

absolute india

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Government calls Parliament 'Special Session', opposition criticizes

SPECULATIONS OF AGENDAS

According to sources, in this special session of Parliament, Modi government can bring a bill on One Nation One Election. Political experts say that by bringing the One Nation One Election Bill in the special session of the Parliament, the government can either extend the tenure of the Lok Sabha for one more year or can also hold the Lok Sabha elections along with the assembly elections of five states. This possibility has created a stir in the opposition. This news has come at a time when the meeting of Opposition Alliance I.N.D.I.A. is being held in Mumbai.

- ▶ The debate regarding One Nation-One Election has been going on in the country for a long time.
- ▶ In January 2023, the Law Commission had sought answers to six questions from political parties regarding this.
- ▶ The government wants to implement it, many political parties are against it
- ▶ If the government wants to conduct one country one election, then this year the assembly elections of five states including Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh can also be postponed.



business during the special session, sources told reporter. The President, who normally summons a Parliament session, will summon this special session.

"Managing the News Cycle, Modi style."

1. News today has been dominated by latest revelations on the Modani-scam.
2. Tomorrow the ever-growing INDIA parties meet in Mumbai. How to counter? Announce a 5-day special session of Parliament when Monsoon session has just ended 3 weeks back. Regardless, the JPC demand will continue to resonate inside and outside Parliament," Ramesh said. The timing of the special session does coincide with the opposition bloc I.N.D.I.A.'s third meeting.

sentiments. Surprised at choice of dates! Shiv Sena UBT's Priyanka Chaturvedi said, while the Nationalist Congress Party's Supriya Sule asked for it to be rescheduled. "Whilst we all look forward towards meaningful discussions and dialogue, the dates coincide with Ganpati Festival, a major festival in Maharashtra. Urging the Union Parliamentary Affairs Minister to take the above into consideration," Sule posted on X. The Congress has also reacted; party spokesperson Jairam Ramesh called the special session "managing the news cycle, Modi style" and flagged the mega opposition meet in Mumbai.

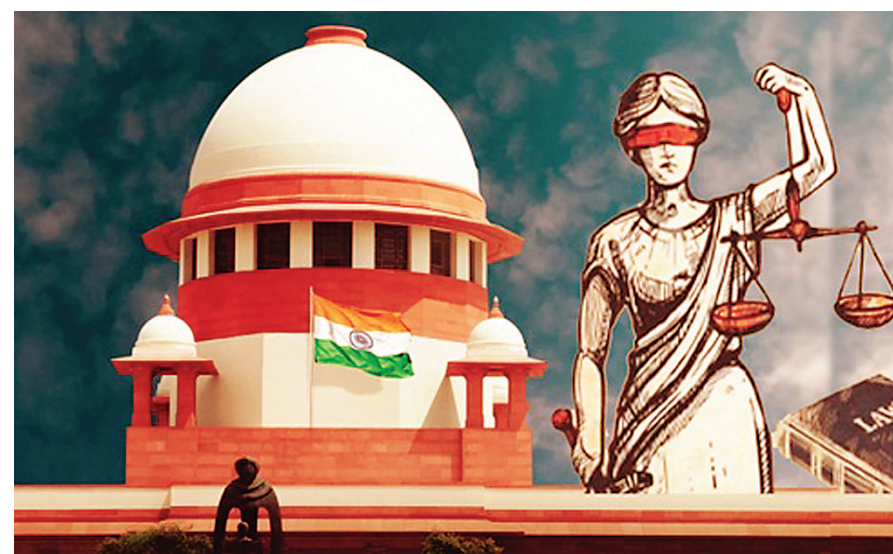
The cabinet committee of political affairs (CCPA) took the decision to convene the special session and it has duly informed the Parliament.

Since President Droupadi Murmu is currently on a tour of Chhattisgarh, she will issue orders to summon the special session, once she returns, sources said. The news of the special session has opened up a lot of political debate, as it has been suddenly announced just days after the Monsoon Session ended. There is a likelihood that the President may address both houses in the new Parliament building.

The call for the special session has been criticised by several opposition leaders, with those from Maharashtra pointing out the dates clash with "India's most important festival of Ganesh Chaturthi". This special session called during India's most important festival of Ganesh Chaturthi is unfortunate and goes against Hindu

The 22nd Law Commission had issued a public notice seeking opinion from political parties, the Election Commission and all organizations associated with the election process. The Law Commission had asked whether holding simultaneous elections in any way violates democracy, the basic structure of the Constitution or the federal structure of the country? The commission also asked that in the event of a hung assembly or a hung mandate in a general election when no political party has the majority to form a government, Is the prime minister or chief minister may be appointed by the speaker of the elected parliament or assembly?

Development work undertaken by Centre in J&K not relevant in deciding pleas against Article 370: SC



Team Absolute | New Delhi

The Supreme Court on Thursday clarified that the development works undertaken by the Centre in Jammu and Kashmir post August 2019 will not be relevant in deciding the constitutional challenge against abrogation of Article 370.

The Constitution Bench, headed by CJI D.Y. Chandrachud remarked that the roadmap, given by the Union government, on restoration of statehood of J&K and holding of elections, cannot be an answer to the constitutional challenge and it has to be dealt "independently".

"The nature of development work taken place post August 2019 may not be relevant to the constitutional challenge (and) cannot be an answer to the constitutional challenge These facts would possibly have no bearing on the constitutional issue," the CJI observed.

On the 13th day of hearing, the Centre told the Supreme Court that it cannot give any fixed timeline for restoration of statehood in J&K and the Union government is ready for elections at any time in the valley.

At the outset, Solicitor General Tushar Mehta argued that the region is continuously progressing by citing different figures and apprised that in the previous year around 1.88 crore tourists visited J&K and the one crore mark has been crossed till date for year 2023.

Mehta said that on comparing the present situation with 2018, terrorists initiated instances are reduced by 45.2 per cent, infiltration has been reduced by 90.2 per cent, stone pelting reduced by 97.2 per cent, and security persons casualties reduced by 65.9 per cent.

"These are factors which agencies would take into consideration... In 2018,

stone pelting was 1,767 and it is nil now and calls of organised bandhs (protests) by secessionist forces were 52 and now it is nil," he said.

Senior advocate Kapil Sibal, appearing on a petitioner's behalf, asked whether the Constitution Bench will take into account the facts presented by the government because as per him they were extremely "irrelevant".

He countered the figures given by the government, saying that they "will go into the mind of the court" and "trying to show as to how this enormous change (revocation of Article 370) has taken place for the benefit of the people of J&K".

"If you have 5,000 people under house arrest and Section 144 throughout the state, there cannot be no bandhs (protests)," said Sibal, adding that such facts are not "necessary" or "relevant" in adjudicating upon the constitutional reference.

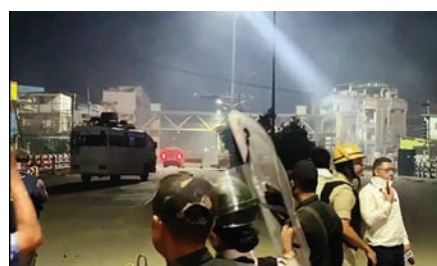
Manipur's tribal leaders forum declares emergency shutdown after clashes

Imphal | Agencies

The Indigenous Tribal Leaders Forum (ITLF) - a joint body of the Kuki-Zo tribes, declared an 'Emergency Shutdown' in violence-hit Manipur's Churachandpur district after several Kuki-Zo dominated areas of Manipur came under attack.

The ITLF said, "Areas like Lonphai, Khousabung, Kangvai and Sugnu areas are under attack. ITLF calls for an Emergency Shutdown with immediate effect. Emergency services like medical, police, water, electricity, and press will be exempted."

The "emergency shutdown" came hours after seven people died in fresh violence in the Churachandpur district. Heavy exchange of fire continued for the past three days in the border areas of Bishnupur and Churachandpur districts after a period of



calm for a fortnight. Several people have died in the last three days, and over a dozen people from both the Meitei community and the Kuki-Zo tribe have suffered bullet and splinter injuries. Security forces in violence-hit Manipur are being rushed to the Naranseina Maning Leikai area, which is now the epicentre of the new flare-up.

Two people suffered severe bomb splinter injuries after a firing that happened yesterday, sources said.

India's April-July fiscal deficit rises to Rs 6.06 lakh crore

New Delhi: The

government's fiscal deficit rose to Rs 6.06 lakh crore in April-July period, compared to Rs 4.51 lakh crore in April-June, according to data released by the Controller General of Accounts (CGA) on Thursday.

This takes the fiscal deficit for the first four months of the current fiscal to 33.9 per cent of the full-year target of Rs 17.87 lakh crore. The fiscal deficit for April-July 2022 was 20.5 per cent of the target for 2022-23.

In July, the monthly fiscal deficit was Rs 1.54 lakh crore, while during the corresponding period of last year, the government had recorded a fiscal surplus of Rs 11,040 crore. The fiscal deficit for April-July 2022 was 20.5 per cent of the target for 2022-23.

The government's fiscal deficit target for 2023-24 is 5.9 per cent of GDP, down from 6.4 percent of GDP in 2022-23.



'Want to save democracy, Constitution from dictatorship': Mumbai INDIA conclave leaders

Team Absolute | Mumbai

On the eve of the third National Opposition INDIA conclave opening here on Friday morning, various participating opposition leaders from the country on Thursday said they are converging to protect the Constitution and safeguard democracy in the country from authoritarianism.

Leaders of 28 parties from all over India have arrived here for the crucial deliberations to provide an alternative to the Bharatiya Janata Party-led NDA in the upcoming 2024 Lok Sabha elections.

Earlier on Thursday evening, Congress MP Rahul Gandhi set the aggressive tone for the INDIA meet



at his packed media briefing, even as the government announced a Special Session of Parliament -- to be convened in the third week of

September.

The host, Shiv Sena (UBT) President and former CM Uddhav Thackeray was personally present, along with several other top party leaders, to receive, meet and greet all the visiting leaders for a dinner he has organised on Friday night at a suburban deluxe hotel.

"We want to preserve democracy. We are fighting for it. We are fighting for the Constitution. We want to keep our country together," said Aditya Thackeray on the occasion at the Hotel Grand Hyatt in Santacruz.

Senior leader and Nationalist Congress Party President Sharad Pawar said that people from all states are very much interested in the INDIA bloc meeting outcome.

INDIA'S MOON ROVER PLAYFUL ON THE LUNAR SURFACE? LOOKS ARE DECEPTIVE!

Chennai | Agencies

Is India's moon rover being playful on the Chandamama? It seems so, the Indian space agency said.

For many kids in India, the moon is usually referred to Chandamama as their mothers show it to them while feeding them.

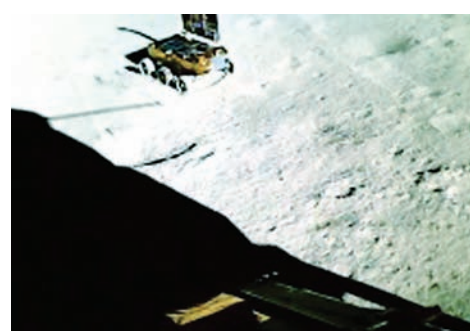
The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) recently rotated the moon rover for a safe navigation route. The movement was captured by a camera on the moon lander and was transmitted to the ISRO.

Uploading the video on the social media platform X, the ISRO said: "It feels as though a child is playfully frolicking in the yards of Chandamama, while the mother watches affectionately. Isn't it?"

However, looks may be deceptive, as the 26kg rover is actually into serious business.

According to the ISRO, one more instrument on the rover confirmed the presence of sulphur (S) in the region through another technique.

The Alpha Particle X-ray Spectroscopy (APXS) has detected S, as well as other minor elements. "This finding by Chandrayaan-3 compels scientists to develop fresh explanations for the



source of Sulphur (S) in the area: intrinsic?, volcanic?, meteoritic?.....?" the ISRO said.

Recently, ISRO said the rover has found the presence of oxygen, aluminium, sulphur and other materials near the lunar south pole, while investigation regarding the presence of hydrogen is underway, the Indian space agency added.

According to the ISRO, the Laser-Induced Breakdown Spectroscopy (LIBS) instrument onboard Chandrayaan-3 rover has made the first-ever in-situ measurements on the elemental composition of the lunar surface near the south pole.

These in-situ measurements confirm the pres-

ence of sulphur in the region unambiguously, something that was not feasible by the instruments onboard the orbiters. LIBS is a scientific technique that analyses the composition of materials by exposing them to intense laser pulses. A high-energy laser pulse is focused onto the surface of a material, such as a rock or soil.

The laser pulse generates an extremely hot and localised plasma, ISRO said. The collected plasma light is spectrally resolved and detected by detectors such as Charge Coupled Devices. Since each element emits a characteristic set of wavelengths of light when it's in a plasma state, the elemental composition of the material is determined. According to ISRO, preliminary analysis, have unveiled the presence of aluminium (Al), sulphur (S), calcium (Ca), iron (Fe), chromium (Cr), and titanium (Ti) on the lunar surface.

Further measurements have also revealed the presence of manganese (Mn), silicon (Si), and oxygen (O). LIBS payload is developed at the Laboratory for Electro-Optics Systems (LEOS)/ISRO, Bengaluru.

India on August 23 reached the Moon with its lander safely landing on the lunar soil in a text book style. Later the rover rolled down and started doing experiments.

Shivraj cabinet nod to compensate Rs 450 LPG subsidy for Ujjwala beneficiaries

Team Absolute | Bhopal

With eyes firmly set on the Assembly elections due later this year, the Madhya Pradesh cabinet chaired by Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan on Thursday approved the proposal to compensate Rs 450 on per gas cylinder purchased by Ujjwala connection beneficiaries.

The announcement was made by CM Chouhan during an event in Bhopal a couple of days back.

Addressing a gathering on the occasion of Raksha Bandhan, Chouhan has announced that the state government would provide the cooking gas cylinder at Rs 450.

Shivraj Singh Chouhan-led MP cabinet approved this proposal two days after the Union Cabinet of Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced to reduce the price of LPG cooking cylinders by Rs 200.

After slashing the price of gas cylinder by Rs 200, a 14-kg LPG cylinder would cost Rs 900, and now the state government has also announced to compensate Rs 450 through



direct benefit transfer (DBT), state home minister Narottam Mishra, who also spokesperson of MP government told the press on Thursday. "The cabinet has approved a proposal to increase the incentive amount of ASHA workers from Rs 2,000 to Rs. 6,000. The incentive amount of ASHA supervisors has been increased from Rs 350 to Rs 500 and maximum."



INDORE ADDS ANOTHER SUCCESS AS METRO COACHES REACH INDORE

TRIAL RUN OF METRO PROPOSED IN THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER

A NEW CHAPTER WAS ADDED TO THE GLORIOUS ACHIEVEMENTS IN THE HISTORY OF INDORE ON THURSDAY. ON THIS DAY, A NEW LINK WAS ADDED TOWARDS REALISING THE DREAM OF METRO IN INDORE.

Team Absolute | Bhopal

Under the leadership of Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan, the work to provide world-class metro facilities in Indore is progressing rapidly. The coaches which arrived in huge trolleys last night at the Metro Depot in Gandhi Nagar, Indore were put on track after rituals this morning.

The trial run of Indore Metro of about 6 kilometers in length is proposed in September. With the launch of Metro, Indore will join the developed cities of the country and the growth of the city will get a new impetus. The team of Metro Rail Corporation is working diligently day and night to complete the metro project rapidly. When the shining



yellow coloured coaches were put on the tracks in Indore today, an amazing atmosphere of happiness and enthusiasm was visible at the metro depot.

MP Shankar Lalwani greeted the officers, employees and technical

team present. He said that he is extremely happy to see the vision of Prime Minister Narendra Modi being realised under the leadership of Chief Minister Chouhan.

It is a matter of pride for us that Indore city is transforming into a

metro city. Shri Shobhit Tandon, Director (Technical) of Metro Rail Corporation, present on this occasion, said that the capacity of the three coaches coming to Indore will be around 900 passengers.

Sitting BJP MLA resigns in MP, accuses Scindia of sidelining him

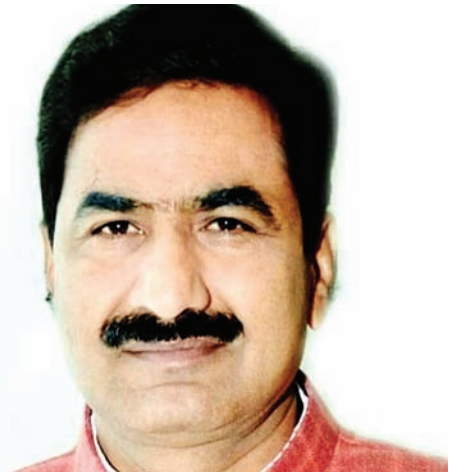
Team Absolute | Bhopal

The ruling BJP witnessed a major setback just two months ahead of the Assembly elections in Madhya Pradesh as its sitting MLA (Kolaras) Brijendra Singh Raghuvanshi resigned from the party on Thursday.

"With a heavy heart, today I am resigning from the membership of the BJP and the state working committee. I have been expressing my concerns to Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan for the last five years, but he did nothing," Raghuvanshi wrote in a letter to state BJP head V.D. Sharma on Thursday.

In his official letter-pad, Raghuvanshi, who is MLA from Kolaras Assembly seat in Shivpuri district alleged that ever since Jyotiraditya Scindia joined the BJP, he has been sidelined from the party.

"Corrupt officials have been appointed in Kolaras and Shivpuri. It is being done on the behest of Jyotiraditya Scindia. My supporters are being harassed regularly," Raghuvanshi wrote in his let-



ter. He pointed out that Scindia had joined the BJP claiming that the Congress failed to fulfill its promises to the farmers. "However, after joining the BJP, he did not speak about the farmers. I have been sidelined for working for the party honestly since 2014," letter read.

Raghuvanshi also alleged that "commission has been flourishing in the BJP government, and when questioned, the minister in-charge for Gwalior-Chambal

region would say that "mandir me prasad tau chadhana hi padega (offering will have to made at the temple)".

He further alleged that the farmers' money deposited in co-operative banks in Shivpuri and across the state has been siphoned off by a strong nexus of leaders and officials.

"The issue of Co-operative Bank scam was raised in the state Assembly also, but no action has been taken so far," Raghuvanshi said.

PWD Consultants will be monitored through 'Sarthak' app

Team Absolute | Bhopal

The Public Works Department will now monitor the consultant responsible for quality control of construction in the state through the 'Sarthak' app. This app, prepared by the Science and Technology Department, will have to be followed by all the engineers appointed for the supervision of the construction works. Besides, the concerned consultants will also be connected to the Sarthak app.

Principal Secretary, Public Works, Shri Sukhvinder Singh has instructed the heads of all the construction agencies of the Public Works Department that it is necessary to monitor the contracted consultants for supervision and quality control at the construction site, because many times during the inspection,

the consultants are absent at the construction site due to which the quality of construction work is likely to be affected. Sarthak app should be used to monitor the consultant. All the construction agencies of the department, Chief Engineer Public Works, Chief Engineer Building, Managing Director Madhya Pradesh Road Development Corporation, Managing Director Madhya Pradesh Building Development Corporation will contact the Science and Technology Department and seek detailed information and working system of the app and download the app on their mobile. Besides, the concerned consultants will also be given instructions to download the app. The Principal Secretary directed that action will be taken against the consultant if the attendance report is not received through the Sarthak app.

MP school hijab row

HC grants bail to 3, says 'students not to be forced to wear headscarves'

Team Absolute | Bhopal

Madhya Pradesh High Court has granted bail to the administrators of Damod-based private school, and said that the "applicants shall not prevent (students) from wearing the essentials of their own religion".

In May this year, a controversy erupted after the Ganga Jamuna Higher Secondary School in Madhya Pradesh's Damoh district put up a poster on the premises of students who topped in Classes 10 and 12 state board exams.

In the poster, all female students were seen wearing headscarves, though five of them were not Muslim. A group of activities associated with the right wing Bajrang Dal then staged a protest inside the school and had recited 'Hanuman Chalisa'.

The issue created a political storm in the poll-bound Madhya Pradesh and the ruling BJP demanded a strict action against the school administration. Subsequently, the recognition of



the school was also cancelled by the state government.

An FIR was registered on May 31 and a total 11 members, including the school principal, were booked for allegedly forcing girl students to wear headscarves under Sections of the IPC and Juvenile Justice Act, and they all were arrested.

On Wednesday, hearing the bail application, the high court released committee members Asfa Sheikh, Anas Athar and Rustom Ali on a personal bond of Rs 50,000, with a warning that, "applicants shall not repeat commission of offence in which they are being released on bail."

The court has said, "They shall not prevent from wearing the essentials of their own religion such as wearing a sacred thread (kalawa) and putting tilak on the forehead."

They shall not compel the students of other religions to read/study any material or language which has not been prescribed or approved by the Madhya Pradesh Education Board."

Locals protest CM Chouhan's announcement to make Pandhurna MP's 55th district

Team Absolute | Bhopal

Days after Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan announced to make Pandhurna the 55th district of Madhya Pradesh by carving it out of Chhindwara, the largest district in the state, the locals of Pandhurna and Sausar tehsils, including those from his own party, have started protesting against the proposal.

Chhindwara is known to be the stronghold of state Congress President and former Chief Minister Kamal Nath. The protesting locals, including politicians, government employees and advocates, have handed over a memorandum addressed to the Chief Minister to the local administration on this count.

The protests that began on Tuesday continued on Wednesday as people from different walks of life took to the streets in Sausar town, claiming that they were demanding to make Sausar (also part of



Chhindwara) the 55th district of Madhya Pradesh, but the announced the name of Pandhurna instead. Chouhan had made the announcement while addressing a public rally in Chhindwara on August 24, when he also laid the foundation for a 'Hanuman Lok' in Pandhurna. The announcement is seen by many as a political tactic to breach the stronghold of Kamal Nath ahead of the Assembly polls scheduled later this year. Residents of Sausar town, including politicians like sitting

Congress MLA Vijay Revanth Chore and former BJP leader Pradip Thakre, took out a 3 km-long protest march from the Bharat Mata Chowk to Chhatrapati Shivaji Chowk in Sausar on Wednesday.

While some protesters were semi-clad, others wore black bands against the CM's announcement to create a separate Pandhurna district instead of Sausar district. Addressing the protesters, Harish Batra, an advocate associated with the BJP, said, "CM Chouhan's announcement of making Pandhurna a new district has shocked all of us. I was present there and had clapped the announcement thinking that he was going to name Sausar as the new district, but instead he named Pandhurna, which, as per the government decision, will include Sausar and Pandhurna tehsils and the Nandanwadi sub-tehsil." He also said that Chouhan made this announcement without consulting the people of Sausar.

There should be no shortage of water and electricity for agriculture : CM Chouhan

Team Absolute | Bhopal

Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan reviewed the availability of water and electricity for irrigation in the coming months in view of less than normal rainfall in the state. CM Chouhan said that special attention should be paid to maintenance to ensure uninterrupted supply of electricity. Power supply should not be affected anywhere due to lack of staff, along with this the control room system should also be kept active at all times. In the meeting, detailed information was given about the demand and supply management of



electricity in various areas of the state in the coming months. CM Chouhan said that there should be no shortage of water and electricity for agriculture in the state during the Rabi season. Energy Minister Pradyuman Singh Tomar,

Chief Secretary Iqbal Singh Bains, Additional Chief Secretary Farmers Welfare and Agriculture Development Ashok Varnwal, Principal Secretary Energy Sanjay Dubey and other officers were present in the meeting.

"Quite Common During Polls," Says Scindia after Shivpuri MLA Virendra Raghuvanshi Exits BJP

Team Absolute | Gwalior

Reacting to recent resignation of former BJP MLA from Shivpuri Virendra Raghuvanshi from the party, Union Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia said, "Joining and leaving parties is quite common during elections and is part of process." Notably, MLA Raghuvanshi had cited that he was "fed up" by the Scindia faction in the party, as one of the reasons for leaving the BJP.



works of the city. Along with this, he reviewed in detail about airport construction, elevated road, Chambal water, and project works. On the other hand, on leaving the party of BJP MLA Virendra Raghuvanshi, Scindia said that in the atmosphere of elections, joining and leaving continues, giving the history paper two months before the elections shows his intention. The change which happened

once before in the history of Madhya Pradesh when DP Mishra's government fell repeated the history.

Scindia said that in the year 2020, the Congress government had made a promise against the farmers and young women. There was corruption in the 15-month government, six cabinet ministers resigned from the government at the same time, but today we are seeing that resignations are given two-four months before the elections. If there was a Congress government today, the airport elevated road, and the 1000-bed hospital in Gwalior would not have been built. Ladi Behan Yojana could not have been started. All this is due to the BJP.

EX-ISRO CHIEF DR K SIVAN APPOINTED AS IIT INDORE BOG CHAIRMAN

Team Absolute | Indore

Former ISRO chairman Dr K Sivan has been appointed as the chairman of Board of Governors at Indian Institute of Technology Indore for a period of 3 years.

"His appointment came (on August 22) just one day before the historic occasion of Chandrayaan-3 landing on the Moon's "Shiva-Shakti" point," said a press release issued by IIT Indore on Thursday.

This culminated the tenure of Prof Deepak B Phatak who was the chairman of BoG IIT Indore from Feb 19, 2019 to August 21, 2023.

IIT Indore director Prof. Suhas Joshi said, "We are very happy and excited to have Dr Sivan as the chairperson of IIT Indore BoG. At the same time, we are very thankful to the outgoing Chairperson Phatak who has mentored the institute and taken us to newer heights. Phatak has led us from

the front and guided us through his immense experience and out-of-the-box solutions."

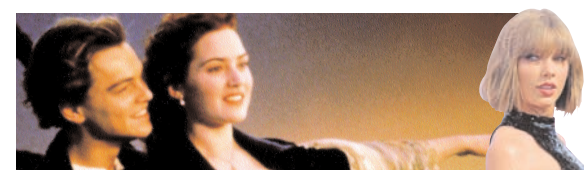
Joshi added, "There could not have been a better time to have Sivan onboard when India has marked a historic occasion through Chandrayaan-3 and shown its acumen and expertise in the field of Space Engineering which was earlier meant for a select few. This year, we introduced 10 new academic programs including a BTech Program in Space Science and Engineering with an intake capacity of 20, including 4 girl students. This is one of its kind program only available at IIT Indore. We already had introduced an M.Tech. and PhD. Programs in Astronomy, Astrophysics and Space engineering since 2016. I am confident that in the guidance of Sivan, the institute is expected to reach newer heights and work in the unexplored field of Space Engineering and contribute to the



Space mission of the country." Under the leadership of Sivan, it is expected that IIT Indore will work to collaborate with ISRO and contribute significantly to India's march into the new space age. The institute is planning to establish more direct collaboration with ISRO through several large-scale programs like the Space Technology Cell, Student Satellite Program and involvement of ISRO scientists and engineers to share their expertise through our UG/PG curriculum," the press release reads.

Sivan joined Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre on October 29, 1982 and since then has played a key role in the design and development of ISRO's launch vehicle programme. Under his chairmanship, ISRO launched Chandrayaan 2, the second mission to the moon and in 2019 itself, configured Chandrayaan-3 with the corrections required.

After completing BSc (Mathematics) from Madurai University, he joined Madras Institute of Technology to pursue B.Tech. in Aeronautics. Thereafter, he completed his ME in Aerospace Engineering from Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore and PhD in Aerospace Engineering from Indian Institute of Technology, Mumbai. He is the chief architect of 6D trajectory simulation software, SITARA, which is the backbone of the real-time and non-real-time trajectory simulations of all ISRO launch vehicles.



ZENDAYA SKIPS VENICE FILM FESTIVAL DUE TO HOLLYWOOD STRIKES

Los Angeles | Agencies

Actress Zendaya has decided to skip Venice Film Festival due to the Hollywood strikes. The actress was initially slated to go to the film festival to promote Luca Guadagnino's film 'Challengers', which was also the movie that was supposed to open the 80th annual Venice Film Festival. Zendaya has been a supporter of the ongoing Hollywood strikes, and given her standing in Hollywood, it would have been nearly impossible for the 'Spider-Man: No Way Home' actress to make it. So instead, Venice kicked off the festival with the Italian World War II drama film 'Comandante', directed by Italian director Edoardo De Angelis, reports Variety. The movie is mostly set on a submarine, and ended up landing a brief 90-second standing ovation as actor Pierfrancesco Favino - who plays naval officer Salvatore Todaro - took a bow. Indeed, due to the Hollywood strikes there was a severe lack of star power which was strongly felt at the Venice opening night. The size of the crowds that lined up outside the Sala Grande Theatre was also very modest. The biggest cheers went to Damien Chazelle, who is presiding over the Venice jury, with director Jane Campion who won Oscar in 2021 for her film 'Power of the Dog' is another jury member. She was spotted wading into the crowds to sign autographs and take selfies. Things were further complicated by the Hollywood strikes and the support given by the jurors and writers at the Venice Film Festival, which only encouraged more stars to skip the festival. The ongoing WGA and SAG-AFTRA strikes have also been supported by Damien Chazelle who is currently presiding over the proceedings of the festival.

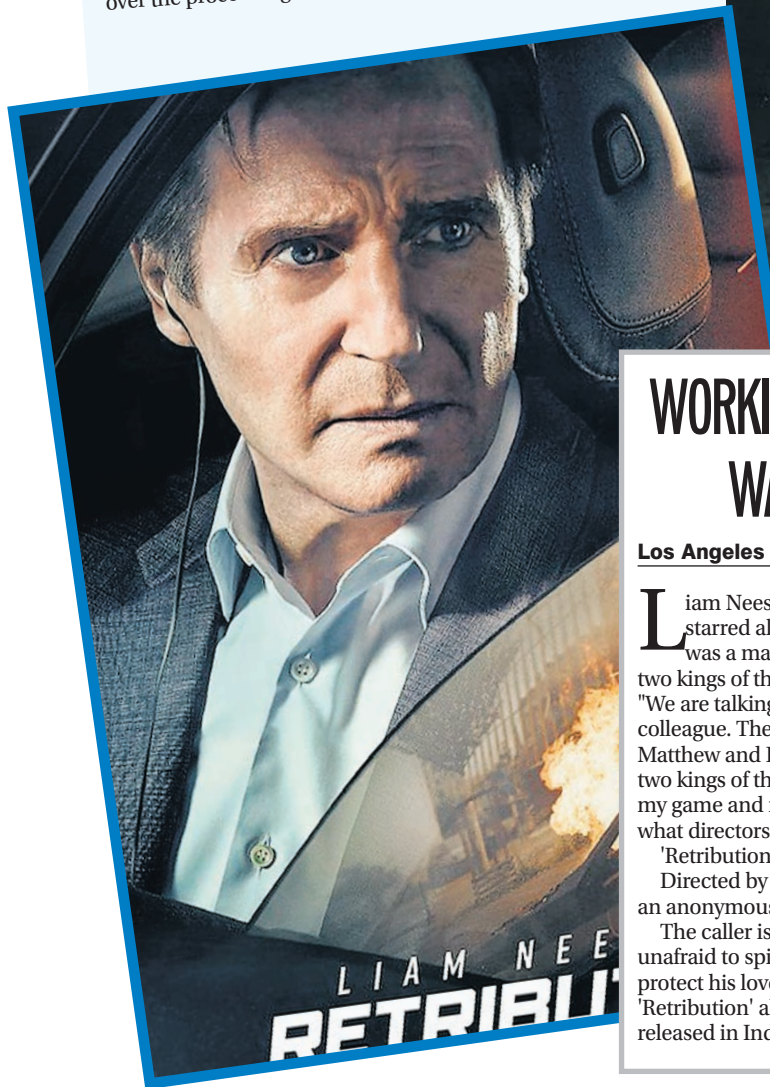


Denzel Washington develops 'fatherly' relations with Dakota Fanning



Los Angeles | Agencies

Hollywood star Denzel Washington has developed a "fatherly" relationship with actress Dakota Fanning, with whom he is starring in 'The Equalizer 3', according to director Antoine Fuqua. The 57-year-old filmmaker, who helmed the new 'Equalizer' movie, told PEOPLE that the 68-year-old actor has a "little bit of a fatherly, mentor relationship" with the actress, reports aceshowbiz.com. The Hollywood veteran and Dakota first worked together on the 2004 action movie 'Man on Fire' and their relationship has evolved over time. Antoine added: "As a child her first experience with Denzel Washington is very powerful, emotional. But you can see how she has grown quite a bit. I think it was more fascinating for Denzel than anyone else. Every once in a while when I would yell cut he would just look over and be like, 'I can't believe she's like a grown woman now.' I think it was more fascinating for him than anyone else."



WORKING WITH LIAM NEESON, MATTHEW MODINE WAS MAGICAL: DIRECTOR NIMROD ANTAL

Los Angeles | Agencies

Liam Neeson's new action-thriller film 'Retribution' is a high octane adrenaline rush. Liam starred alongside veteran actor Matthew Modine in the Nimrod Antal directorial, which was a magical experience for Nimrod, who said working with the two was like dealing with two kings of their craft. Talking about working with Liam and Matthew, director Nimrod said: "We are talking about two men that I have been a fan of before I ever had an opportunity to be a colleague. They say you don't want to meet your heroes, but, you know, sometimes you do. With Matthew and Liam, there's an incredible warmth between them, but you're also dealing with two kings of the craft. It's pretty magical for me. When I have people of this caliber, it elevates my game and makes me very conscientious when it comes to my role. These guys really do hear what directors are saying. So I'm always very cautious as to what I'm saying." 'Retribution' is essentially a cat and mouse chase. Directed by Nimrod Antal, the movie follows Matt Turner in a very dangerous situation when an anonymous caller threatens to blow up his family the moment he stops. The caller is a mystery, though he clearly harbours a strong grudge against Matt, and is unafraid to spill blood for it. With his back against the wall, Matt must battle his way out and protect his loved ones in order to clear his name. Alongside Liam Neeson and Matthew Modine, 'Retribution' also stars Jack Champion and Embeth Davidtz in pivotal roles. The movie was released in Indian theatres on August 25, 2023 and was released by PVRINOX Pictures.

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English actress Bonnie Wright, who played Ginny Weasley in the 'Harry Potter' franchise, was left largely disappointed with her character due to the limited time she was given on screen. Wright, 32, was just 9-years-old when she was cast as Ginny Weasley, the sister of Ron Weasley (played by Rupert Grint), and the future wife of Harry Potter (played by Daniel Radcliffe). In the new episode of Michael Rosenbaum's 'Inside of You' podcast, Wright expressed disappointment that Ginny was not more prominent in the films. "I definitely feel there was anxiety toward performing and doing the best thing as my character built," Wright said. "Like, Oh gosh, will I do justice to this character that people love? So that was always hard to do, especially when, inevitably, a lot of the scenes of every character were chopped down from the book to the film," reports Deadline. "So you didn't really have as much to show in the film. Sometimes that was a little disappointing, because there were parts of the character that just didn't come through because there weren't the scenes to do that. That made me feel a bit anxious or just frustrated, I guess." Wright was given only one line in the first film of the franchise: 'Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone' released in 2001. Wright initially didn't have any lines. "The actual first line I had in the film, which was one line, was given to me on the day, (and director Chris Columbus) was like, 'I think you need a line,' which is my 'good luck' to Harry," she said. "I actually read Hermione lines because they didn't have any other scenes for me to read, so they were like, 'You're just going to have to read this character.'" There was little conversation with producers about Ginny being more involved, due to the script largely not having her.



Eminem, Machine Gun Kelly revealed as Jacksonville shooter's targets

Los Angeles | Agencies

Rappers Eminem and Machine Gun Kelly could have met their demise at the hands of a cold-blooded gunman, who was behind a recent mass shooting in Jacksonville, Florida. In his chilling writings, Ryan Christopher Palmetier listed a slew of his potential targets, including Em and MGK, according to Rolling Stone, reports aceshowbiz.com. "Eminem (aka Marshall Mathers, aka Slim Shady aka Ken Keniff, aka the white guy from D12): Stared the abyss (being ni-dly) and the abyss stared back (becoming a n****r)," he wrote. He appeared to express his disdain for the "Slim Shady" rhymer as writing: "Walks the edge of n****r lover and honorary n****r. Fell off not because his new stuff sucked but because the lyrics were gay annoying liberal s**t. ROE for Total N****r Death is to include Eminem (aka Marshall Mathers, aka Slim Shady aka Ken Keniff, aka the white guy from D12) as a valid target and he is to be killed on sight." Similar to Eminem, Ryan wanted MGK "to be killed on sight" and he may have been close enough to assassinate the "Bloody Valentine" hitmaker. "Colson Baker (aka Machine Gun Kelly): Honorable n****r. To be killed on sight like Eminem because I didn't get a shot at him up in Ohio," so he claimed. Neither reps for both artists nor FBI have commented on the chilling writings. Ryan opened fire at a Dollar General store in Jacksonville, Florida on Saturday, August 26. He shot and killed himself after he barricaded himself in an office.



ABSOLUTE PIC OF THE DAY

Kimberley Garner



I was disappointed with Ginny Weasley's time in 'Harry Potter': Bonnie Wright



SRK's 'southern swag' wows netizens

SRK's upcoming trailer sets Internet on fire

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Packed with action and impactful dialogues, the makers of Shah Rukh Khan-starrer 'Jawan' finally unveiled the trailer of the film on Thursday.

The two-minute forty five second long trailer begins with Shah Rukh Khan in his husky voice saying: "Ek raja tha ek baad ek jung haarta gaya... bhookha pyaasa ghoom raha tha jungle main bahut gusse main tha."

The perfectly cut trailer then shows SRK's character floating in the sea, having blood on his hands and lying down fully bandaged. What comes next is a hijack followed with car



chasing scenes, guns and high octane action. An intriguing scene from the film is shown, where a bald Shah Rukh Khan is seen in a metro holding people hostage.

A voice says: "Yeh batao tumhe chahiye kya?" SRK then says: "Chahiye toh Alia Bhatt."

Later, the Atlee-directed film's trailer shows glimpses of Shah Rukh as 'Jawan', meaning a soldier, wearing a uniform and sporting a mustache. The trailer also has glimpses of Sanya Malhotra, Priyamani, Nayanthara and Deepika Padukone, who is even seen she is in a fight with SRK.

The trailer has a sprinkle of humour too! A child actor from the film is seen asking SRK if his hair is real or if he has dyed it and also,

SRK's evil laugh leading to a cough.

SRK is also seen wielding a gun saying: "Jab main villain banta hu na..." Vijay Sathupathi plays Kaali, the fourth largest weapons dealer in the world.

Another dialogue that piques the interest is when SRK says: "Hum Jawan hai. 1000 baar apni jaan daav par laga sakte hai lekin sirf desh ke liye. Tumhare jaisai desh bechne waalo ke liye nahi. So kaali no deal."

Then the action packed avatar of SRK as Jawan comes into the scene, and says: "Bete ke haath lagane se pahela baap se baat kar." In the end,



SRK's negative avatar is heard talking to Nayanthara, who asks him: "Ab aur kya chahiye?"

To which, he replies: "Ek Gaana sunaaiye," and the classic Ramaiya Vastavaiya starts playing in the backdrop. He captioned the trailer: "Of Justice & A Jawan. Of Women & their Vengeance. Of a Mother & A Son. And of course, a lot of Fun!!! Ready Ahhh!!! #JawanTrailer out now!"

Nushratt got 'dangerous threat'

FILM'S CAST HAD TO RELOCATE FROM TURKEY TO UZBEKISTAN

Team Absolute | New Delhi

The team of Nushratt Bharuccha-starrer 'Akelli' had to change their shoot location from Turkey to Uzbekistan, after getting dangerous threats directed towards the lead actress.

The sources claimed: "The production of the movie 'Akelli' experienced one tough curveball forcing the team to relocate their shoot from Turkey to Uzbekistan. The trouble began when the production team received a dangerous threat directed towards lead actress Nushratt Bharuccha, while they were in Turkey preparing for the shoot."

"After completing the recce and survey of the location, the team was all ready to start preparation and shoot. However, the threat

made the team choose a new location in Uzbekistan just 14 days before their shoot was supposed to start in Turkey. This decision was driven not only by safety concerns but also by the sensitive topic the film touched upon - through a terrorist organisation," added the source.

Directed by Pranay Meshram, and produced by Ninad Vaidya, Aparna Padgaonkar of Dashami Studios along with Shashant Shah, and Vicky Sidana, the film delves deep into themes of bravery, resilience, liberation.

Alongside Nushratt, the film boasts a stellar cast, including international talents like Amir Boutros and Tsahi Halevi. 'Akelli' is an intense thriller that delves into the gripping narrative of a young woman's struggle for freedom.



Rasika Dugal's dream role is to portray Amrita Pritam in a biopic

Team Absolute | Mumbai

On legendary writer Amrita Pritam's birth anniversary, Rasika Dugal has expressed her heartfelt wish to portray the iconic wordsmith's life journey in a movie, if such an opportunity arises.

Rasika said: "Amrita Pritam's writings, to my mind, talk about romance and revolution in the same breath. There is a sadness, a sense of longing, a passion, a calm anger, a questioning and an imagination in her words which is never too conscious of itself and hence really hits home."

"I have been very moved by her poetry and very intrigued by her biographies. Here is a woman who lived life on her own terms- acknowledged her obsessions and passions and nurtured them fearlessly. It would be a dream come true for me to get an opportunity to portray her if a film about her is ever made. I have been manifesting this for quite some time. I hope the universe is listening."

Amrita Pritam, a literary luminary whose words have resonated across generations, has left an indomitable legacy with her evocative writing and unflinching stance on life.

Her upcoming projects include reprising her role as Neeti Singh in the third season of 'Delhi Crime'. Furthermore, she is set to return as Beena Tripathi in the much-anticipated third installment of 'Mirzapur'. She will also be seen in a diverse array of projects such as 'Little Thomas', 'Lord Curzon Ki Haveli', 'Spike', 'Fairy Folk', and a few unannounced projects.



Rani says 'Mardaani 3' is in ideation stage, 'girls have to find it empowering'

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Bollywood actress Rani Mukerji has shared details about the third installment of the 'Mardaani' franchise and said that it is in ideation stage.

In the franchise, Rani essays the role of a feisty and fearless cop named Shivani Shivaji Roy, in this franchise and she takes on criminals who prey on women.

Rani shared: "Mardaani 3 is in ideation stage. Once YRF has a great and concrete story idea, Mardaani 3 will get into the scripting stage. I'm excited to see how Mardaani 3 shapes up! I am crossing my fingers because I would love to play the part of Shivani."

"When I did Mardaani 2, I was quite nervous because I had never done a sequel before. I was like how will it happen? Because I leave my

characters behind each time a film gets over and I don't know if I will be able to reprise that part again. With Mardaani 2, I was surprised that I enjoyed reprising the part. So now I have tasted blood. So now I want to reprise it again in 3," she added.

Rani revealed that the film's script will need to be exceptional because the expectation from audiences is sky-high from this franchise and they would need to see a cracklingly fresh story.

Rani said: "I will be very happy and excited if the Mardaani 3 script comes about really something that we would make a film. Because I as an actor always believe that we don't want to do a film because it sounds good. We need to do a film when the script is good and when we want to make a film which is making a difference."

She added: "With Mardaani 3 we

can't make a film if the story does not have that substance. It has to be something that people relate with today, the girls find it empowering. Only then we can do Mardaani 3. We can't do it just because it sounds exciting. So I am hoping if they can crack a really good script, I would just like to get on with it."

'Mardaani' first released in 2014. The narrative revolves around Shivani Shivaji Roy, a cop whose interest in the case of a kidnapped teenage girl leads her to uncover secrets of human trafficking by the Indian mafia played by Tahir Raj Bhasin.

The second installment was released in 2019. The plot follows her attempts to catch a 21-year-old rapist and murderer, played by newcomer Vishal Jethwa.



Bhumi Pednekar