Bhoomi-Pujan prior to construction of a temple in the district. Chouhan said that the temple will be built in Nagar

Interpretation museum will be built. Along with culture and creativity, a museum will also be constructed to exhibit the works and personality of Saint Ravidas. Four galleries will be set-up in the museum, in which the path of devotion, contribution to the Nirgun cult, philosophy of the Saint and his literature, details of Samrasta (harmony) will be provided. Apart from the library, Sangat Hall, Jal Kund, Bhakt Niwas will also be built, which will be equipped with spiritual facilities. Devotees and scholars of Saint Ravidas from India and abroad will come to Bhakt Niwas, who will be inspired from the life of the Saint. An eatery will be constructed on 15,000 square feet. The temple will have two grand entrances, CCTV cameras and lighting

"Dead" Beneficiaries, Double Claim : **Madhya Pradesh Health Scheme Shocker**

Bhopal/New Delhi: The Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) has flagged serious irregularities in the Centre's ambitious Ayushman Bharat scheme in Madhya Pradesh.

The pan-India audit found that more than? 1.1 crore was paid to about 403 patients who had been declared "dead" in the database.

8,000 patients were shown to be hospitalised at multiple hospitals across the state during the same period, it said.

The audit names 24 state hospitals, including a government hospital, which showed much higher occupancy than the actual bed-strength.

25 hospitals submitted claims

surgical treatments, the audit said, "The Madhya Pradesh health authority paid full amount for both claims as against the prescribed rate of 50% payment on the second claim," it said.

The flagship scheme - implemented by the National Health Authority (NHA) - provides a health cover of Rs 5 lakh per family per year to beneficiaries.

Till date, more than 23 crore beneficiaries have been verified and issued Ayushman cards for availing free treatment under the scheme. Ayushman Bharat scheme identifies the beneficiary through Aadhaar identification, wherein the person is verified through mandatory Aadhaar

COUNTRYS FIRST UNITY MALL TO BE **BUILT IN UJJAIN: URBAN DEVELOPMENT MINISTER**

The country's first Unity Mall will be built in Ujjain. An amount of Rs 284 crore has been sanctioned by the Ministry of Finance, Government of India for its construction. Urban Development and Housing Minister Shri Bhupendra Singh has said that this achievement has been possible due to the efforts of Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan. He has directed the concerned authorities to get the Unity Mall constructed within the time limit. This approval has been given under the Government of India's "Scheme of Special Assistance to States for Capital Investment 2023-24". Unity Mall will act as a one stop market place for the promotion and sale of One District One Product, GI Products, Handicraft Products and other local products. There will be shops to display the products of every district in the state. Major products of other states will also be available in Unity Mall. Unity Mall will also have an auditorium, food stalls and a garden. It is worth mentioning that a unity mall is to be constructed in each state. Madhya Pradesh has received the initial approval from the Government of India.

Ayush Aapke Dwar Scheme

Team Absolute Bhopa

yush Aapke Dwar Scheme has been launched across the state from August 1. In this scheme of the AYUSH department, the facility of AYUSH treatment is availed for the citizens.

A public awareness camp was organised in Bhopal District Ayush dispensary at GB Pant School in Ashoka Garden, Bhopal. In the camp, the health staff along with Superintendent incharge of the District Ayurveda Hospital, Dr. Shashank Jha, and Dr. Deepshikha Singh informed



rain-borne diseases occurring during the rains. They told that there are more chances of viral fever, malaria and diarrhoea during rains. Children were advised

cleanliness. They urged children not to allow water to stagnate in open places to avoid malaria. Children were informed about the use of mosquito nets to stay safe from malaria. The children

Ayurvedic medicines were distributed to the children as per the requirement during the camp. In-charge Superintendent Bhopal District Ayurved Hospital has been made the nodal officer in Bhopal district under the scheme. The next public awareness camp in Bhopal will be organised at Sarojini Naidu Girls College in Shivaji Nagar. Even in the rural areas of the district, the staff of the

AYUSH department is visit-

ing villages and apprising the

people to avoid the diseases

were asked to jointly work

together to keep the house,

their locality and the school

premises clean.

LODHI COMMUNITY HAS ALWAYS BEEN WITH BJP, SAYS RAJPUT

Team Absolute Sagar

ransport Minister Govind Singh Rajput has said the Lodhi community has always been with the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP).

He made the statement at a function held at a hotel to honour the eminent citizens of the community on Sunday.

On the other hand, "Samrasta

Yatras" are being taken out. A function was held at a hotel in the city on Sunday to honour the eminent people of Lodhi community. Transport Minister Govind Singh Raiput was present at the function.

He welcomed the senior citizens of the community by showering flower petals People call senior citizens and eminent people to a function and send them back after delivering lectures, but this is not the tradition in the Lodhi community, he said.

The people of the community called with honour and sent them back home with respect, he said. Former chief minister Uma Bharti was to attend the function, but she could not do that because of her illness, Rajput further said.



In Surkhi assembly constituency, development work worth Rs 14,000 crore is going on, and once the BJP forms the next government, more development work will take place, he

A statue of Avanti Bai will soon be installed in Surkhi and a students

hostel worth Rs 50 lakh constructed on the demand of the people of Lodhi community, he said, adding that he would gift saris to women on the occasion of Rakshabandhan.

Legislator from Jabera assembly constituency Dharmendra Singh Lodhi, who was also present at the function, urged the people not to be misguided by the Congress.

According to Lodhi, the Congress said that the BJP would never disclose the date for building Ram temple. Nevertheless, it has happened otherwise, because the temple is ready to be inaugurated, Lodhi said.

Prime Minister Modi To Visit Madhya Pradesh On Saturday

Team Absolute Bhopal

rime Minister Narendra Modi will visit Madhya Pradesh on Saturday, where he will dedicate various projects.

At around 2:15 PM, he will reach Sagar district, where he will perform Bhoomi Poojan at Sant Shiromani Gurudev Shri Ravidas ji Memorial Sthal. At around 3:15 PM, Prime Minister will participate in a public programme at Dhana where he will lay the foundation stone for Sant Shiromani Gurudev Shri Ravidas ji Memorial, Prime Minister's Office said in a release on Thursday.

"Honouring prominent saints and social reformers has been a special hallmark of the work done by the Prime Minister. Driven by his vision, Sant Shiromani Gurudev Shri Ravidas ii Memorial will be constructed



in an area of more than 11.25 acres and at a cost of more than Rs. 100 crores," the PMO release said. The magnificent memorial will have an impressive art museum and gallery to showcase the life, philosophy and teachings of Sant Shiromani Gurudev Shri Ravidas ji. It will also have facilities for devotees visiting the memorial like Bhakt Niwas, Bhojanalay. During the programme, Prime Minister will dedicate to the nation and lay the foundasector projects worth more than Rs 4,000 crores.

Also, Prime Minister will dedicate to the nation the project marking the completion of the doubling of the Kota-Bina rail route. The project, which has been built at an estimated cost of more than Rs. 2475 crores, passes through Kota and Baran District in Rajasthan, and Guna, Ashoknagar and Sagar District in Madhya Pradesh. The additional rail line will increase capacity for better mobility and will help improve train speed along the route. Prime Minister will lay the foundation stone of two road projects at a cost of more than Rs. 1580 crores. These include a four-laning road project connecting Morikori - Vidisha - Hinotiya and a road project that will connect Hinotiya to Mehluwa.

Notice/ as on Date

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Rs. 4,72,043.00/- (Rupee:

Khadi Tiranga Prepared In MP's Gwalior Will Be Hoisted Across 22 States

Team Absolute Gwalior

Pride of our nation, the National Flag 'Tiranga' prepared in Madhya Pradesh's Gwalior district will be hoisted in various government offices across 22 states in the country this year.

Madhya Bharat Khadi Sangh located in the city prepares the Khadi National Flag only for the government bodies and it is the only Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) certified national flag manufacturing organisation in North India. This year it has received orders for around 55,000 national flags. It has supplied 14,300 flags in 22 states so far.

Secretary of Madhya Bharat Khadi Sangh, Rama Kant Sharma said, "We have made 14300 flags and supplied them in 22 states across the country so far. We have received orders around



55000 flags worth about Rs 5 crore and we have supplied flags worth Rs 1 crore so far. We have supplied the flags to Goa, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Bengal, Bihar, Andaman & Nicobar, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Delhi, Jammu & Kashmir, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Maharashtra and many

other states.'\'\'We have a staff of 222 working here. The flag is sent only after completing all the norms. It should not be considered only as a khadi cloth, it is associated with the spirit of our country, it is a symbol of our pride and a lot of standards are taken care of while

preparing the flag," he said. Sharma further says that they feel very proud that they make the national flag of the country with their hands and its demand remains the same throughout the year. This branch of Madhya Bharat Khadi Sangh, Gwalior is the only Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) certified national flag manufacturing organisation in North India, he added. The centre was established in 1930, since then it has been manufacturing the national flag continuously till date. The manager of the centre, Neelu said, "The making of the flag is being done following the entire standards of Khadi and the national flag is prepared after performing 21 types of tests. Right now we are making three sizes of flags which are of Indian Standards Institution mark (ISI) 2*3, 3*4.5, and 6*4." 50 to 60 flags are made here in a day.

ADITYA BIRLA HOUSING FINANCE LIMITED

DEMAND NOTICE

(under Rule 3 (1) of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002)
SUBSTITUTED SERVICE OF NOTICE U/s.13 (2) of SECURITISATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT, 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the borrowers as mentioned below that since they have defaulted in repayment of the Credit facility availed by them from Aditya Birla Housing Finance Limited (ABHFL) their loan accounts have been classified as Non-Performing Assets in the books of the Company as per RBI guidelines thereto. Thereafter, ABHFL has issued demand notices under section 13(2) of the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (SARFAESI Act) on the last known addresses of the said borrowers thereby call ing upon and demanding from them to repay the entire outstanding amount together with further interest at thecontractual rate on the aforesaid amount and incidental expenses, cost, charges etc as stated in the said demand notices. However, the demand notice is also being served by way of publication, as per Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 (SARFAESI Rules) Amount due as

No	Co-Guarantor & Loan A/C No.	
	BHARAT HADA, Plot No. 219 (North Part), Village- Magaipura, Shruti Shelter, Tehsil & District-Dhar, Dhar, Madhya Pradesh-454001. SHREE MATI PRAMILA HADA Plot No. 219 (North Part), Village- Magaipura, Shruti Shelter, Tehsil & District-Dhar, Dhar, Madhya Pradesh-454001. A. DIXIKA HADA Plot No. 219 (North Part), Village- Magaipura, Shruti Shelter, Tehsil & District-Dhar, Dhar, Madhya Pradesh-454001. SHABER MATI PRAMILA HADA H.No. 219, Sundaravan Colony, Near Dhar Nursing College, Dhar, Madhya Pradesh-454001. SHREE MATI PRAMILA HADA H.No. 219, Sundaravan Colony, Near Dhar Nursing College, Dhar, Madhya Pradesh-454001. DIXIKA HADA H.No. 219, Sundaravan Colony, Near Dhar Nursing College, Dhar, Madhya Pradesh-454001. DIXIKA HADA H.No. 219, Sundaravan Colony, Near Dhar Nursing College, Dhar, Madhya Pradesh-454001. Thar HADA Colony, Dhar, Madhya Pradesh-45001. SHREE MATI PRAMILA HADA L102, Dindayalpuram, L.I.G Colony, Dhar, Madhya Pradesh-45001. BHARAT HADA C/O THE GOVT. PENSIONERS, At Disrict Pension Office, Dhar, Madhya Pradesh-45001.	01-0

Name and Address Borrower/ Co-Borrower and Guarantor

DESCRIPTION OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY)PROPERTIES MORTGAGED: All That Peice And Parcel Of Northern Part Of Plot No. 219, Admeasuring 450 Sq. Ft. I.E. 41.806 Sq. Mtrs., Situate At Residential Colony "Shruti Shelter", Village: Magajpura, Tehsil And District: Dhar, Madhya Pradesh-454001, And Bounded As: East: Property/Plot No. 210 West: Colony Road North Property/Plot No. 220 South: Remaining Part Of Property/Plot No. 219

We hereby call upon the borrower stated herein to pay us within 60 days from the date of this notice, the outstanding amount (s)together with further interest thereon plus cost, charges, expens es, etc. thereto failing which we shall be at liberty to enforce the security interest including but not limited to taking possession of and selling the secured asset entirely at your risk as to the cos Please note that as per section 13(13) of the SARFAESI Act, all of you are prohibited from transferring by way of sale, lease orotherwise, the aforesaid secured assets without prior written consen of the Company. Any contravention of the said section by you shall invoke the penal provisions as laid down under section 29 of the SARFAESI Act and / or any other legal provision in this regard Please note that as per sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, if the dues of ABHFL together with all costs, charges and expenses incurred by ABHFL are tendered to ABHFL at any time before

he date fixed for sale or transfer, the secured asset shall not be sold or transferred by ABHFL, and no further step shall be taken by ABHFL or transfer or sale of that secu Date: 11.08.2023 Sd/- Authorised Officer Place: INDORE (Aditya Birla Housing Finance Limited

EDITOR'S SPECS

75% Indians fear tech will replace their jobs unless they upskill

chnological disruptions are driving Indians' increased desire to upskill, . with as many as three out of four working professionals believing that technology will replace their jobs if they do not continue to develop their skill set, according to a report on Monday. The Emeritus Global Workplace *Skills Study 2023 report by edtech company* Emeritus showed that the professionals from finance and insurance (72 per cent), software and IT services (80 per cent), healthcare (81 per cent), technology and innovation (79 per cent) and professional services/consulting (78 per cent), among other industries are the most concerned about technology replacing their jobs if they do not upskill. Most Indians expressed concerns around experiencing a skill gap and feeling pressure to keep up in the fast-changing job market. Further, the study showed that the most sought-after topics for the professionals included digital marketing, data analytics, finance, management and Artificial Intelligence (AI). The need to increase self-confidence, increase their job security and enhance their skill sets, were among the key motives for Indian techies working in software and IT services to upskill. As a result of upskilling opportunities, Indian professionals also expressed satisfaction at the workplace. About 80 per cent of the respondents said they would be more loyal to their employer if they invested in con tinued education. The report is based on a survey of 6,600 professionals aged between 21 and 65 across 18 countries, including India, US, China, UK, Brazil, Mexico, and *UAE, to understand how the global work*force is leveraging online education to navigate through uncertain times. The study surveyed a total of 1,720 Indians aged between 21 and 65 years, hailing from across 20 tier-I and II cities in India.

PAKISTAN IS REPEATING ITS MODUS OPERANDI IN PUNJ

lowly but steadily the Pak-supported Khalistan movement is raising its head among the Sikh diaspora in the four countries -- Canada, Australia, the US and the UK -- where it is significant number-wise.

There is an upswing in this activity since 2022, evidently under external instigation as the call for a 'referendum' on Khalistan was given by elements known to be in cohort with Pak ISI. Khalistanis abroad are taking to violence in a manner that was designed to produce consequences in India - particularly in Punjab.Vandalism against India's diplomatic Missions abroad, defacing of temples and glorifying past incidents pertaining to Khalistan terror in India, have been resorted to in a planned way for this purpose.

In an event that marked a point of sharp escalation on the graph of this violence, the Indian Consulate in San Francisco, US was set on fire in July 2023 by a group of Khalistan separatists belonging to the newly established 'Sikhs for Justice'. This organisation put up posters calling for the 'killing' of India's top diplomats posted in Canada, the US, the UK and Australia - this was in response to the murder of Hardeep Singh Nijjar, a wanted terrorist killed in British Columbia, Canada by masked gunmen in June 2023.

Khalistan separatists in Brampton, Canada took out a 5-km-long parade on June 4, 2023, in which a float displayed the assassination of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi by Khalistan lovalists. The 'Sikhs for Justice' conducted a 'referendum' for a separate Khalistan, in Canada, the US, the UK and Australia in 2022. In Canada, one crore Sikhs out of a total of eight crores took part in it which was not insignificant. In Australia, the event was organised at Federation Square Melbourne in January 2023 and it led to a clash between Khalistanis and pro-India supporters.

In an early incident of communal violence, Khalistan and India supporters -- numbering 400-500 -- clashed in Mississauga Ontario, Canada on the eve of Diwali in October 2022 While Canada witnessed several incidents of defacing of temples, events also occurred in January 2023 in Australia in which three major temples were defiled by way of painting of anti-India slogans on their walls. In February 2023, the Indian Consulate in Brisbane, Australia was targeted by pro-Khalistan separatists who installed a Khalistan flag on its premises.

On March 19, 2023, a group of Khalistan activists in an auditions act, vandalised the Indian High Commission in London, took out the Indian flag, and tried to install a Khalistan flag there.

What is clearly a cause for serious concern

is that these subversive activities abroad have been accompanied by some violent actions in

Indian Intelligence found that there was infiltration of Khalistan protagonists in the farmer's agitation of 2020 and Amritpal Singh. a known advocate of Khalistan and promoter of the Bhindranwale cult, came to India from Dubai and visited sites of protesting farmers.

On January 26, 2021, farmers instigated by Khalistan elements entered Red Fort in Delhi and hoisted the Nishan Sahib flag there. The 'Sikhs for Justice' announced a reward of Rs 2.5 crores for unfurling the Khalistan flag at the Indian Parliament.

In February 2023, Amritpal Singh along with thousands of his supporters some of them armed and also carrying Guru Granth Sahib, raided Ajnala Police Station near Amritsar and secured the release of Lovepreet Singh Toofan, an aide of Amritpal Singh who had been earlier arrested for violence.

Amritpal Singh who had in the meanwhile visited village Rode in Moga district - the birthplace of Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale - as part of his plan to imitate Bhindranwale and spread the ideas of the founder of the Khalistan movement, was arrested in April 2023. It may be recalled that Canada had in 1980 provided sanctuary to dreaded Khalistan terrorists like Jagjeet Singh Chauhan and Talwinder Singh Parmar. Designated terrorist Arshdeep Singh Gill of Khalistan Tiger Force is also sheltered in Canada.

The threat of Khalistan terror has in a major way originated and sustained by Canada since Prime Minister Trudeau had been politically dependent on the support of the Sikh separatists there. India has now taken a serious view of Canada pursuing this unfriendly line towards this country because of 'vote bank politics, On March 2023, Indian High Commission had to cancel an event in British Columbia, Canada as some 200 Khalistanis - some with swords - gathered before the venue to protest against the arrest of Amritpal Singh in India.

Over these last two years, the activities of Khalistan separatists have gathered pace both in countries like Canada, Australia, the US and the UK as well as in India, clearly indicating the desperation of Pakistan about reviving the terror profile of the Eighties in the border state of Punjab.

The prolonged spell of Khalistan terror in Punjab in the 1980s was broken by a highly successful Operation Black Thunder in 1988 after which the violence had tapered off there. This had compelled Pakistan to launch a new phase of militant separatism in Kashmir in the name of Jehad - in replacement of the slogans of Plebiscite and Aazadi - in what came to be known as the K2 plan of the ISI.

Pakistan is now active in recreating trouble in Punjab because India had made progress in controlling cross-border terrorism in Kashmir in the period following the abrogation of Article 370 of the Constitution. This replay of Pak ISI's plan against India is being firmly countered by this country.

Pakistan is replicating the modus operandi that had been successfully used by it in Punjab in the 1980s - reflected in the threefold strategy of pressing into the use of locally fabricated IEDs like a 'cycle bomb' to create an atmosphere of fear, spreading 'Amritdhari' movement through Gurdwaras and precipitating the communal divide in the state by instigating violence against Hindus - resulting in cases of massacre of Hindu passengers travelling by bus.

Attacks on our diplomatic missions and cases of vandalisation of temples abroad are aimed at injecting an atmosphere of communal divide in Punjab. This time around, however, Hindu-Sikh unity in Punjab against any return of terrorist violence there has proved to be the biggest obstacle in the path of the adversary. Nonetheless, the spread of the 'Amritdhari' cult is going on particularly in the sensitive border districts of the state through selected Gurdwaras for the purpose of raising potential militants. Communal division if instigated in a sustained way - in a state where there is a history of religion being mixed with politics - can grow how so ever slowly. The planned use of locally made IEDs would comparatively be an easier part in Punjab where arms and drugs are being dropped by the enemy through the deployment of drones and this can be set in motion at the opportune time.

The learning for policymakers and the national security set-up is that an all-out effort has to be made to nip the trouble in the bud, in Punjab.

Diplomatic, political and police measures have to be put in place to stop in time any further deterioration of the situation in Punjab.

India has already stepped up its diplomatic offensive to warn countries like Canada, Australia and even the UK not to allow militant anti-India activities of Khalistan separatists on the tenuous plea of freedom of expression and named Canada for inaction on account of considerations of 'vote bank' politics. India has to counter the pro-Pak lob bies active internationally and supported by China in pursuance of the Sino-Pak axis that had become particularly strong after the takeover of Kashmir by the Centre here.

There is a possibility of Islamic militancy and Khalistan separatism working together.

The present state government in Punjab has to rise

above any approach of political ambiguity while handling the emerging problem and become aware of the dire need for keeping politics above issues of national security. Unity of Puniabis rooted in the common belief in the values taught by Guru Nanak has to be preserved and promoted.

It is advisable to consider putting Punjab under a Governor with national security background to suitably guide the state and educate the state government on the developing situation. A civilian who had direct knowledge of the way terrorism had grown in Punjab in the '80s and who was adept at dealing with the Army on a note of mutual respect, should fill the bill.

Punjab needs mature handling in liaison with the national security set-up and calls for a smooth Centre-State relationship for advancing the larger interest of the state and the nation. The developing scene of revival of Khalistan separatism in Punjab has to be seen in the context of the national security horizon of India which is presently marked by a rising trend of external threats becoming the main cause for endangering our internal security.

The return of the Taliban Emirate at Kabul gave a strategic advantage to Pakistan over India in Afghanistan, deepening of strategic partnership between Pakistan and China that worked primarily against India internationally and the emergence of social media as a weapon of 'information warfare' and an instrument for 'radicalisation' and recruitment of terrorists, are the major areas of security concern for India that required an effective new strategy and added to the challenges facing the Intelligence agencies.

China and Pakistan are working in collaboration to exploit whatever opportunities they had for fishing in the troubled waters here. Apart from the faith-based terrorism Pak ISI could foment in India taking advantage of communal discords that this country remained prone to, the Sino-Pak axis could be working to create further problems in Kashmir, Punjab and the North East through

clandestine funding, weapon supply and dropping of narcotics using drones. This is already happening on a significant scale adding a new dimension to the proxy war India was facing for years. It is in this context that Punjab needs urgent attention and steps directed at countering the threat of Khalistan militancy that was evidently raising its head

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

international

41 MIGRANTS FEARED DEAD IN LATEST MEDITERRANEAN SHIPWRECK

Rome | Agencies

feared dead in the latest shipwreck on the treach erous route across the central Mediterranean.

The deaths were reported by four survivors of the tragedy who were brought to the southern Italian island of Lampedusa on Wednesday, reports Xinhua news agency. According to media

reports, the four survivors were rescued by the Rimona, a Maltese cargo ship.

The victims were taken to the Italian coast guard, which brought them to Lampedusa for treatment on Wednesday. The survivors said the boat carrying 45 would-be asylum

seekers left Tunisia for Lampedusa on August 3. It appears the vessel capsized either late August 3 or

in the early hours of the next

day, and the four survivors

managed to stay afloat by clinging to wreckage of the

They subsequently found an empty boat at sea, before being rescued by the Rimona.

In a joint statement, the International Organization for Migration, the UN Refugee Agency, and the Unicef expressed their "deep est condolences for the loss

of dozens of lives" in the

shipwreck.
"Today's numbers add to the growing death toll of shipwrecks in the Central Mediterranean. According to IOM's Missing Migrants Project, more than 1,800 people have already been reported dead and missing along the route this year," said the statement.

On Sunday, about 57 people were rescued after two ships sank between Tunisia

and Lampedusa within a few hours of each other, while 32 missing from the two vessels.

Also on Sunday, 34 refugees were rescued after being stranded for 36 hours on a steep cliffside in Lampedusa, after their ship hit rocks just off the island. Rough waters made a rescue by sea impossible, but the victims were eventually lifted to safety by helicopter.

According to the Italian Interior Ministry, nearly 92,000 refugees from Africa, the Middle East, and beyond have landed on the country's shores so far this year, more than double the amount that arrived in the country during the same period last year, and three times the number from 2021.

The IOM has reported nearly 134,000 migrant arrivals in Europe so far in

43 injured in blast at Moscow plant: **Authorities**

Moscow: Forty-three people have been injured so far in a blast at an optical-mechanical plant in the city of Sergiev Posad in the Moscow region, ocal authorities said The exr pened on Wednesday morning at around 10:40 a.m. local time at a pyrotechnics warehouse, which was being rented out on the optical-mechanical plant's territory by a private company, said Governor of the Moscow Region Andrei Vorobiev in a Telegram post. Among the injured, five are currently in critical condition,

according to preliminary information provided by local authorities. Moreover, five people could still be trapped in the rubble.Vorobiev said people have been evacuated from all the buildings and workshops of the plant, as well as from a kindergarten close to the factory, Xinhua news agency reported. He also added that a sport complex near the plant had been damaged, as well as windows in nearby residential buildings.Local media citing a State Duma deputy, suggested that the blast could have occurred due to a "violation of technological processes".

In response, Russia's Investigative Committee has initiated a criminal case into the incident.

Death toll in landslides, floods in Nepal rises to 41

Kathmandu | Agencies

he death toll in monsoonincluding floods and landslides, in Nepal in the last two months, has risen to 41, according to the country's home ministry.

As many as 50 out of 77 districts were affected, said the ministry, and at least 55 people were injured in rain-

related incidents in the districts, Home Ministry's Disaster and Conflict Management Division Chief, Joint-Secretary Mahadev Panth said.

According to the ministry, loss of lives has been reported in 20 out of 50 disaster-hit districts.

Likewise, people from six districts, including Sankhuwasabha, Taplejung, Panchthar, Dolakha, Makawanpur, and Mahottari, went missing in the disastrous incidents, Panth informed.

As per the data compiled by the ministry, 55 people from 28 districts have sustained injuries. In the incidents, a

total of 130 houses were completely damaged while 193 houses partially A huge loss of lives and properties

was reported in the eastern districts of Nepal, including Panchthar, Sankhuwasabha, and Taplejung.

The incidents of intermittent downpours during the monsoon triggered floods and landslides in different districts. Some districts are yet to witness rainfalls in the monsoon. Still, the country is reeling under the risk of monsoon-induced disasters like landslides, floods, and inundation.

Dam partially collapses in Norway amid extreme flooding

Oslo Agencies

dam at a Norwegian power plant partially collapsed after extensive flooding caused by storm

The dam in Braskereidfoss, about 150 km northeast of the capital Oslo, spans Norway's longest river, the Glomma, reports Xinhua news agency. An unexpected deluge caused by a technical malfunction on Wednesday prevented the dam's floodgates from operating properly.Police evacuated 15 to 20 nearby households as the Glomma's water levels continued to rise

Aviation restrictions were also put in place around the Braskereidfoss power plant, specifically targeting nonessential flights.

Akershus Energi, which



operates three power stations downstream from Braskereidfoss, has emphasized its contingency measures for floods.

These include the removal of river debris, such as large

Storm Hans has been battering Norway since Monday, resulting in over 4,000 reports of damages to properties.

According to the Norwegian Nature Damage Pool and Finans Norge, the

organisation for compensation for natural disasters in Norway, the destruction could cost an estimated 900 million kroner (\$88 million).

With 114 county roads and many national roads now inaccessible due to flooding and landslides, the Norwegian Public Roads Administration has deployed a national emergency response team to the mostaffected areas, especially Innlandet.

Washington | Agencies

man who allegedly made threats against US President Joe Biden ahead of the latter's trip to the state of Utah, was shot dead during a Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) raid, media reports said.

The raid occurred on Wednesday in Provo, about 65 km south of state capital Salt Lake City, while FBI agents were attempting to serve an arrest warrant against the accused person, Craig Robertson at his home, just hours ahead of the President's planned visit, reports the

The agents were giving commands to the man when he pointed a gun at them, CNN quoted a law enforcement source as saying.

The FBI has not provided any further information on the incident. Robertson was facing three federal charges, including threats against the President as well as influencing,

impeding and retaliating against



Man who threatened Biden shot dead during FBI raid

federal law enforcement officers by

Investigators noted that

Robertson appeared to owns "a sniper rifle" and several other

Some of the threats happened just ahead of Biden's planned trip to Utah on Wednesday evening.

"I hear Biden is coming to Utah," one threat read.

"Digging out my old Ghille suit and cleaning the dust off the M24 sniper rifle. Welcome buffoon-in-

The US Secret Service, which is responsible for protection of highlevel government officials, including Biden, said that it is "aware of the FBI investigation involving an individual in Utah who has exhibited threats to a Secret Service protectee".Robertson also posted online threats in recent months againsy Attorney General Merrick Garland, Vice President Kamala Harris, New York State Attorney General Letitia James, California Governor Gavin Newsom and New York District Attorney Alvin Bragg.

Biden will now make his first visit to Utah as president on Thursday, with a visit to a veterans' hospital and a fundraising event in Park City.



maharashtra

PEOPLE OF COUNTRY HAVE REPEATEDLY EXPRESSED **NO CONFIDENCE IN OPPOSITION: CM EKNATH SHINDE**

Team Absolute Mumbai

aharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde on Thursday said that people of the country have repeatedly expressed their no confidence in the opposition, adding that the opposition is furious over the recognition Prime Minister Narendra Modi gets worldwide for his leader-

Chief Minister Eknath Shinde took to Twitter and said, "The opposition party, which has lost confidence across the country, has presented a no-confidence motion in the Parliament. In fact, by discussing this proposal, the opposition is getting its clothes torn apart. On the occasion of Amrit Mahotsav of the country's independence, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has started development and reforms across the country and that's why the opponents are full

"More development has been done in the last 9 years than what was done during the 55-60 years of Congress. Seeing the recognition that the Prime



Minister's leadership is getting all over the world, the opposition has become furious," he further tweeted.

CM Shinde further stated that citizens of this country have expressed their faith in PM Modi in the years

"The people of the country have repeatedly expressed their no confidence in the opposition. In 2014 and 2019, common citizens showed deep

faith in PM Modi. There is no doubt

in anyone's mind that in the year

2024, it will increase," CM Eknath

Shinde tweeted. CM Shinde further exude confidence and said that NDA's position will become more powerful after the discussion ends on the No confidence motion

"For the last two days, the whole country is watching how they are facing the no-confidence motion. I have no doubt that after this discussion the position of the Prime Minister and the NDA constituents will be strengthened," he tweeted.

Ahead of PM Modi's reply in the Lower House today, Rashtriya Janata Dal (RID) MP Manoj Kumar Jha said that the no-confidence motion was not brought for numbers

"The no-confidence motion was not brought for numbers. We know that you (NDA) have the majority. We are hoping to hear a word from you (PM Narendra Modi) on Manipur. Manipur has been impatiently waiting to hear from the PM. It has been burning for three months," he said.

Lok Sabha has been debating the no-confidence motion since Tuesday with the opposition and government discussing the situation in Manipur.

Tushar Gandhi files complaint against right-wing leader for Mahatma Remarks

Team Absolute Pune

ushar Gandhi, the great-grandson of Mahatma Gandhi, lodged a police complaint in Maharashtra's Pune city against right-wing leader Sambhaji Bhide for his alleged derogatory remarks against the Father of the Nation, an official said.

Bhide, known as 'Bhide Guruji' among his followers, is accused of making offensive remarks about Mahatma Gandhi's lineage in his speech during a programme in Amravati district in the last week of July

Following his remarks, first information reports (FIRs) were registered in Amravati and Nashik against Bhide, the founder of the Shri Shiv Pratishthan Hindustan outfit.

Tushar Gandhi, along with advocate Asim Sarode and other people, visited the Deccan Gymkhana police station in Pune city today and submitted the complaint against Bhide. They sought registration of a case under Indian Penal Code (IPC) sections 499 (defamation), 153 (A) (promoting enmity between different groups) and 505 (statements conducing to public mischief).

Talking to reporters, Gandhi said, " Bhide has passed a derogatory statement not just against Bapu, but also made insulting remarks against his family. The state home minister assured a strong action, but it seems no action



According to Gandhi, they have sought action against Bhide under the IPC sections and filed a complaint application against him.

A senior official of the Deccan police station said, "We have received the complaint application from Gandhi and we are looking

Bhide has drawn flak for his controversial comments in the past as well. On August 7, the Navi Mumbai police had registered an FIR him following a complaint over his alleged derogatory comments against Gautam Buddha and social reformers Mahatma Jyotiba Phule and Periyar.

Mumbai MLA's son accused of kidnapping bizman at gunpoint

Team Absolute Mumbai

case has been registered against Raj Surve, son of Shiv Sena MLA Prakash Surve, for kidnapping and assaulting a businessman, police said.

The victim, 36, is a CEO of a Mumbai-based music company who was allegedly kidnapped from his office. He was later rescued by the police after a chase.

The police have named Surve, Manoj Mishra, owner of Adi Shakti Private Limited music company, and at least 10 others in the

According to the FIR, the victim was kidnapped, taken to the MLA's office, and forced to sign some documents at gunpoint. The local police intervened after being informed of the incident and rescued the man. A case was then registered under the Kidnapping and Arms Act.

The police said that unidentified persons entered the CEO's office located in Chintamani Classique complex in suburban Goregaon in Mumbai and took him away after threatening him with the names of a political leader and a person with whom he had a financial dispute.CCTV footage shows a group of 10-15 people forcibly entering an office,



assaulting the staff, and forcibly taking away one person. The kidnappers then left in two cars with the victim. An office staffer immediately called the police control room and reported the incident.

The police immediately swung into action and after a chase, managed to track down the vehicle in Dahisar (East) in north Mumbai.

The case involves a loan of?8 crore that was given to the owner of a YouTube channel named Adishakti Films with the understanding that it would be used to create content. The owner is accused of not returning the money and using the incident as an excuse to cancel the agreement.

SONU SOOD HELPS MAN FROM BIHAR TO CLEAR DEBTS BOLLYWOOD ACTOR AND HUMANITARIAN **SONU SOOD HELPED**

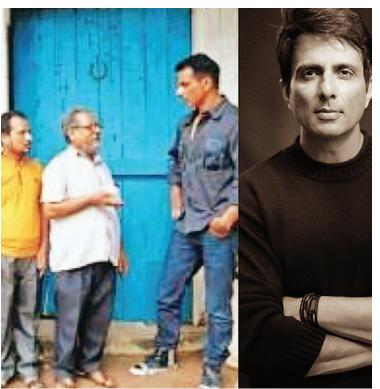
A 65-YEAR-OLD MAN FROM BIHAR TO HELP HIM CLEAR HIS DEBTS.

Team Absolute | Mumbai

he man named Khilanand Jha travelled all the way to Mumbai only to meet Sonu, whom he fondly refers to as 'Gareebo Ka Masiha' or the Messiah of the Poor.

Jha's story, riddled with struggles and financial burdens, touched Sonu's heart, prompting him to lend him a helping hand.

For the unversed, Jha's wife, Minoti Paswan, passed away earlier this year after a paralytic stroke, leaving him with a debt of Rs 12 lakh for her medical expenses. With creditors demanding the clearance of payment, he sought Sonu's assistance



after hearing about his efforts to help the less fortunate during the pan-

Jha, accompanied by his son, recently met Sonu at his office. The actor empathised with the elderly man's situation and readily agreed to offer him support.

Recently, Sonu was honoured with a well crafted massive pop art piece which spans over an enormous 1.17 lakh sq ft at the village of Ajitwal, in the Moga district of Punjab.

The actor shared a video of the same on his Instagram handle and thanked the team for their efforts. Sonu wrote, '1.17 Lakh Sq Feet of pure love. Humbled beyond words.

Thanks a ton for your wishes.' On the Bollywood front, Sonu will next be seen in 'Fateh', which is inspired by real-life incidents and will feature high-octane action

The action-thriller is helmed by Abhinandan Gupta, who earlier worked as an assistant director in films such as 'Bajirao Mastani' and

Helicopter carrying CM Eknath Shinde to Satara diverted to Mumbai due to bad

Mumbai: On Thursday, a helicopter carrying CM Eknath Shinde to Sa from Mumbai was diverted due to bad weather, a senior official of aviation regulator DGCA said. The DGCA official informed that the helicopter landed safely.

The helicopter later took off for Satara, at 3.30 pm when the weather conditions improved," the DGCA official said. "EC 145 type of helicopter of the Govt of Maharashtra with CM on board got airborne at 12.30 pm from the Raj Bhavan helipad (in south Mumbai) for the Dare helipad (near Satara city). Enroute the helicopter encountered bad weather and diverted back to the Juhu aerodrome (in Mumbai) and landed safely," the official of the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) said.

Reliance ARC challenges RBI Circular on Swiss Challenge as being discriminatory and arbitrary

Team Absolute Mumbai

he Reliance Asset Reconstruction Company (RARC), a subsidiary of Reliance Capital Ltd., has challenged the Reserve Bank of India's Master Circular on the Swiss Challenge Mechanism as being discriminatory, unjust and arbitrary.

Reliance Capital has recently been acquired by the Hinduja Group company, IIHL through NCLT.

In a writ petition filed before the Bombay High

Court, the Reliance ARC has stated that clause 85 of the RBI's Master Direction (Transfer of Loan Exposure) accords unlimited rights to the Anchor Bidder to match any bid in the Swiss Challenge process, which discourages the competition from the other prospective bidders and defeats the principle of maximization of value for the banks and lenders.

As per the clause 85 of the Master Direction, in a Swiss Challenge process once an Asset Reconstruction Company (ARC) has placed a bid for acquiring a stressed asset or NPA it is automatically accorded the status of Prospective Transferee or Anchor Bidder. Consequently, such Anchor Bidder gets an unlimited Right of First Refusal (RoFR) to match the highest bid

RELIANCE

ASSET RECONSTRUCTION

which is received during the Swiss Challenge Process, without any requirement to improve the bid. The petition elaborated that this unlimited right of

the Anchor Bidder is antithetical to the competition as the other prospective bidders/challenge bidders participating in the Swiss Challenge process know in advance that any bid they may submit will be matched by the Anchor Bidder. The Anchor Bidder does not even have to beat the counter bid. It just has to match it, and hence, the challenger bidder practically stands no chance of emerging as the winner.



This unlimited right vested in the anchor bidder is violative of the principles of equity and natural justice, and hence the clause 85(d) of the RBI Circular is liable to be struck down

The petition further states that an anchor bidder is given an undue and unfair advantage even before the actual Swiss Challenge is carried out, as the RBI Circular allows the lenders to accept a bid from the anchor bidder without a price discovery process which is not reflective of transparency or equal oppor-

Notably, Reliance ARC is one of the three shortlisted Asset Reconstruction Companies (ARCs) who are allowed to participate in the Swiss Challenge process being conducted by the SBI Caps for the sale of Vidarbha Industries Power Ltd.'s (VIPL) debt. The two other shortlisted ARCs are Aditya Birla ARC and ARCIL. The lenders of VIPL have declared a Rs 1,220 crore bid submitted by the Ahmadabad based CFM ARC as the anchor bid.

The Reliance ARC apprehends that in the Swiss Challenge process being carried out for the sale of VIPL debt, the anchor bidder, CFM Asset Reconstruction Company, with an unlimited right to match the counter bids from challenger bidders, will ultimately emerge as the winner by following a process which is both, discriminatory and arbitrary.

The petition states that CFM ARC has been selected as the Anchor Bidder without any non refundable predeposit, while the other prospective bidders in the Swiss Challenge process are forced to provide a nonrefundable fee of Rs 10 lakh while submitting the Expression of Interest (EOI). Further, the prospective bidders are also required to submit a bid bond of RS

Bombay High Court summons 6 municipal commissioners over poor condition of Mumbai roads

Team Absolute Mumbai

ombay High Court has summoned six municipal commissioners of Mumbai to remain present in a contempt petition related to potholes on roads.

The court in its order directed the presence of the Commissioner, Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai, Commissioner, Navi Mumbai Municipal Corporation, Commissioner, Kalyan Dombivali Municipal Corporation, Commissioner, Vasai Virar Municipal Corporation, Commissioner, Mumbai Metropolitan Regional Development Authority. Court also directed the Commissioner, Thane Municipal Corporation and Commissioner, Mira Bhayander Municipal Corporation to remain present in the court. The court in its order requested the presence of the commissioners to



explain why they should not be made liable for disobedience and non-compliance of the judgment dated February 24 and April 12, 2018, passed by this Court in PIL No.71 of

"Despite the aforesaid observations made by the Court, it appears that adequate measures have not been taken by the respective Corporations to ensure strict compliance of the order dated 24th February and 12th

April 2018," the court noted. The court issued directions after listening to the Public interest Litigation petition filed by advocate Ruju R. Thakker.

Journalist beaten up in Jalgaon; opposition leaders condemn attack

Team Absolute Mumbai

journalist with a regional daily was attacked by a group of persons in Maharashtra's Jalgaon district, police said on Thursday

Leader of Opposition in the state assembly Vijay Wadettiwar and Shiv Sena (UBT) MP Sanjay Raut condemned the attack and alleged that "goons" of local Shiv Sena MLA Kishor Patil were behind it.

However, Kishor Patil denied the charge and said he had no connection with the incident, which took place in Pachora area of Jalgaon on Wednesday afternoon, the news agency reported.

The journalist, Sandeep Mahajan, had reported about



a case of rape and murder of a minor girl in Pachora area and criticised Chief Minister Eknath Shinde over the incident. An audio clip recently went viral on social media wherein Pachora legislator Patil was purportedly heard

abusing the journalist. Patil said, "I had verbally abused him (Mahajan) as

there were strong reasons for it. However, I have no connection with the attack that has taken place. I was in Mumbai when the incident occurred. I do not support this

attack." Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) working president

Supriya Sule also con-

demned the incident and demanded that the state government take action against the attackers. A video of the incident

went viral on social media platforms in which journalist Sandeep Mahajan was seen being pulled down from his two-wheeler and kicked and punched by some persons.

22 female waiters among 34 booked for indulging in 'obscene acts' at bar

Team Absolute Thane

he Thane Police in Maharashtra have registered a case against 34 persons, including 22 women waiters, after conducting a raid at a bar in Bhiwandi tehsil of Thane district, where they found the accused allegedly indulging in obscene acts, an official said on Thursday.

The operation was conducted in Rahnal village on Wednesday night, an official said."After receiving a complaint against the bar, a police team raided it around 9.45 pm on Wednesday and found the accused indulging in obscene acts," the police official said.

A case was registered against nine customers, 22 women waiters, the owner and two managers of the bar, he said. They were booked under Indian Penal Code (IPC) sections 294 (obscene acts and songs) and 34 (common intention), the official said. Nobody has been arrested in this connection and a probe is on, the police said.

Meanwhile, earlier, in March, the Police raided an orchestra bar here in Maharashtra and arrested seven people for allegedly flouting rules and indulging in obscene acts, an official said on Wednesday.

Following a complaint and a tip-off, officials of the Mira Bhayander-Vasai Virar police's anti-human trafficking cell (AHTC) raided the bar located in Kashimira area on the intervening night of Monday-Tuesday, a senior police official had said. The police found some women indulging in obscene acts in the premises. he said. Seven people, including the bar contractor, manager and a male singer, were arrested, the official said. Search was on for the bar owner, he said.

hollywood





Los Angeles | Agencies **KARDASHIAN** s Taylor Swift takes her Eras Tour to Asia, with her first stop being Japan, Meghan Markle was spotted the night before the singer headed out for the country in her Los Angeles gig, while her husband Prince Harry was in Tokyo for busi-

> gets 'life-saving' MRI scan for over Rs 2 lakh

> > Los Angeles | Agencies

eality TV star Kim Kardashian has undergone a full-body MRI scan costing \$2,500, which is approximately over Rs 2 lakh. She says the Prenuvo can, which can detect 500 abnormalities and diseases, has been "life-saving" and "really saved some of my friends lives," reports aceshowbiz.com.

Alongside a picture of herself standing next to the machine, she wrote on Instagram: "I recently did this @prenuvo scan and had to tell you all about this life saving machine. The Prenuvo fullbody scan has the ability to detect cancer and diseases such as aneurysms in its earliest stages, before symptoms arise. It was like getting a MRI for an

hour with no radiation. It has really saved some of my friends lives and I just wanted to share.'

Kim's mom Kris Jenner, 67, previously had the scan for her birthday because she wants to ensure she lives "to the fullest" like her 88-yearold mother, Mary Jo "MJ" Shannon. Speaking on the fami-

said: "My birthday's coming up and every time I have a birthday, I start focusing on my health and I start thinking about what I need to do to take care of myself and be the best that I can possibly be. Getting this scan is very important because it tells me if there's anything going on in the inside that I should be wor-

ly's Hulu show 'The Kardashians', she

ried about on the inside.' She added in her confessional, "I plan on lasting a really long time. I need a lot of energy because I have this really crazy life. Six kids, 12 grandchildren, lots of other people in my life that need my energy, my attention.

ABSOLUTE PIC OF THE D



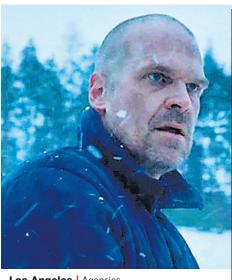
Los Angeles | Agencies

merican songwriter Sixto Diaz Rodriguez, who is just called Having started his career in the 1970's, the singer is known for garnering an Academy Award for his 2013 documentary 'Searching for Sugar Man'; but after some brief folk rock hits, he quit the music industry for a quiet life.The singer's death was later announced on his official website which stated "It is with great sadness that we at Sugarman.org announce that Sixto Diaz Rodriguez has passed away.""We extend our most heartfelt condolences to his daughters - Sandra, Eva and Regan - and to all his family. Rodriguez was 81 years old.""May His Dear Soul Rest In Peace"The singer was heavily influenced by Bob Dylan and other 1960s-'70s folk musicians such as The Band and even some other groups that used folk elements in their music as Led Zeppelin and Jethro Tull.

Early on, Rodriguez seemed a very promising success when his 1970 debut album 'Cold Fact' was released in Los Angeles and explod ed in the US. The Detroit born singer was already familiar in his home state for his club and barroom performances, and with the success of 'Cold Fact' Rodriguez was hailed by some to become the next Dylan.

While the singer was unable to repeat his success later with albums such as 'Coming From Reality' which was released in 1971, the musician had no idea of the success that he had gained outside the US.

His two albums, and particularly the song 'Sugar Man' found a massive following throughout apartheid-era South Africa as well as New Zealand and Australia where by some metrics he is estimated to be even more popular than Elvis Presley.



Los Angeles | Agencies

ctor David Harbour, who is well known for his role as police officer Jim Hopper in 'Stranger Things', has said that he is already looking to the future after completing his time in the 'Upside

According to Deadline, in an interview with the Insider, the 48-year old actor said: "The first year of 'Stranger Things', I remember having a discussion with a publicist and her saying, 'Maybe you don't want to be associated with the show so much,' and I was like, 'Why? I love this show. I love the character. And I do love the show. And I do love the character. But I don't want to be just that character. I don't want to be just

David has been in Hollywood for a long time, but never became as big a name until he starred in the sci-fi horror series which

David Harbour already looking beyond 'Stranger Things' after end of Season 5

suddenly skyrocketed his reputation, and gave him immense fame and success. Though late in his career, 'Stranger Things' earned him two Emmy Awards nominations, a Golden Globe nod and a win at the Critics Choice Television Award.

Talking about his late achievement, Harbour said: "I have always been waiting for the main roles. My 20s never worked for me. For guys like me, we're always waiting to be 40, even when we're, like, 19. We're waiting for the hairline to go. Those are the guys that I admired growing up, and those are the guys I wanted to emulate."

David later went on to draw parallels with George Clooney, as he was another actor who achieved his success late before becoming the household name that he is

Seoul | Agencies

Singer Beyonce Knowles' fans were swooning over a member of her security who went viral for his good look and priceless reaction to the "mute" part during Bey's 'Energy'

In a fan-taken video that made the rounds online, the security guard could be seen standing on the side of the stage in a sleek suit. When the crowds went silent following the Grammy winner's cue, the man could be seen giving Beyhives a little smirk of approval, reports aceshowbiz.com.

Fans later did a little investigation on the good looking bodyguard and quickly found his Instagram account. The man, who is now identified as professional body builder named James Plaza, further impressed fans with his posts on

the photo-sharing platform. I grew up watching these movies so don't mind me I'm just living a dream #rocky #rockybalboa #boxing #tourist #movies #80s #running #happy #smile," he captioned a video that featured him running shirtless to the top of the stairs and reenacting Sylvester Stallone's character's iconic first pump.After the video went viral, James' Instagram followers have quadrupled. He, however, didn't seem to be comfortable with the sudden fame as his Instagram page is nowhere to be found as of Wednesday.It was reported on Wednesday that Queen Bey's July 29 and 30 performances at MetLife Stadium in East Rutherford marked the highest-grossing shows by a black artist ever. The "Break My Soul" hitmaker successfully generated \$16.541 million each night.





CHENNAIYIN FC BEAT HYDERABAD FC 3-1, MOVE TO THE TOP OF GROUP E

Guwahati | Agencies

hennaiyin FC beat Hyderabad FC 3-1 in the southern derby fixture of the 132nd Durand Cup at the Indira Gandhi Athletic Stadium and moved to the top spot in Group E, here on Thursday.

Jordan Murray, Connor Shields and an own goal from Alex Saji completed the score line for Chennaiyin while Chingelsana Singh scored for Hyderabad via a penalty.

Hyderabad FC coach Thangboi Singto lined up his team in a 3-5-2 formation while Owen Coyle started in a 4-3-3 in their first match of the Durand Cup indicating the approach of both teams in the crucial group encounter.

The match started at a frantic pace with Hyderabad earning a corner early on. Hitesh Sharma was swept off his feet by Jitheshwor Singh conceding a penalty. The resulting penalty was converted with ease by Hyderabad captain Chinglensana

Chennaiyin responded right away and equalized in the 6th minute through an own goal by Hyderabad



defender Alex Saji. Farukh Choudhary's beautiful cross from the left was deflected into his own goal by Alex in an attempt to clear.

Both defences looked nervous which were evident from the mistakes being made and one such mistake led to Chennaivin taking the lead in the

15th minute. Hyderabad goalkeeper Anui Kumar's wayward pass was intercepted by Jordan Murray who found a free Connor Shields across the box. Connor finished expertly past the goalkeeper to score his first goal in Indian football and also the lead in the game for Chennaivin.

The Marina Machans continued to put pressure on the Hyderabad side as they looked to score from every attack. Connor Shields had his shot saved by the goalkeeper. Hyderabad were lucky to break for the half with conceding just two goals.

Sports

Chennaiyin scored their third goal right from the kick off. Ayush Adhikari lifted a simple ball above the Hyderabad defence catching them napping and Jordan Murray finished expertly past Anuj Kumar to increase the gap between the sides.

The introduction of Mohammed Yasir brought some life into the attack of Hyderabad but there was no incisiveness to their attacks. Chennaiyin were in no hurry to exert pressure on their opposition as Owen Coyle brought in the changes with the match looking settled.

Vincy Barretto was threatening Hyderabad with his pace down the wings. He could have added a fourth for his side but his effort was saved by the Hyderabad keeper. Chennaiyin saw off the game to start their campaign in the Durand Cup on a high and secured top position in the

BWF World C'ships draw

Sindhu, Chirag-Satwik get first-round bye; unseeded Srikanth to open against Nishimoto

Kuala Lumpur | Agencies

ce Indian shuttler PV Sindhu and star men's doubles pair Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty have been awarded a first-round bye as the draw for the BWF World Championships was announced on Thursday.

The draw ceremony for the 28th edition of the World Championships, scheduled to be held between August 21 to 27 in Copenhagen, Denmark, was held at the Badminton World Federation headquarters in the Malaysian

Former world champion Sindhu has been seeded 16th in the women's singles draw. The five-time medallist will begin her campaign in the second round where she will be taking on either Vietnam's Thuy Linh Nguyen or familiar foe Japan's Nozomi Okuhara.

Notably, Okuhara beat Sindhu in the 2017 world badminton championships final but the Indian ace emerged on top in the 2019 final at Basel.

In the men's doubles, second seeds and bronze medallists of the previous edition, Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty will begin against either Ireland's Joshua Magee and Paul Reynolds or Australians Kenneth Zhe Hooi Choo and Ming Chuen Lim in the second round.

Meanwhile, in the men's singles, Indian shuttlers received favourable draws. India's top-ranked HS Prannoy, seeded ninth, will open his campaign against world no. 56 Kalle Koljonen of Finland. Bronze medallist from the 2021 edition, 11th seed Lakshya Sen, will open against world No. 110 Georges Julien



Paul of Mauritius

The 2021 finalist Kidambi Srikanth, 20th in the badminton world rankings, was unseeded in the draw and will face a much tougher opponent in the form of Japan's Kenta Nishimoto, who is ranked 15th in the world.

In women's doubles, 15th seeds Treesa Jolly and Gayatri Gopichand, also awarded a bye in the first round, will face either Chinese Taipei's Chang Ching Hui and Yang Chin Tun or Estonia's Kati-Kreet Marran and Helina Ruutel in second round.

Hockey India appoints Sardar Singh, Rani Rampal as chief coaches of sub-junior teams

Chennai | Agencies

ockey India on Thursday announced the decision to appoint former players, Sardar Singh and Rani Rampal as chief coaches of sub-junior boys and girls' teams, respectively.

The decision was taken by the sport's governing body after its 100th Executive Board Meeting held here.

Singh will coach the Indian U-17 boys' team while Rani Rampal will be in charge of the girls' team, Hockey India President Dr. Dilip Tirkey informed in a press conference in Chennai on Thursday. "This is a shortterm programme for me. I want to give back to the sport



which has given me so much. I will keep trying to play whenever I get a chance, I still have hope. There is a lot

of hockey left inside of me. I won't give up," said Rani on taking charge of the U17 Indian team.

SANTOS FORWARD WASHINGTON ON CHELSEA RADAR

Rio De Janeiro: Santos are in advanced talks with Chelsea to sell highly-rated forward Deivid Washington, according to

media reports in Brazil. The parties have agreed in principle to a deal worth 15 million euros with up to five million euros in bonuses, Globo Esporte reported on Wednesday

It added that the 18year-old has also received an offer from Ligue 1 outfit Monaco. Washington has made 16 first-team appearances for Santos since he was promoted from the club's youth academy in January. Chelsea currently have two other Brazilians in their senior squad: Defender Thiago Silva and midfielder Andrey Santos.

Polish sprinter Zakrzewski completes double gold at European Athletics U20



Jerusalem | Agencies

eenage Polish sensation Marek Zakrzewski clinched double gold in the men's sprint races at the 2023 European Athletics U20 Championships in Jerusalem's Givat Ram Stadium.

After triumphing in the 100meter race a day prior, 17-yearold Zakrzewski followed it up by winning the 200-meter sprint with a time of 20.63 sec-

onds. He outpaced Dutch runner Timo Spiering, who clocked 20.97, reports Xinhua.In the women's 200-meter race, Sweden's Nora Lindahl secured first place with 23.26, narrowly edging out Hungary's Alexa Sulyan by a mere eight-thousandths of a second. Dutch athlete Niels Laros showcased his prowess by claiming the men's 1,500-meter gold with a total time of three minutes and 56.78. His impressive final lap, timed at 51.35, placed him nearly three seconds ahead of the Austrian runner-up, Kevin Kamenschak. Latvia's Agate Caune dominated the women's 3,000-meter run, finishing in 8:53.20. This outstanding performance marked the second fastest in European U20 Championship history, setting a record race margin of 28 sec-

onds. Following Cypriot Valentina Savva's victory in the women's hammer throw, her compatriot Iosif Kesidis clinched silver in the men's category, registering a throw of 77.73m. The top spot was secured by Finland's Max Lampinen with a world U20 leading throw of 79.72m.

As anticipated, Serbia's Angelina Topic triumphed in the women's high jump at 1.90m. In the men's pole vault, Italy's Simone Bartelli bagged the gold with a vault of 5.40m.

Turkey's Dilek Kocak brought home the country's first gold medal from the championship by winning the women's 1,500-meter race in 4:16.86. Sweden's Jonathan Grahn took the gold in the men's 3,000 meters with a time

Danish sprinter Jonas Gunnleivsson set a national record in the men's 400 meters, finishing in 45.86. In the women's category, the Czech Republic's Lurdes Gloria Manuel dominated with a time of 51.94.

In the field events, Germany's Lasse Schulz was peerless in the men's shot put, being the only finalist to achieve over 20 meters with his 20.21m throw. The men's javelin gold went to Hungarian Gyorgy Herczeg with a throw of 79.45m.

Other notable gold medalists included the Czech Republic's Karolina Jarosova in the women's 3,000-meter steeplechase on 10:04.57 and Spain's Sofia Santacreu in the women's 10,000-meter walk, clocking a

Canadian Open

SWIATEK OUSTS PLISKOVA TO REACH ROUND OF 16, SABALENKA BEATS MARTIC

Montreal (Canada) | Agencies

fter a tough opening set, Iga Swiatek found her rhythm against Karolina Pliskova to advance to the Round of 16 at the Canadian Open, here. With her 7-6 (6), 6-2 victory against

Pliskova on Wednesday night, World No.1 Iga Swiatek has now won her opening match for the 30th consecu-If she prevails on Thursday against

Karolina Muchova and advances to the quarterfinals at the Canadian Open, Swiatek will retain the top ranking for a 72nd week. Muchova, the No.14 seed Karolina Muchova, was a 7-5, 6-4 winner over Sorana Cirstea.

This is an appealing rematch of the three-set final earlier this year at Roland Garros. The head-to-head record is 1-all. Meanwhile, world No.2



Aryna Sabalenka kicked off her campaign by defeating No.35 Petra Martic 6-3, 7-6(5) to advance to the Round of 16. Playing her first match since losing in the Wimbledon semifinals to Ons Jabeur last month, Sabalenka eased

through the first set before having to fight back in a 72-minute second set. Martic led 3-0 and served for the second set at 5-3. Sabalenka will face 15th seed Liudmila Samsonova for a spot in her 10th quarterfinal of the season.

CARLOS ALCARAZ BEATS BEN SHELTON IN OPENER

Canada: World No. 1 Carlos Alcaraz made his Toronto debut on Centre Court against promising American Ben Shelton, winning in straight sets, here.

Alcaraz has played once before in the Canadian Masters 1000 event, last summer in Montreal, falling in his opener to Tommy Paul. This year he is very much a favourite and judging by the response of the fans here it would be a real thrill to see him still standing come Sunday, reports nationalbankopen.com.

Hangzhou awarded BWF World Tour Finals hosting rights until 2026

Kuala Lumpur | Agencies

he Badminton World Federation (BWF) on Thursday named Hangzhou, China as the host city of the season-ending BWF World Tour Finals for the next four years.

Badminton's season-ending event has returned to a Chinese city after last year's edition was moved from Guangzhou to Bangkok due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

"BWF is now delighted to reveal the prestigious HSBC BWF World Tour Finals will

Future stars from Americas to battle for



World Tour Finals



head to Hangzhou for the entire cycle. Hangzhou is home of the 19th Asian Games and is the perfect

location for international badminton's showpiece event," badminton's world governing body said in a statement

The 2023 BWF World Tour Finals is scheduled to be held from December 13 to 17, more than two months after the postponed 2022 Asian Games concludes in the city.

Starting in 2023, BWF unveiled a 31-event new World Tour calendar, with more Super 1000, Super 750, and Super 500 tournaments, bringing greater prize money opportunities for players.

Boca Juniors reach Copa Libertadores last eight with win over Nacional

Buenos Aires (Argentina) | Agencies

eenager Valentin Barco converted the decisive spot-kick as Argentine giants Boca Juniors advanced to the Copa Libertadores quarterfinals by beating Uruguay's Nacional on penalties.

After a goalless draw in the first leg, Boca made an ideal start to their return fixture when Miguel Merentiel scored in the 12th minute at La Bombonera on Wednesday, Xinhua reported.

Alfonso Trezza equalized shortly after before Luis Advincula restored Boca's advantage just after halftime. Ignacio Ramirez put the visitors back on level terms thanks to Ignacio Ramirez's 75th-minute strike, forcing the match into a penalty shootout.

Ramirez and Daniel Bocanegra both sauandered their spot-kicks for the Montevideo outfit while Boca's only blemish in the shootout was a miss from Guillermo

Nineteen-year-old defender Barco then showed poise beyond his years by calmly slotting home the winning penalty and earning his team a place in the competition's last



In other Copa Libertadores fixtures on Wednesday, Palmeiras advanced after overcoming Brazilian rivals Athletico Paranaense and Deportivo Pereira progressed by edging past Independiente del Valle

final spot in U19 Men's Cricket World Cup Toronto (Canada) | Agencies

he qualifying event for the Americas region for the ICC U19 Men's Cricket World Cup will be held here from Friday with four teams ready for a week of fierce competi-

The hosts Canada, Argentina, Bermuda and the USA will compete in the Americas Qualifier with the aim to secure the 16th and final berth in the global showpiece event -- the ICC U19 Men's Cricket World Cup 2024, where the best young cricketers on the planet will feature.

Between August 11-18, 12 matches are set to take place across two historic venues in the city, the Toronto Cricket Skating and Curling Club -one of the oldest cricket clubs in the country dating back to 1827, and the

Maple Leaf Cricket Club. Canada have a strong record at this



event having emerged victorious in each of the past five U19 Qualifier tournaments, and they will be hoping to start well once more in their opening match against Argentina, while in the other fixture that day, the USA

take on Bermuda.

With only one spot up for grabs, the round-robin format will see the table-topping side secure passage through to the U19 Men's Cricket World Cup, which returns to Sri

Lanka for the first time since 2006.

Awaiting the victors will be a spot alongside other regional winners in the pathway; Nepal (Asia), New Zealand (EAP), Namibia (Africa), and the winners of the Europe Qualifier, which concludes on Saturday.

These teams will compete alongside 11 automatically qualified nations by being the best-placed Full Member nations at the previous event in 2022, including defending champions India. In all, 16 teams will be competing in the ICC U19 Men's Cricket World Cup Sri Lanka 2024 over 41 matches. As of now, 11 teams have automatically qualified for the event as the best-placed Full Member nations from the previous event in 2022. The teams already qualified are Afghanistan, Australia, Bangladesh, England, India, Ireland, Pakistan, South Africa, Sri Lanka, West Indies and Zimbabwe.

entertainment

Second Front Page



Kartik Aaryan blushes at getting proposed for marriage by a fan in Melbourne

Team Absolute Mumbai

ollywood's chocolate boy Kartik Aaryan was proposed by a fan in Melbourne, where his film 'Satyaprem Ki Katha' was being premiered. Kartik was seen attending the premiere of 'Satyaprem Ki Katha' at the Indian Film Festival of Melbourne. Ke connected with his Australian fans and shared the magic of his latest cinematic endeavor. Fans attending the event got the chance to ask questions and interact with him and capture memorable moments. One of the highlights was a girl who proposed marriage to Kartik who was left speechless with the gesture.

The incident took place in the theatre, where the film was being screened. The fan said: "I might never get a chance to ask you this question ever again but 'will you marry me?'

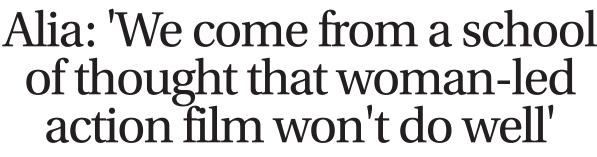
The crowd started cheering and hooting as Kartik was left speechless.

A blushing Kartik then said: "Seedha aapne...Ek yahan prem katha pooch rahe hai, ek yahan shaadi ka proposal diya. Ho kya raha hai? Yahan swayamvar lag raha hai mera. Great welcome at Melbourne."The fan then asked for a hug, to which he said: "You can get a hug."Kartik Aaryan shared his enthusiasm for being part of IFFM, stating: "I am truly thrilled to be a part of the Indian Film Festival of Melbourne. This is my first time in Melbourne and to be here for a screening of 'Satyaprem Ki Katha' on the day I just landed has been amazing.'

"I'm overwhelmed with all this love and really means a lot that everyone is here. There's a feeling of togetherness and oneness here.

'Satyaprem Ki Katha' is about a middle-class boy Satyaprem in Ahmedabad, who is in one-sided love with Katha, who is coping with her breakup with Tapan. Through the journey, they discover

each other's life and complement in accomplishing what was



Team Absolute | Mumbai

ollywood actress Alia Bhatt is all set to make her international debut with 'Heart Of Stone', where she will be seen playing the antagonist in the Gal Gadot-starrer. Portraying Keya Dhawan, a fiercely intelligent tech prodigy adopted by an Indian pharma billionaire after her parents' untimely death, Alia embraces this challenging role in a high-octane thriller exploring espionage and cyber warfare. With dedication and commitment to authenticity, her portrayal of Keya Dhawan, one of the world's most talented and dangerous hackers, is expected to captivate the global audience and cement her status as an international talent.

Speaking about her role in Heart of Stone, Alia shared: "What's amazing is how the narrative throughout the world is changing. I've experienced that even back in India, where I headlined this film called Gangubai, which did really well in theaters and on Netflix all over the world. And this was a film that was

headlined by a woman." 'We come from a certain school of thinking that a woman-led

film in an action franchise won't do very well.' She added: "But I think Gal shattered that myth when she did Wonder Woman. Because at the end of the day it's all about the characters and what you're putting out there. So, similarly with HEART OF STONE, when we met and chatted about it, she said, 'You don't really see a spy thriller action franchise that is led by women, so I wanted to start something on my own.' I love that thought. It was so unique, relevant and current." 'Heart of Stone' debuts on August 11, on Netflix. The film also stars Gal Gadot and Jamie Dornan in this action-packed spy thriller. Directed by Tom Harper,

AYUSHMANN KHURRANA: 'IT'S TOO DIFFICULT TO PLAY A WOMAN'

Team Absolute | New Delhi

, ersatile actor Ayushmann Khurrana, who will be seen in an avatar of a woman in 'Dream Girl 2' said that he has realised that it is "too difficult" to be a woman and play a woman.

Ayushmann, who was present in the national capital for the launch of the song 'Dil Ka Telephone 2.0' from 'Dream Girl 2' spoke about the movie, the preparations and challenges he went through for this role, etc. It was a challenging role for Ayushmann considering he constantly had to switch between the two roles of Karam and Pooja, while all along ensuring the punches and comic timing hit the right note.

Talking about the same, he said during media interactions: "The 2.0 version of 'Dream Girl' is not just about the voice, its also about the 'being'. Its transformation, look, and after shooting for this film I have realised it's too difficult to be a woman. (Ladki bannaa bahot mushkil hai, or Ladki hona usse bhi jyada mushkil). Its all for feminism.'

He said the movie is lot of fun, there is no deep message in this, it is just fully entertaining and laugh out loud moments in the film. "I loved playing a woman in the

Reminiscing the memories of his teenage years, Ayushmann said: "In this particular property (Priya cinema) I have come on many dates. I used to hide from my friends and family. Its so surreal to be here and this is really nostalgic. Ajay Bijli has this passion for cinema which really reflects the kind of work they do.

The lively song 'Dil Ka Telephone 2.0' has upbeat music and high energy. The song now boasts extra beats, extra mischief, and extra excitement. It features the musical composition of Meet Bros, with vocals provided by Meet Bros in collaboration with Jonita Gandhi & Jubin Nautiyal. The lyrics for the song are penned by Kumaar.

the show follows an intelligence operative for a shadowy global peacekeeping agency races to stop a hacker from stealing its most valuable and danger ous weapon.

Team Absolute | Mumbai

ctress Yami Gautam is all set to make a comeback on the big screen with Akshay Kumar-starrer 'OMG 2' and she couldn't be happier as it is her first film in theatres after the pandemic struck. Yami was seen in 'Lost', 'A Thursday', 'Chor Nikal Ke Bhaga' to now her upcoming movie 'OMG 2' is all set to release on the big screen. Before the pandemic hit, the actress worked in big hits such as 'Bala', 'Kaabil', 'Uri: The Surgical Strike'.

The actress said: "It feels really ecstatic to have a theatrical release after a brief period of what, 3 years? It's my first film on the big screen after the pandemic hit, and I couldn't be more excited for it."She added: "The surreal feeling of seeing yourself on the big screen, is really unmatched and unparalleled. It was a wonderful experience shooting for OMG 2 and I am really thrilled to see what this holds for me."

On the work front, Yami will be next seen in OMG 2 which will release on August 11. She also has 'Dhoom Dhaam' in the pipeline.

Yami began her career as a model and starred in television shows such as 'Chand Ke Paar Chalo' and 'Yeh Pyar Na Hoga Kam'. In 2012, she had her first Hindi film release in the comedy-drama 'Vicky Donor'. Ever since then, Yami has appeared in the thrillers 'Badlapur' (2015) and 'Kaabil' (2017), and

my first film
on the big screen
after the
pandemic':
yami
agy'(2022), greater success came for starring in the war film 'Uri: The Surgical Strike' and the satire 'Bala'. She has since starred in the streaming

films 'A Thursday' (2022), 'Dasvi' (2022) and 'Chor Nikal Ke Bhaga' (2023).



Taking SRK, Big B's legacy forward is manifestation of my childhood dream

Team Absolute | Mumbai

ollywood actor Ranveer Singh, who is set to take the 'Don' legacy forward with his portrayal of the titular character in the Farhan Akhtar's third directorial venture of the franchise, shared his childhood pictures as he expressed his gratitude.

Taking to Instagram, the actor said that taking Bollywood superstars Amitabh Bachchan and Shah Rukh Khan's 'Don' legacy forward is manifestation of his child-

After a series of misadventures on the box-office, Ranveer swung back in action with his latest release 'Rocky Aur Rani Kii Prem Kahani' which continues to garner positive response from the audience and the recent announcement of 'Don 3' has sent his fans in frenzy.

On Thursday, the actor took to his Instagram and shared an array of his childhood pictures as he penned a long note in the caption with regards to the opportunity that he has been entrusted with. The actor wrote: "Gosh! I've been dreaming about

doing this for a very, very long time. As a child I fell in love with the movies, and like the rest of us, watching and worshipping Amitabh Bachchan and Shah Rukh Khan the two G.O.A.Ts of Hindi Cinema. I dreamed of growing up to be like them. They are the very reason I wanted to become an actor and a 'hindi film hero'.'

He shared that their impact and influence on his life cannot be overstated. They've shaped the person and actor that he has become.



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