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TOP 500 COMPANIES STRUGGLING FOR REVENUE GROWTH

The base effect is the primary driver of lower revenue growth for BSE 500 companies, but even after adjusting for base, a large number of firms are reporting topline deceleration, DSP Mutual Fund said in a report. Last quarter, nearly one in three firms reported a decline in sales over the same period of last year, the report said.

Team Absolute | New Delhi

Indian firms are witnessing a slowdown in revenue growth. This can impact profitability, it said.

Post-Covid, Indian firms have enjoyed very strong profitability. The primary driver of profitability was cost-cutting, an initial decline in raw material costs, and then very strong topline growth aided by fiscal stimulus across the world.

Out of these three levers, topline growth has been the key driver, along with margin expansion.

"We believe that the outlook for both of these vectors is becoming murky, and sales growth momentum is slowing. India has enjoyed a rich price-to-earnings multiple because it has delivered earnings growth. If earnings disappoint, valuations will also adjust lower," the report said.

In October 2021, Indian markets peaked after a stellar rally. Since then, the complexity of the market has returned. Large-caps have struggled to generate significant returns, while smaller firms have performed better, the report said.

Recently, as a sign of



investors chasing the recent performance, the SME segment has seen a large outperformance over other segments.

Since the Covid bottom, the SME segment has delivered stellar 86 per cent CAGR returns. This is not just exceptional, but also a sign that markets have become overheated, the report said. Some recent IPOs on the SME platform have generated exceptional interest from investors. A few IPOs garnered 286x and 450x subscriptions for small issue sizes.

"A large dose of caution in the smaller segments would serve the investors better," the report said. It added that higher rates in the US are creating conditions for a disinflationary and deflationary trend.

The US Corporate bond market is complacent with ultra-low spreads. These are ripe conditions for a knee-jerk reaction if some unknown events occur. Junk bond yields don't tell the true picture of tightening financial conditions in the US. This is a warning sign, the report said.

The US dollar has once again reached levels that are unsustainable. If growth slows, the biggest beneficiary will be gold. China, a historical source of growth, is becoming a fountainhead of disinflation. The divergence in global trade and corporate revenues is likely peaking. A convergence can occur with corporate revenues slowing.

NUDGE THEORY USED BY MODI GOVT TO PUSH ECONOMY: SITHARAMAN

New Delhi: Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Thursday said that the Nudge Theory, given by economist Richard Thaler, has been used by Prime Minister Narendra Modi-led government in various initiatives to make a difference in the economy.

The theory is being used as a tool to promote economic activity tailored to India's requirements, she said while addressing the annual day function of Shri Ram College of Commerce (SRCC). Examples of its usage can be seen in the 'Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao' scheme which has improved the sex ratio, Sitharaman explained.

The Finance Minister also referred to the Stand Up India scheme under which subsidised loans to women are given, and also to the Prime Minister's endeavour urging people to give up their LPG cylinder subsidy, to underline her point. Nudge theory is a concept in behavioural economics, decision making, behavioural policy, social psychology, consumer behaviour, and related behavioral sciences that proposes adaptive designs of the decision environment (choice architecture) as ways to influence the behavior and decision-making of groups or individuals.

The Finance Minister further in her address, said that one needs governments that are futuristic, ready for reforms and provide consistency for businesses to grow.



Delhi excise policy case ED's PMLA case against Manish Sisodia faces legal lacunae



Team Absolute | New Delhi

The Supreme Court on Thursday said that without evidence of bribery, it might be difficult to act against former Delhi Deputy CM Manish Sisodia in the money laundering charge filed against him by the ED.

The bench also pointed out that the generation of money is not an offence under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act's (PMLA) Section 3.

On Additional Solicitor General SV. Raju's submission on behalf of the Enforcement Directorate (ED), the bench of Justice Sanjay Khanna and S.N.V. Bhatti asked: "How will you establish money laundering by Sisodia factually and legally?" "We understand that there is a policy change. Everyone will support policies good for their business. Pressure groups are always there. Policy changes, even if

wrong, without money consideration, will not matter. It's the money part which makes it an offence," Justice Khanna remarked while hearing the ASG's submission.

He further added that if he goes to the extent to say that there cannot be any pressure groups, no government can continue like that. "...Lobbying will always be there." The bench further asked Raju how will the ED bring Sisodia under the

PMLA case.

According to Section 3 of PMLA, whosoever directly or indirectly attempts to indulge or knowingly assists or knowingly is a party or is actually involved in any process or activity connected with the proceeds of crime and projecting it as untainted property shall be guilty of the offence of money-laundering.

The court will resume hearing on next Thursday.

DELHI COURT SENDS SANJAY SINGH TO 5-DAY ED CUSTODY

New Delhi: A Delhi court on Thursday sent Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) Rajya Sabha member Sanjay Singh to five days in Enforcement Directorate (ED) custody in connection with a money laundering case pertaining to the now-scrapped excise policy, an official said.

The financial probe agency on Wednesday arrested Singh after carrying out searches at his residence in the North Avenue area. The ED had sought 10-day custody for Singh.

According to a top ED official, Singh has been put under arrest under the sections of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA).

MP notifies 35% reservation for women in state govt jobs

Team Absolute | Bhopal

The BJP-led Madhya Pradesh government has announced 35 per cent reservation for women in the state government jobs, except the forest department.

For this, Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan government has made an amendment to the Madhya Pradesh Civil Services (Special Provision for Appointment of Women) Rules, 1997.

The notification issued by the state government said,

"Notwithstanding anything contained in any service rules, there shall be reserved 35 per cent of all posts in the service under the state (except Forest Department) in favour of women at the stage of direct recruitment and the said reservation shall be horizontal and compartment-wise."

Notably, the decision comes ahead of the Assembly election in Madhya Pradesh which is scheduled very near and poll dates are likely to be announced soon.

Importantly, the step

came days after the 'Women's reservation Bill' passed by Parliament, which became law after getting the assent from President Droupadi Murmu.

The 'Nari Shakti Vandan Adhinyam', which provides 33 per cent reservation for women in the Lok Sabha as well as the state legislative Assemblies, was unanimously passed, becoming the first Bill to be passed in the new Parliament building.

The state will elect legislators from 230 Assembly constituencies.

AT LEAST 49 KILLED IN RUSSIAN ROCKET STRIKE ON GROCERY STORE IN UKRAINE

Kyiv: Ukrainian officials said Thursday that a Russian strike on a grocery store and cafe in the eastern region of Kharkiv had killed dozens of people.

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky said the strike had slammed into the Kupiansk district of the war-battered region bordering Russia, where Moscow's forces have been pushing to recapture territory they lost last year to Ukrainian troops.

The Ukrainian prosecutor general said at least 49 people were killed. Zelensky posted an image of a woman kneeling over the body of someone apparently killed in the strike, with other corpses strewn around her, while rescue workers worked nearby. The head of the Kharkiv region Oleg Sinegubov said the strike hit a cafe and shop around 1:15 pm (1015 GMT) in the village of Groza.

Under Ujjwala scheme, cylinders to be sold at Rs 600, says PM Modi

Jodhpur | Agencies

Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Thursday that under the Ujjwala scheme, the beneficiaries will now pay Rs 600 for a 14.2 kg cylinder.

"This will benefit women across the country besides 70 lakh families of Rajasthan," he said while addressing a mammoth gathering here.

"If BJP comes to power, it will result in a prosperous Rajasthan," Modi said, adding that "I will ask Gehlot to rest, we will take care of everything. Gehlot skipped the inauguration of projects worth thousands of crores in Jodhpur as



he knows that the state will be safe under Modi," he quipped.

Modi further said that once BJP assumes power, it will ensure that the railway stations get a complete face-lift and emerge better than

airports. "Airports are made luxurious as they are frequented by the rich. Since the poor go to railway stations, including the one in Jodhpur, better than airports," he said. Commenting on the Lal Diary, Prime Minister Modi said, "In the last five years, the state government has done nothing for the state. It has only been about the chair game which continued 24/7. People say that Lal Diary contains every black deed of the corrupt Congress. The dark secrets of Lal Diary should be revealed. Since Congress will not allow the secret to be out, the state needs the BJP government."

ED NOW SUMMONS HUMA QURESHI, HEENA KHAN, KAPIL SHARMA IN MAHADEV BOOKS CASE



New Delhi: After Ranbir Kapoor, the Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Thursday summoned celebrities like Huma Qureshi, Kapil Sharma, and Heena Khan in connection with its probe into the Mahadev Books alleged money laundering case. An ED source said that the agency has asked them to appear before it in Chhattisgarh's Raipur.

The development came a day after the financial probe agency summoned Bollywood actor Ranbir Kapoor.

The source said that several celebrities are on the agency's scanner and they will be called for questioning in coming days. It is alleged that many celebrities endorsed the mobile gaming application of the Mahadev Books in lieu of hefty money. Even the lavish wedding ceremony of firm promoter Sunil Chandrakar in the UAE was attended by many Bollywood celebrities and the financial probe agency had found the details of the payments of hotels and transport details during the searches it carried out last month, the source added. It is alleged that the Mahadev Books spent around Rs 200 crore on the marriage ceremony programme in Dubai with private jets hired to ferry family members from Nagpur to the UAE. The ED probe had also found that celebrities were hired to perform in the marriage.

'Rs.18,000-22,000 crore impact on Indian GDP by World Cup Cricket'

According to the report, the tentative expenditure under various heads are: Ticket sales Rs 1,600-2,200 crore; TV Rights/Sponsorships Rs10,500-12,000 crore; Team Spending Rs.150-250 crore; Foreign Tourists Rs 450-600 crore; Domestic Tourists Rs.150-250 crore; Gig Workers/Event Management Rs 750-1,000 crore; Merchandise Rs 100-200 crore; Spectator Expense Rs.300-500 crore; Screenings and Food Delivery Rs 4,000-5,000 crore. The base case scenario total comes to Rs.18,000 crore and the Optimistic Scenario total is Rs.22,000 crore.

Chennai | Agencies

The Cricket World Cup being held in India will impact the country's gross domestic product (GDP) with an additional output of about Rs 18,000-22,000 crore and the gross value added (GVA) will be about Rs 7,000-8,000 crore and will have a very minimal impact on the inflation, said a report by two economists of Bank of Baroda.

"In terms of impact on GDP, with an estimated additional output of Rs 18,000-22,000 crore attributed to the World Cup, the impact on gross value added is estimated to be around Rs 7,000-8,000 crore. This will be incremental GDP at the primary stage of expense," said economists Jahnavi



Prabhakar and Aditi Gupta in their report 'Hitman and King's cover drives to boost India's GDP'. According to them, services inflation will be impacted for sure as prices of airline tickets, hotel accommodation, etc. have gone up for this period. Also, the prices charged by the informal segment in the services sector (which is not tracked in the CPI index) would show a substantial increase. "However, this would be restricted to these 10 cities (where matches are held) for the period of October and November only. As these trends are also

witnessed during these months due to seasonal impact of festival season, the impact of the World Cup could be hard to separate. The upward bias in inflation on this score could be between 0.15-0.25 per cent for these two months (without separating the festival spending impact)," the report said. The tournament is spread over 45 days with 48 matches between 10 teams. "We estimate that at least around 25 lakh people are set to witness the sporting extravaganza at the 10 venues across the country for the 48 matches to be played, while even a larger number is expected to watch the highly anticipated tournament from their homes across the globe," the report notes.

Maha hospital deaths NHRC seeks probe report within a month, to send expert for probe

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Taking suo motu cognizance of media reports on the series of deaths this week in government hospitals in the state, the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has served a notice to the Maharashtra government seeking a detailed report, within four weeks, on the incidents, and the status of infrastructure and manpower at the affected hospitals.

The NHRC will also send its Special Rapporteur P. N. Dixit to the two state-run hospitals in Nanded and Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar to identify the causes/reasons behind the large number of deaths of patients, including several newborn infants, and submit an independent report within two months.



The development came a day after the Bombay High Court also took a similar initiative and sought a report on the health budget allocation from the state government, with the matter likely to come up for further hearing on Friday.

In a statement, the NHRC said: "The Commission has observed that the contents of the media report, if true, amount to a violation of human rights relating to the life and health of the victims due to negligence by public authorities, which is a matter of concern."



AFTER SIKKIM, FLOOD SITUATION WORSENS IN NORTH BENGAL PARTS

Kolkata | Agencies

After the deluge in Sikkim, the flood situation has started worsening in different pockets of northern West Bengal with the worst affected being Darjeeling and Kalimpong in the hills and Jalpaiguri and Alipurduar in the plains of Terai and Dooars regions.

The situation was reported to be critical in three other districts in north Bengal, namely North Dinajpur, South Dinajpur and Cooch Behar districts, as the Teesta River started swelling following flash floods in the hills of neighbouring Sikkim.

Three floating bodies, including that of a woman, have been recovered at Gajadoba area in Jalpaiguri district since Wednesday night.

The administration was not sure whether the bodies were that of a local or had been carried by flowing flood-water from the hills.

Flood situation at Gajoldoba worsened as the lock-gates of the barrage there had to be opened to release the heavy rush of water there. Parts of Darjeeling and Kalimpong districts in the hills of north Bengal have been totally disconnected from the mainland following the alarming flood-situation. The rescue team has so far rescued over 5,000 persons from these pockets.



On Thursday morning, West Bengal Governor C.V. Ananda Bose reached North Bengal to review the flood situation there. Curtailing his programmes outside the state he reached the Bagdogra Airport near Siliguri in North Bengal and from the airport he directly went to the different flood-affected spots.

While speaking to the media persons, the Governor also reacted to the comments from the state irrigation Minister Partha Bhowmik where the latter described the Governor as a "tourist" to north Bengal.

"Yes he is right that I am a tourist. I wish some of my junior appointees in the state cabinet could accompany me as tourists here," said the Governor.

Trinamool Congress leadership has also claimed that the Governor's visit to North Bengal on Thursday was not coincidental considering that the party is organising a 'March to Raj Bhavan' agitation in Kolkata against the action of Delhi Police on the elected representatives of Trinamool Congress at Krishi Bhavan in Delhi on Tuesday evening.

SOLDIER KILLED IN SIKKIM FLOOD, CLAIMS FAMILY IN ODISHA

Bhubaneswar: Soldier Saroj Kumar Dash, one of the 23 Army personnel reported missing after a flash flood in North Sikkim, has reportedly died, claimed his family in Odisha on Thursday.

Havildar Saroj was a resident of Kendudhipa village under the Kamakhyanagar block of Dhenkanal district. "They (Army officials) sent us the photos of five bodies of jawans recovered. The officials said five bodies have been recovered till now and asked us to verify whether my brother is one of them or not. I found my brother was among the five Army personnel whose bodies were recovered." The Army officials said they will send a final confirmation report after a few hours as doctors are examining the identification marks on the body as marked during the joining," said Saroj's brother.

The family members have reportedly identified the body of Saroj during a video call later. Saroj, who joined the Indian Army as a jawan in 2012, had married seven months ago. He had last visited his home in August and later rejoined his duty in September last week.

The unfortunate development has completely shattered the family and relatives who had been praying for his safe rescue for the last two days.

2 'Will follow legal process', says CEC on status of political party named in charge sheet

Hyderabad | Agencies

Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) Rajiv Kumar on Thursday said that they will follow the legal process when asked about the impact on the status of a political party in the event of it being named as an accused in a charge sheet.

"Change in criminality, name and criminal action is all defined through the legal process and we will follow the legal process. Everybody will follow the legal process, whenever you have the relevant judgment and whatever it entails," he said in reply to a query at a news conference here on Thursday.

He was asked as to how the status of a party is affected if it was named as an accused in a charge sheet. After hearing in the Supreme Court on former Delhi Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia's bail petitions on Wednesday, there were some media reports that the Enforcement Directorate (ED) may name Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) as an accused in the Delhi liquor policy case.

However, the Supreme Court on Thursday clarified that the bench's query was a legal question and not to implicate anyone.



ALL CASES AGAINST AAP LEADERS FALSE: KEJRIWAL

New Delhi: Delhi Chief Minister and Aam Aadmi Party convener Arvind Kejriwal on Thursday blasted the BJP government at the Centre, saying that all the cases against his party leaders are false and the agencies keep on investigating but nothing comes out of the probe.

Interacting with the media here, Kejriwal said: "All cases are false. They (agencies) keep investigating but nothing comes out of the probe."

He said that it's a waste of time of the government and the investigative agencies. "If they keep on implicating everyone in false cases, then the country will not develop," he said. His comments came after the ED on Wednesday evening arrested AAP Rajya Sabha member Sanjay Singh in connection with the alleged liquor scam case.

Asked about the Supreme Court observations in the matter of former Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia bail hearing, Kejriwal said, "The way the Supreme Court was asking questions today... as the matter is sub judice I should not comment, but the way court questioned it shows that it was a false case."

India raised concerns with US over its Pak envoy's PoK visit: EAM

Team Absolute | New Delhi

India on Thursday said that it has raised concerns with the US over the American Ambassador to Pakistan visiting parts of Pakistan occupied Kashmir (PoK) last month.

Speaking to mediapersons, External Affairs Ministry spokesperson Arindam Bagchi said that India's position regarding the entire union territory of Jammu and Kashmir being an integral part of the country is well known.

"We would like to urge the international community to respect our sovereignty and territorial integrity," Bagchi said.

The remarks came days



after US Ambassador to Pakistan Donald Blome visited Gilgit Baltistan region in PoK for six days last month.

"We have raised our concerns about that visit by the US ambassador of Pakistan with the US side," Bagchi said.

He also dismissed US Ambassador to India Eric Garcetti's remarks on the incident, where he had said that Blome had earlier too been part of delegation to the region during G20 summit.

Bagchi said that the two situations are not equivalent.

Shabir Ahmad Shah-led JKDFP banned for alleged anti-India and pro-Pakistan activities

Team Absolute | New Delhi

The government on Thursday banned separatist leader Shabir Ahmad Shah's led Jammu and Kashmir Democratic Freedom Party (JKDFP) under the stringent Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act for its alleged anti-India and pro-Pakistan activities.

In a gazette notification, the Union Ministry of Home Affairs said: "Shah founded JKDFP in 1998, termed Kashmir as a 'dispute' and ruled out any settlement within the framework of the Constitution of India.

"The members of the JKDFP have been at the forefront of secessionist activities in the Jammu and Kashmir and want to create a separate Islamic State. The leader of members of the JKDFP have been involved in raising funds through various sources including Pakistan and its proxy



organizations for perpetrating unlawful activities, including supporting terrorist activities, sustained stone-

pelting on security forces in Jammu and Kashmir." The notification alleged that the

JKDFP and its members, by their activities, show sheer disrespect towards the constitutional authority and constitutional set up of the country and the party and its leaders or members, particularly its founder, have been indulging in unlawful activities, which are prejudicial to the integrity, sovereignty, security, and communal harmony of the country.

"There have been a number of inputs showing linkages of the JKDFP with banned terrorist organisations," it said.

It also alleged that the JKDFP and its members have been involved in the violent terrorist activities with an intent to create a reign of terror in the country, thereby endangering the security and public order of the state, and its anti-national activities also show disrespect and disregard to the constitutional authority and sovereignty of the State.

Unruly passenger booked for verbally abusing AI crew on New York-Delhi flight

Team Absolute | New Delhi

Delhi police have filed an FIR against a 25-year-old man for purportedly causing disturbance and verbally abusing the crew on board a New York-Delhi Air India flight, an official said on Thursday.

According to the officials, the case pertains to a passenger who caused disruption on the flight and directed offensive language at the female cabin crew.

The case was registered under Sections 509 of the Indian Penal Code and 22/23 of the Aircraft Rules at the IGI Airport police station in Delhi on October 1, following a complaint lodged by one of the female cabin crew members. According to the FIR, the cabin crew member reported that a passenger, a resident of Jalandhar,



on Flight AI 102 was initially assigned seat No. 21B, but was later found in seat No. 45H, where he began making lewd comments and verbally abused

his fellow passengers.

"The passenger even began running around verbally abusing everyone. The cabin supervisor first issued

an oral warning, followed by a written warning," stated the FIR.

However, the crew had to physically restrain him as he persisted with the same disruptive behaviour.

"He also made a racist comment directed at me and the other female crew members in the galley, stating, 'you girls are available for \$2', as he continued to verbally abuse other crew members," the complainant stated in the FIR.

"Other crew members intervened to manage the situation, but the passenger remained very loud, using extremely offensive language that frightened nearby passengers and their families. Additionally, his behaviour displayed great disrespect toward our country, India, and was highly aggressive in nature," the complainant stated.

9-year-old girl raped in MP's Omkareshwar, second case of minor rape in two weeks

Team Absolute | Bhopal

A 9-year-old girl was allegedly raped by an auto driver in Madhya Pradesh's Khandwa district, police said on Thursday.

The incident had occurred two days back but only came into light after a FIR was lodged at a police station on Thursday.

As per the police, the victim was living with her parents at rehabilitation centre of Omkareshwar temple located in Khandwa and kidnapped from there and sexually assaulted at an isolated location within the premises.

Khandwa district SP Satendra Kumar Shukla told the press that the accused identified as Javed Mansoori has been arrested.

"Accused Javed Mansoori



has been arrested soon after the FIR was registered. He has been booked under the POCSO and SC-ST Acts," he said.

The SP said the matter came to light when the residents close to the area heard her crying and informed the

police. As soon as the girl was rescued, she told police about the torture she endured.

The shocking incident came two weeks after a 12-year-old girl was brutally raped by an auto driver in Ujjain.

2 killed, 6 injured in Bengal's Jalpaiguri as mortar shell floating on flood waters blows up

Kolkata | Agencies

At least two persons were killed and six others were severely injured in West Bengal's Jalpaiguri on late Thursday as a mortar shell, reportedly carried by the flood waters of River Teesta, blew up, police said.

The mortar shell, as believed by the local police officers, belonged to the Army and was carried away by flood waters flowing down from the hills.

Deputy Superintendent of Police, Crime, of Jalpaiguri Bikramjit Lama said that the identities of the two killed in the blast of the mortar shell are yet to be ascertained.

"The six injured persons



have been admitted to Jalpaiguri Super-Specialty Hospital. A thorough probe in the matter has started already," he added. Local police sources said that in all probability after the victims tried to physically inspect the

mortar shells carried to the area by the flood water when it exploded. "The condition of a couple of the six injured is extremely critical and the death toll on this count is likely to increase," said a district police official.

BJP shares poster of Rahul as 'Ravan'; Congress hits back saying this shows their nervousness

Team Absolute | New Delhi

The Congress on Thursday slammed the BJP after the saffron party released a poster of former Congress chief Rahul Gandhi on its official X handle, depicting him as Ravan.

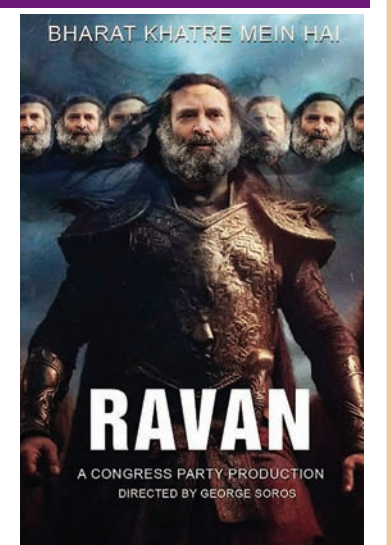
The Congress said that the poster is "clearly intended to incite violence" against the leader, whose father former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi and late grandmother Prime Minister Indira Gandhi were assassinated by forces that wanted to divide India.

In a post on X, Congress General Secretary Jairam Ramesh said, "What is the real intent of an atrocious graphic portraying @RahulGandhi as Ravan by the

BJP's official handle? It is clearly intended to incite and provoke violence against a Congress MP and a former President of the party, whose father and grandmother were assassinated by forces that want to divide India." Ramesh said, "It is one thing for the Prime Minister to give evidence daily of being a pathological liar and of suffering from a narcissistic personality disorder. But for him to get his party to produce something this obnoxious is not just completely unacceptable, but is downright dangerous." "We will not be intimidated," the Rajya Sabha MP added. The BJP's post on X with a poster of Rahul Gandhi with 10 heads, was also shared by the party's IT department chief Amit Malviya on his X profile. Following the BJP's post,

Congress leader Imran Pratapgarhi hit back at the saffron party saying that they were nervous due to the growing popularity of the Lok Sabha MP from Kerala's Wayanad.

Speaking to the media at the party headquarters, Pratapgarhi, who is also a Rajya Sabha MP said, "This is the nervousness of the BJP after sensing its defeat in the 2024 Lok Sabha elections." He said that the Prime Minister (Narendra Modi) is making baseless allegations and same is the case with the BJP leaders. "Since the formation of the INDIA bloc, they are in a state of panic. Calling Rahul Gandhi Ravan, shows their desperation. People of the country knows what Rahul Gandhi is, he understands the pain of the people.





CM CHOUHAN RELEASES HONORARIUM WORTH RS 1560 CRORE TO 72 LAKH FARMERS PM Modi launches projects worth Rs 12,600 crore

Transfers Rs 1058 crore of 30 lakh claims of PM Crop Insurance with a single click. CM starts off distribution of 4 lakh 30 thousand pattas in the state. Chouhan performs bhoomi puja and dedicates 127 development works worth over Rs 1,117 crore. Scheme of subsidizing transformers being restarted for convenience of farmers. Defaulter farmers will be provided fertilizers through cooperatives. Relief amount and crop insurance money will be provided by conducting a survey on crop loss

Team Absolute | Jabalpur

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday laid the foundation stone of 'Veerangana Rani Durgavati Smarak aur Udayan' here and unveiled projects of over Rs 12,000 crore in sectors such as road, rail, energy, housing and drinking water. He greeted people gathered at the event and also took a tour of the exhibition.

The 500th birth centenary of Rani Durgavati is being celebrated with great fervour by the Centre. The announcement regarding the celebration was made by the Prime Minister, during his visit to Shahdol in Madhya Pradesh in July this year.

To be built at a cost of about Rs 100 crore in Jabalpur, the 'Veerangana Rani Durgavati Smarak aur Udayan' will be spread over an area of about 21 acres.

It will showcase an impressive 52-foot-high bronze statue of Rani Durgavati. It will have a magnificent museum highlighting the history of the Gondwana region including the valour and courage of the queen.

It will also highlight the cuisine, art, culture, and way of living of the Gond people and other tribal communities. The premises of 'Veerangana Rani Durgavati Smarak aur Udayan' will also have multiple parks and gardens including a garden for medicinal plants, a cactus garden and a rock garden.

Rani Durgavati was the ruling queen of Gondwana in

the mid-16th century. She is remembered as a brave, fearless and courageous warrior who fought for freedom against the Mughals.

The Prime Minister virtually inaugurated the Light House Project at Indore in Madhya Pradesh.

Built at a cost of about Rs 128 crore under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana - Urban, the project will benefit more than 1000 beneficiary families. It employs innovative technology 'Prefabricated Sandwich Panel System with Pre-engineered Steel Structural System' to build quality homes with all basic facilities but in considerably reduced construction time.

He laid the foundation stone of multiple Jal Jeevan Mission projects in Mandla, Jabalpur and Dindori districts worth over Rs 2350 crore. He dedicated the Jal Jeevan Mission project in Seoni district worth over Rs 100 crore to the nation. These projects in four districts of the state will benefit about 1,575 villages in Madhya Pradesh.

Prime Minister laid the foundation stone and dedicated to the nation multiple projects of more than Rs 4800 crore for improving the road infrastructure in Madhya Pradesh. He laid the foundation stone of projects including the upgrading of the road connecting Jharkhedha - Berasia - Dholkedi of NH 346; four laning of Balaghat - Gondia Section of NH 543; four laning of Khandwa Bypass connecting Rudhi and

Deshgaon; four Laning of Temagaon to Chicholi section of NH 47; four laning of road connecting Boregaon to Shahpur; and four laning of road connecting Shahpur to Muktainagar.

The Prime Minister dedicated to the nation the upgradation of the road connecting Khalghat to Sarwardwala of NH 347C. Prime Minister dedicated rail projects worth more than Rs 1850 crore to the nation. These projects include doubling the rail line connecting Katni - Vijaysota (102 km) and Marwasgram - Singrauli (78.50 km). Both these projects are part of the project for doubling the rail line connecting the Katni - Singrauli Section. These projects will improve rail infrastructure in Madhya Pradesh benefiting the trade and tourism in the state.

Prime Minister also dedicated to the nation Vijaiapur - Auraiya - Phulpur Pipeline Project. The 352 km long pipeline has been built at a cost of more than Rs 1750 crore. The Prime Minister laid the foundation stone of the Nagpur Jabalpur section (317 km) of the Mumbai Nagpur Jharsuguda Pipeline Project. The project will be built at a cost of more than Rs 1100 crore. The gas pipeline projects will provide clean and affordable natural gas to industries and homes and will be a step towards reducing emissions in the environment.

Prime Minister also dedicated a new bottling plant at Jabalpur which has been built at a cost of about Rs 147 crore.

Team Absolute | Bhopal

Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan transferred Rs 1,560 crore of Kisan Samman Nidhi to 72 lakh farmers with a single click in the state level farmers conference organized in Satna. Out of 30 lakh claims of Pradhan Mantri Crop Insurance Scheme, Rs 1,58 crore were released into the accounts of farmers. Chief Minister also distributed pattas to 4 lakh 30 thousand families. Under this, 75 thousand pattas of Mukhya Mantri Awas Bhu-adhikar Yojana (Rural), 5 thousand 711 pattas of Mukhya Mantri Nagriya Bhu-adhikar Yojana and 3 lakh 50 thousand leases of Swamitva Yojana were provided to the beneficiaries. Chief Minister Chouhan dedicated and performed bhoomi puja of 127 development works costing Rs 1,117 crore 58 lakh. Under this, bhoomi puja of 40 works worth Rs 959 crore 37 lakh was performed and 87 crore development works costing more than Rs 157 crore 84 lakh were dedicated. Chouhan also unveiled Vyankatesh Lok idols, it may be noted that Vyankatesh Lok has been constructed as part of the beautification and development



works of the famous Vyankatesh temple of Satna Nagar under the Satna Smart City Project. Farmers from Satna's border districts Rewa, Panna, Katni, Sidhi, Chhatrapur, Umaria etc. participated in the state level farmers' conference. Farmers from other districts joined the programme virtually.

Chief Minister said that our government is committed to develop-

ment and public welfare. As a result of this commitment, we have never let shortage of funds come in the way of development activities. Be it the steps taken for farmer welfare or the activities conducted for the upgradation of agriculture, our government has made important achievements in every field. The area under irrigation in the state has been increased from 7

lakh 50 thousand hectares to 47 lakh hectares which will be further increased to 100 lakh hectares. To save water, irrigation arrangements have been made through pipe lines. For the convenience of farmers, the scheme of subsidizing transformers is being restarted. Zero percent interest was provided to the farmers. There will be no shortage of fertilizers for the farmers. Fertilizer will be provided to defaulter farmers through cooperatives. If farmers have suffered damage to their crops, then a survey will be conducted and relief amount and crop insurance money will be provided. Chief Minister Chouhan said that Gareeb Kalyan is the basic mantra of our government. Every poor family will be provided a residential land patta. The families left behind in the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana will be provided houses under the Mukhyamantri Awas Yojana. Activities are being conducted for the development and welfare of everyone including the poor, farmers and youth. Laptops and scooters are being provided to students to encourage them in their education, and arrangements have also been made for skill upgradation of the youth.

Priyanka questions PM Modi's silence over corruption in MP

Team Absolute | Bhopal

Congress General Secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra on Thursday questioned Prime Minister Narendra Modi's silence over the 'corruption' in poll-bound Madhya Pradesh.

She alleged that more than 250 scams have been revealed in the last 18 years of the BJP government in Madhya Pradesh, but "PM Modi has turned away his eyes because those who have looted the public money and destroyed the future of youths belong to the BJP".

Addressing a public rally in



Dhar district of poll-bound Madhya Pradesh on Thursday, Priyanka Gandhi said, "PM Modi is using the central agencies to suppress the voice of people, but he did not see the corruption in the BJP-ruled states."

"There have been more than 250 scams in Madhya Pradesh for the last 18 years under the BJP government in

Madhya Pradesh, but PM Modi did not send his agencies here. Not a single officer or BJP leader was arrested. The state where Vyapam and Mahakal Lok scams broke out, but PM Modi remained silent on these issues," she added.

Priyanka Gandhi, who is leading the Congress poll campaign in Madhya Pradesh, further said, "PM Modi keeps the main focus on Congress only during his public speeches. In his 50 minutes speech, he (Modi) would mention Congress 10-15 times. It means that he is afraid of the Congress," she added.

Sant Hirdaram Girls College Promotes Language Harmony with "My Language, My Signature" Campaign

Team Absolute | Bhopal

In a vibrant celebration of linguistic diversity, the Department of Language, NSS unit, and Central Library of Sant Hirdaram Girls College came together on October 3, 2023, to host the "My Language, My Signature" Campaign, a part of the Bhasha Bhasha Utsav initiative. The campaign aimed to foster language harmony and create a conducive environment for learning various Indian languages.

Under the gracious presence of Dr. Dalima Parwani, the esteemed Principal of the college, the event took flight with an inspiring vision. Dr. Parwani highlighted the significance of embracing one's mother tongue by encouraging students to



cultivate the habit of signing in their respective regional languages whenever possible. Her encouraging words set the tone for an eventful day ahead.

The campus buzzed with energy as students and faculty members wholeheartedly participated in the campaign, signing their names with pride and enthusiasm in a plethora

of regional languages. The vibrant atmosphere showcased the rich tapestry of languages that adorn our diverse nation, emphasizing the importance of preserving and celebrating this heritage.

The College Management, deeply moved by the efforts put forth by the Department of Language, NSS unit, and Central Library, expressed heartfelt appreciation for their commendable initiative. As we celebrate the success of the "My Language, My Signature" Campaign, Sant Hirdaram Girls College reaffirms its commitment to nurturing an inclusive environment where diverse languages are not only respected but cherished. Such initiatives pave the way for a harmonious society where every language finds its place and significance.

SHAHDOL-NAGPUR EXPRESS TRAIN LAUNCHED

Bhopal: Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan flagged off the Shahdol-Nagpur Express train. Chief Minister Chouhan said that this invaluable gift will provide convenience to the citizens in their transportation. Besides, the development of this area will also gain momentum. Chouhan expressed gratitude to Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnav for this gift. He said that this tribal dominated district of the state will be directly connected to Nagpur through this rail. We will get a big benefit from this in development, the production of crops especially the trade of grains will get a boost. Shahdol-Anuppur-Umaria will get the benefit of the new railway. The people of the area deserve congratulations for this achievement. The dream of "Rail Chali Re Rail Chali - Shahdol Se Nagpur Rail Chali" is coming true today.

Chief Minister Chouhan said that an ultramodern airport will soon be constructed in Shahdol. Without an airport, it is difficult to get investment, establishment of the airport will pave the way for setting up of big factories in the area. Chouhan said that we will leave no stone unturned in the development and welfare of the people. He said emotionally, "I am the voice of development of Shahdol - I am Shivraj".

A new approach to examination of Circle of Willis at autopsy

Team Absolute | Bhopal

Dr. Sibi Vijayakumar, a Junior resident pursuing MD course in the Department of Forensic Medicine and Toxicology at AIIMS Bhopal, has recently made a significant contribution to the field of forensic medicine. His innovative approach, focusing on the meticulous removal of the Circle of Willis during autopsies, has garnered significant recognition in the esteemed American Journal of Forensic Medicine and Pathology, a PubMed indexed journal, where the article has been accepted for publication. Dr. Sibi credited his success to the motivation he received from Executive Director of AIIMS, Bhopal Prof. (Dr.) Ajai Singh.

The 'Circle of Willis' is a circular arrangement of arteries at the base of the brain which ensures blood supply to all parts of the brain. These arteries have thinner walls compared to same sized arteries elsewhere in the body. However they have stronger fibrous content making them less prone to breaking. The walls of these arteries get thickened or blocked by atherosclerotic changes like the arteries of the heart. These arteries may also have relatively thin-walled, dilated areas called 'aneurysms' which may burst leading to death of the person.



The brain and the 'Circle of Willis' are examined at autopsy. Thickening of arteries due to atherosclerosis, bursting of aneurysm and haemorrhage of brain are seen at autopsy. It can help to establish the cause of death whether it is due to injury or natural disease process. The method of dissection of Circle of Willis as suggested by Dr. Sibi provides the Circle of Willis to be better seen, to be more certain of the findings and to have photographic evidence for the observation. Sample for microscopic examination of affected part can also be better obtained. When death of a person is sudden due to a condition or disease like stroke, the person is likely to fall and sustain injuries. Whether the person died due to the injuries or the disease and establishing the sequence of events can be

done by autopsy and meticulous dissection. It can help to find the cause of death and this can be understood and accepted better by family members and investigating agency. Autopsy is a scientific and meaningful observation of the dead to know about the cause, manner and duration of death. It involves dissection for the internal examination of organs. When autopsy is done with precision and professionalism, it can unravel and reveal the true cause of death. The new technique of dissection and examination of 'Circle of Willis' by Dr Sibi speaks volumes on thoughtfulness, expertise and true understanding of concept of autopsy.

The dedication to refining autopsy technique is commendable as it addresses both, legal and humanitarian perspective.

कार्यालय नगर पालिका परिषद ब्यावरा जिला राजगढ़ (ब्यावरा) म.प्र.

क्रमांक/2035/ लो.नि./2023 :: निविदा आमंत्रण:: ब्यावरा, दिनांक 04.10.2023

एतद द्वारा नवीन केन्द्रीकृत प्रणाली में पंजीकृत ठेकेदारों से नगर पालिका परिषद ब्यावरा जिला राजगढ़ द्वारा वित्तीय वर्ष 2023-24 में नीचे लिखित निर्माण कार्य हेतु (निविदा दिनांक तक लागू नवीनतम संशोधन लागू हैं) प्रतिशत आधार पर निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है। अतः इच्छुक निविदादाता आवश्यक दस्तावेजों के साथ अपनी ऑनलाइन निविदा दर ई-टेंडरिंग प्रणाली के माध्यम से प्रस्तुत कर सकते हैं। निविदा के संबंध में विस्तृत जानकारी ई-टेंडर वेबसाइट <https://mptenders.gov.in> पर देखी जा सकती है। निविदा एवं उसकी तिथियों में किसी भी प्रकार संशोधन/परिवर्तन/परिवर्धन होने की दशा में सूचना ऑनलाइन सूचना ही जारी की जावेगी पृथक से कोई सूचना समाचार पत्र में प्रकाशित नहीं की जावेगी।

क्र.	जावक क्रमांक	आनलाईन निविदा	कार्य का नाम / विवरण	अनुमानित लागत लाख में	धरोहर राशि	निविदा पत्रक शुल्क	ठेकेदार सप्लायर की श्रेणी	कार्य पूर्ण करने की समयावधि	अन्य विवरण
1	2035	2023 UAD 315234_1	निकाय क्षेत्रांतर्गत मुख्यमंत्री शहरी अधोसंरचना विकास (वृद्ध चरण) पेवर ब्लाक, हाईमास्क, स्टोन रैलिंग, स्वागत द्वार, इलेक्ट्रिक कार्य एवं फाउण्डेशन निर्माण कार्य 1. सीएम राइस स्कूल से गुना बायपास तक पेवर्स ब्लाक निर्माण कार्य। 2. इन्दौर नाका से रेलवे चौराहे तक सुभाषचंद्र जी की प्रतिमा, भारत माता चौराहा, गुना नाका, दीनदयाल उपाध्याय चौराहा पर स्टोन रैलिंग कार्य। 3. इन्दौर नाके पर स्वागत द्वार निर्माण कार्य। 4. पीपल चौराहा पर हाई मास्क पोल कार्य। 5. अंबेडकर चौराहा पर पेग हार्लिंग पोल कार्य। 6. गुना नाके पर भारत माता की प्रतिमा स्थापना। 7. रामेश्वर घाट का जीर्णोद्धार निर्माण कार्य। 8. इन्दौर नाके से रेलवे चौराहा तक स्वामी विवेकानंद काम्पलेक्स पर इलेक्ट्रिक कार्य। 9. दीनदयाल जी की प्रतिमा के पास फाउण्डेशन कार्य।	4,19,75,895	2,10,000	15,000	केन्द्रीयकृत प्रणाली में पंजीकृत	06 माह	प्रतिशत

KEY DATES

No.	Work Department Stage/ Bidder's Stage	Start Date	Start Time	Expiry Date	Expiry Time	Envelops
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	Purchase of Tender Online	05.10.2023	17:30 PM	16.10.2023	17:30 PM	-
2	Prebid meeting Date and Time	-	-	-	-	-
3	Bid Submission Start	05.10.2023	17:30 PM	16.10.2023	17:30 PM	-
4	Bid Submission End	-	-	16.10.2023	17:30 PM	-
5	Physical Submission of Municipal Office End date	-	-	-	-	only online submission
6	Mandatory Submission Open	-	-	18.10.2023	10:30 AM	-

रईस खान
मुख्य नगरपालिका अधिकारी
नगर पालिका परिषद ब्यावरा

अतुल जगताप
उपाध्यक्ष
नगर पालिका ब्यावरा
एवं समस्त पार्श्वदण नगर पालिका परिषद, ब्यावरा

श्रीमती लीलादेवी फूलसिंह कुशवाह
अध्यक्ष
नगर पालिका परिषद, ब्यावरा



World Smile Day- October 6, 2023

Smile: A Precious Gift of Health, Prosperity and Stress Relief

Lalit Garg

The first Friday of every October i.e. 6th October this year is World Smile Day. The idea of World Smile Day is proposed by Harvey Ball, an American commercial artist from Worcester, Massachusetts. The iconic smiley face was created by him in 1963. Since then, it has captured everyone's attention to celebrate joy. The first Smile Day in 1999 was celebrated with enthusiasm and pomp without any hindrance, because a smile is an expression which contains solutions to many problems and troubles. In 2001, after Harvey passed away, the Harvey Ball World Smile Foundation was established as a tribute to the 'smiley' creator.

According to Harvey Ball, the Massachusetts artist who founded this day, we should all dedicate one day every year to smiling and being kind to the whole world. Because the smiling face does not know any political, geographical or religious things. Instead of smiling just today, make it a habit to smile every day. This will not only ease your problems but your loved ones will also be happy to see you.

Smiling is essential for good health, mental peace and overall development. Today's life is full of stress, unrest, worries and problems, there is a strong need for a smile. Because laughing and smiling is very helpful in everyone's physical, mental, emotional and intellectual development.

Smiling is the key to success in our life, it is also the solution to many problems. Smile is a balm that heals the wounds of a sad heart. There is exercise for our face and rest for our mind. Research says that as we grow older, we smile less. We have become old because we have stopped smiling. Mother Teresa said, peace begins with a smile. Your happiness starts from your lips. This year on World Smile Day, don't forget to curl your lips a little. It will be contagious and create a positive environment around you.

One mantra of health is to smile openly. We should smile and keep smiling no matter what happens is the mantra of a successful and meaningful life. But sometimes the whole day passes without a smile. There are clouds of sadness and restlessness, the sunshine of smiles cannot bloom.

Smiling and laughing is such a positive emotion which makes not only the internal but also the external appearance of a person prosperous and effective. Smile is a powerful emotion which has the ability to energize a person and make the world peaceful. It affects the electro-magnetic field of the person and transmits positive energy to the person. When a person smiles in a group, his smile spreads positive energy in the entire environment.

In today's stressful environment, people are forgetting their smile and laughter, resulting in inviting stress-related diseases like high blood pressure, diabetes, migraine, hysteria, madness, depression etc. Smiling increases energy and oxygen circulation. Smiling openly strengthens the components of the body. It also increases the speed of blood circulation in the



body. Apart from this the digestive system functions more efficiently. That is why doctors also say that smiling is useful for patients suffering from every disease. Because by saying loudly and smiling, every part of the body gets movement. Due to this, the hormone producing system (endorphin gland) present in the body starts functioning smoothly, which is helpful in getting rid of many diseases.

The people who make us smile through their words, actions and thoughts remain etched in our memories. We may like or dislike someone for many reasons. But in the long run, the people who deserve our love are those who make us laugh and bring a smile to our faces. Perhaps that is why Victor Borg says, 'Laughter is the shortest bridge to cross the distance between two people.' Laughing and smiling is such a precious gift, which nature has bestowed only on humans. Humor and smile are a universal language. It has the ability to integrate humanity irrespective of caste, religion, colour, gender. This is an initiative to connect man to man. Smiles and laughter are capable of creating a new world by connecting different communities. This idea may seem imaginary, but people have a deep belief that only laughter and smiles can unite the world.

Both happiness and sorrow are two sides of a coin. If a person remains cheerful in both situations, his mind always remains under control and he can stay away from worries. Smiling brightens the soul. With this you not only get pleasure but also make others happy. Humour and smile is the enemy of pain, a sure cure for despair and anxiety and a panacea for

sorrows. Laughing and smiling brings enthusiasm to the body and mind and smiling from the heart is no less than a medicine. Smile works as a great tonic. Prominent scholars and thinkers like Thackeray and Shakespeare have also confirmed that a happy person lives longer. There is a scale to measure the satisfaction of human soul, physical health and stability of intellect and that is the happiness on the face. Professor Sophie Scott of the University of London says, "Through laughter, our subconscious mind signals that we are relaxed and feeling safe."

Hotei was a disciple of Lord Buddha in Japan. He was a beggar of very humble nature. He believed in living life in a very detached and neutral manner. Whatever work he was doing, he would become completely immersed in it. There is a belief in Japan that once Hotei became so enthralled while meditating that he started laughing and smiling loudly while meditating. Only after this amazing incident, people started addressing him by the name of Laughing Buddha. Traveling, exploring the country, giving smiles and happiness to people became the aim of the Laughing Buddha. Laughing Buddha is also known as Putai in China. Chinese people see him from the perspective of a beggar who, with a bag of money and grains in one hand, shows his big belly and slim body with a cheerful face and gives positive energy to everyone while smiling. He is also considered a messenger of prosperity and happiness and a symbol of removal of Vaastu defects in homes. In countries like Japan, people teach their children to laugh and smile right from the beginning, so that their future generation is capable and bright.

Most of the countries of the world are afraid of terrorism; there is a chaos of panic and unrest inside every person. In such times, only a smile can spread positive energy across the world. Harvard University professor Teresa Amabile has said that our brain is most creative when we laugh. We should promote laughter and smiling not only in the family environment but also in the office. The office environment should be one of harmony and laughter, so that enthusiasm for work can be spread among the team. Smiling can prove effective for a beautiful face. Smiling increases the body's immunity, which increases a person's self-confidence. Medical experiments have found that smiling for 10 minutes results in two hours of deep sleep.

People who smile become many friends and in this way the feeling of brotherhood and unity arises in them, we never realize when. Every human being is troubled by fear, insecurity and terrorism, and then the great need of 'Smile Day' is felt. Never before has this much unrest been seen in this world. In this busy, turbulent and stressful life, people should take out at least one day for them and smile with full heart.

international

PAWAN KALYAN PULLS OUT OF NDA TO BACK TDP

Actor-politician Pawan Kalyan has said that his Jana Sena Party (JSP) has come out of the BJP-led NDA to join hands with the Telugu Desam Party (TDP) for 2024 assembly elections.

Addressing a public meeting as part of his Varahi yatra at Pedana in Krishna district, he said he came out of NDA to support TDP in difficult times. Pawan Kalyan, who had met Naidu in Rajahmundry Jail last month, said that Andhra Pradesh needs TDP's experience of four decades and the Jana Sena's youth strength to fight. He exuded confidence that the TDP-JSP alliance will come to power in 2024. This is the first time that Pawan Kalyan publicly declared that Jana Sena has come out of NDA. He had attended the NDA meeting held in Delhi on July 18. After the meeting, he had said that Jana Sena will support Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision. The actor said in 2021 he took a decision to come together with like-minded parties to avoid split of votes to oust YSR Congress Party from power. Pawan Kalyan had campaigned for TDP-BJP alliance in 2014 elections. The alliance had come to power in the state. He, however, later distanced himself from both the parties for failing to deliver on the promise of special category state to Andhra Pradesh. In 2018, TDP also snapped ties with the BJP, accusing the party of failing to fulfill the commitments made to the state. Jana Sena contested 2019 elections in alliance with the Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) and the Left parties. However, the alliance had to bite the dust. However, a few months after the elections, Pawan Kalyan revived his alliance with the BJP. For last couple of years, he had been making efforts to forge a grand alliance among TDP, BJP and Jana Sena.

NORWEGIAN PLAYWRIGHT-NOVELIST JON FOSSE AWARDED NOBEL PRIZE IN LITERATURE

Stockholm | Agencies

In line with its standard for bringing lesser known authors to global limelight, the Swedish Academy on Thursday announced Norwegian novelist and playwright Jon Fosse, whose stark and gritty works offer an unforgettable portrayal of the ambiguities, vicissitudes and disquietude of the human condition, as the recipient of the Nobel Prize for Literature for 2023.

Fosse, 64, was awarded "for his innovative plays and prose which give voice to the unsayable".

Born in 1959 in western coastal Norway, Fosse, whose work in the Nynorsk variant of Norwegian spans plays, novels, poetry, essays, children's books and translations, is one of the most widely-performed playwrights - having an enthusiastic reception in Tehran.

His prose work, which began with the debut novel "Raudt, svart" (Red, Black) in 1983, is no less famous.

He came to notice with the 1999 Paris performance of his play "Nokon kjem til a komme" (1996; "Someone Is Going to Come", English 2002) which showcases, in simplest terms possible, the significant human emotions of anxiety and powerlessness, and loss of orientation.

However, his sentiment is negative like forebears like, say, Samuel Beckett, Thomas Bernhard and Georg Trakl.



While Fosse shares the negative outlook of his predecessors, he is not solely nihilistic as more salubrious sentiments and humour can also be discerned in his works.

His second novel "Stengd gitar" (1985; Closed Guitar) presents a searing examination, in his characteristic minimalist style, of human irresolution, through the medium of a young woman locked outside her house with her baby inside.

On the other hand, his play "Natta syng sine songar" (1998; "Nightsongs", 2002) shows the long drawn-out yet undecided dilemma of a woman considering a new relationship after abandoning her present - with her lack of decision leading to consequences for all three.

The tragic "Dodsvariasjonar" (2002; Death Variations, 2004) is a one-act play about a girl who commits suicide, told backwards from the time of her death, and in short accounts by six nameless characters from different generations,

both alive and dead.

A key prose work of his is the Biblically-tinged saga "Trilogien" (Trilogy, 2016), consisting of "Andvake" (2007), "Olavs Draumar" (2012) and "Kveldsvaevd" (2014), where more discernible emotions like love and violence figure, set in the barren coastal landscape where almost all of his fictional works are set.

Another key work is the novel "Det er Ales" (2004, "Aliss at the Fire", 2010), 200 questions on the unresolved shadowy borderland between life and death are discussed in some six-dozen pages.

His most notable prose is "Septology" completed in 2021.

Comprising "Det andre namnet - Septologien I-II" (2019, "The Other Name: Septology I-II", 2019), "Eg er ein annan - Septologien III-V" (2020, "I Is Another: Septology III-V", 2020), and "Eit nytt namn - Septologien VI-VII" (2021, "A New Name: Septology VI-VII", 2021), the work, extending over 1,200 pages, is a long, unbroken, and seemingly endless monologue in which an elderly artist, over the course of seven days, speaks to himself as another person. Among the consultants to the translation of the Bible into Norwegian in 2011, Fosse's long list of translations into Nynorsk includes Geom Trakl's "Sebastian i draum" (2019) and Rainer Maria Rilke's "Duino-elegiar" (2022).

Mysterious disease paralyses 95 schoolgirls in Kenya

Nairobi | Agencies

A mysterious disease has affected about 95 schoolgirls in Kenya who have been paralysed, according to media reports. Officials from Kakamega county confirmed 95 students from St. Theresa's Eregi Girls High School, located 374 kilometres north-west of Nairobi, had been hospitalised after alleged paralysis in the leg, KBC.co.ke reported. Kakamega County's CEC for Health, Bernard Wesonga, said samples of blood, urine, and stool have been collected and sent for extensive testing to determine the cause of the unknown illness that has caused panic and anxiety among parents. Some students are responding



positively to medication, while others are still under medical care" he was quoted as saying. The affected students

have reportedly displayed symptoms of knee pain, which has resulted in difficulty walking. Local media reports claim that the girls are experiencing a condition that renders their legs numb and immobile. Some are reportedly also suffering with severe headaches, vomiting, and fever. Meanwhile, the school has reportedly been closed indefinitely, following a meeting between school administrators and officials from the Education Ministry. The government has urged parents and guardians of the affected students to stay vigilant and monitor their children's health closely, as health officials work to identify the causes and establish containment measures.

Iran discovers 4 new oil, gas fields in 2 yrs: Minister

Tehran | Agencies

Iranian Oil Minister Javad Owji has announced that Iran has uncovered four new oil and gas fields in the past two years.

Owji revealed during a cabinet meeting in Tehran that the newly discovered fields hold recoverable reserves, which refer to oil and gas reserves that are economically and technically feasible to extract at the existing price of oil, amounting to 2.6 billion barrels, according to the Iranian Students' News Agency.



He said on Wednesday that the new fields included Cheshmehshour gas

field in the northeastern Khorasan Razavi province, the Hirkon oilfield in the northern province of Golestan, and the Tengoo and Genaveh oilfields in the southern province of Bushehr, Xinhua news agency reported. The Minister added "Iran ranks first in terms of hydrocarbon explorations among regional countries". According to a January report by the Energy Information Administration affiliated with the US Department of Energy, Iran sits on the world's third-largest oil and second-largest gas reserves respectively.

Mexican-Indian high school student crowned Miss Teen USA

New York | Agencies

Mexican-Indian high school student, Uma Sofia Srivastava has been crowned Miss Teen USA 2023, which saw participation from over 50 young women from across the country, in a live-streamed contest in Nevada state.

The 16-year-old high school Junior at the Academy of St Elizabeth had become the first Mexican-Indian Miss New Jersey Teen USA earlier this year.

"IS THIS REAL??? I am so grateful and honored that I'm the first Mexican-Indian, first New Jersey, your MISS TEEN USA 2023!!!" Srivastava wrote on social media after winning the coveted title last week. "This night is truly the best night of my life because I was crowned with the people that have loved and supported me throughout everything cheering for me in the audience."



Srivastava, who speaks English, Spanish, Hindi and French, hopes to become a UN Ambassador.

She works with the Lotus Petal Foundation to help underprivileged children in India receive a well rounded education, proper nutrition and healthcare. A co-founder of the Diversity & Inclusion campaign at her school, Srivastava also participates in Mock Trial and Model United Nations, according to her pageant biography. She has authored and illustrated a book, "The White Jaguar", which she says, is to inspire people of all ages to embrace what makes them unique. Also a pianist, Srivastava runs her own blog, That's Fan Behavior, where she writes about her experience as a woman of colour and current events. Miss New York Teen USA Stephanie Skinner was named first runner-up and Miss Pennsylvania Teen USA Maggie Ross was second runner-up in the pageant.

Tsunami warning issued after 6.6-magnitude quake hits Japan

Tokyo | Agencies

A tsunami warning was issued on Thursday after a massive earthquake measuring 6.6 on the Richter scale jolted Japan's Izu Islands, the national weather bureau said. According to the Japan Meteorological Agency (JMA), the temblor occurred at 11.09 a.m. at a depth of 10 km, reports Xinhua news agency.

A tsunami advisory of an estimated height of one metre was issued following the quake. Details on damages and injuries were not immediately available.



Maha hospital deaths

CM SHINDE CRACKS THE WHIP, ORDERS STATUS REPORT FROM ALL DISTRICTS

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Under fire from the opposition over deaths in hospitals, Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde on Thursday ordered all Collectors to visit the government hospitals in their districts and submit a status report immediately.

The Collectors have been asked to visit all state-run, civic hospitals, primary health centers and hospitals attached to medical colleges across the state and prepare a detailed report on the current situation there.

Shinde also directed the Collectors to visit government hospitals under their respective jurisdiction on a daily/regular basis to monitor the situation there, even as the opposition Maha Vikas Aghadi and other parties pounced on the government.

The CM's tough talk came after a series of patient deaths were reported from government hospitals in Nanded, Chhatrapati Sambhajnagar, Nagpur this week, and earlier in August, in his hometown Thane.

The video-conference was attended by Chief Secretary Manoj Saunik,



Additional CS Public Health Milind Mhaikar, Principal Secretary, Medical Education Dinesh Waghmare and other officials of the departments concerned, and all Collectors.

Shinde reiterated that a state-level committee has been appointed to investigate the death cases in Nanded and Chhatrapati Sambhajnagar and warned of strict action against the

culprits. Referring to remedial measures, the CM said Collectors have been empowered to purchase medicines and they must ensure that there are no delays in the procurement of medicines as required.

"The health system is the highest priority of the state government. We are working to prepare a short-term and long-term plan for the strengthening of the health system and there

will be no shortage of funds to implement it," he assured.

He called upon the Divisional Commissioners, Collectors, Superintendents of Hospitals and District Surgeons to work as a team for the health system, and necessary funds and additional equipment should be provided promptly if required.

In case of manpower shortages, the government has empowered outsourcing at the district level, and there should be delay on such counts, failing which the officers concerned would be held responsible.

The CM said that there is a state-level dashboard regarding the availability of medicines, and said it should be used effectively by all the hospitals to make purchases of medicines or equipment needed urgently.

Shinde's instructions came even as the state Congress led a delegation to the Governor Ramesh Bais, demanding a probe into the hospital deaths by a retired high court judge, compensation to the kin of all the deceased victims and removal of the state Health Minister.

NCP condemns 'removal' of 'Socialist, Secular' from Preamble of Constitution

Team Absolute | Mumbai

The Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) on Thursday strongly condemned the dropping of the words 'Socialist, Secular' from the Preamble of the Constitution.

This has become evident from the new copies of the Constitution published and distributed to the MPs recently, said the NCP, in a unanimous resolution passed after its Extended Working Committee Meeting held in New Delhi.

The meeting was presided over by NCP President Sharad Pawar and was attended by its Working President Supriya Sule, National Secretary Jitendra Awhad and other senior leaders. The party also expressed "deep anguish" over the continuing violence in Manipur and the total breakdown of the Constitutional machinery there. Referring to the recent series of deaths in Maharashtra's government hospitals, the NCP condemned "the complete



breakdown of the health machinery" and the administration's misplaced priorities that are glaringly evident by the alarming death toll at public hospitals this week in Thane, Nanded, Chhatrapati Sambhajnagar and Nagpur.

Referring to the arrest of Aam Aadmi Party MP Sanjay Singh and other similar recent cases, the NCP slammed "the politically motivated arrest of public representatives by investigative agencies".

In the recent crackdown on the Fourth Estate, the NCP flayed the attacks on the press, threw its full weight

behind the media and for the constitutionally protected freedom of speech and expression in the country.

The party expressed that it has full confidence in the leadership of Sharad Pawar and condemned a few elected representatives who defected and acted against party directives, in reference to the July revolt by Ajit Pawar and his supporters.

Under the guidance and vision of Sharad Pawar, now the NCP is preparing for the future elections, including for the Lok Sabha and the Maharashtra Assembly, both slated in 2024.

'CM Shinde will remain in saddle, best wishes to Ajit Pawar as CM in future', says Fadnavis

Team Absolute | Mumbai

A day after he virtually anointed Ajit Pawar, the Deputy Chief Minister and leader of break-away Nationalist Congress Party faction as the next CM, Deputy CM Devendra Fadnavis reiterated that Chief Minister Eknath Shinde will continue in his post till the 2024 Assembly polls, here on Thursday.

Fadnavis said on Wednesday that "when the appropriate time comes, Ajit Pawar will be made CM for a full five years", but a day later, toned down his comments to "best wishes to Ajit Pawar as a future CM".

"Presently, Shinde is the CM and will continue in the post... There's no reason to replace him before the Lok Sabha or Assembly elections in the state," declared Fadnavis on Wednesday and repeated it today.



The NCP (Sharad Pawar) spokesperson, Vikas Lawande, while thanking Fadnavis for his magnanimity, also wondered whether the Bharatiya Janata Party would take Ajit Pawar 'for a ride' with such promises.

"We appreciate Fadnavis for his large heart to accommodate a person (Ajit Pawar) against whom corruption allegations were levelled, and now even promise to make him the next CM for a full term... We only hope that Ajit Pawar does not get betrayed," said Lawande.

Shiv Sena (UBT) MP and Chief Spokesperson Sanjay

Raut labelled Fadnavis as "a liar" for his claim on Wednesday that President's Rule was imposed in Maharashtra after the 2019 Assembly elections at the behest of Sharad Pawar, triggering a fresh political verbal war in the state.

"I have not seen a liar like Fadnavis in my whole life... The state government is illegal and the person accused in the irrigation scam (Ajit Pawar) is sitting beside you... But they are only tarnishing the image of Maha Vikas Aghadi," said Raut, speaking to mediapersons.

He said that if the Maharashtra Assembly Speaker Rahul Narwekar proceeds as per the rules on the issue of disqualification of 16 Shiv Sena MLAs, "then forget five years, Shinde can't remain CM for even five minutes", and claimed that "even Ajit Pawar will lose his MLA-ship".

Congress demands probe by retired HC judge, Spl session of legislature over hospitals deaths

Team Absolute | Mumbai

The Maharashtra Congress on Thursday called on Governor Ramesh Bais and demanded a probe by a retired high court judge into the serial deaths at various government hospitals and removal of the state Health Minister Tanaji Sawant.

The Congress also called for convening a Special Session of the state legislature to discuss these and various other major issues confronting the people, the farmers, law and order and women.

State Congress President Nana Patole, Working President M. Arif Naseem Khan, Leader of Opposition (Assembly) Vijay Wadettiwar, Mumbai party chief Prof. Varsha Gaikwad, and other leaders also demanded a compensation of Rs 10 lakh each for next of the kin of the deceased. The delegation submitted a memorandum pointing out how at least 31 patients died in 48 hours, including 16 infants at the



Dr. Shankarrao Chavan Government Medical College and Hospital, Nanded, 14 deaths in 24 hours at Government Medical College and Hospital in Chhatrapati Sambhajnagar, and 23 losing their lives in 24 hours at Mayo Hospital, Nagpur, all this week.

Earlier in mid-August, they pointed out how 18 patients died in 24 hours at the Thane Municipal Corporation's Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Hospital, in adjoining Thane district.

"Owing to these deaths, the state health system is on a 'ventilator' and

the situation has arisen owing to the apathy of the state government," said the delegation leaders to the Governor, and called for the removal of the Health Minister.

They said that now the Bombay High Court has taken suo motu cognizance of the matter which indicates the failure of the state government and hence the Health Minister must be asked to resign. Referring to the incident of a ruling Shiv Sena MP Hemant S. Patil forcing the Acting Dean of Nanded hospital, Dr. S. R. Wakode to clean the toilets/urinals, the Congress

leaders said that despite an increase in the use of force by MPs/MLAs of the ruling parties against government servants, the home department has failed to take any action against them, leading to resentment after the government employees.

Referring to other issues, the Congress alleged that the state government has cheated students preparing for various competitive exams in the state by deciding to fill various vacant official posts 'on contract basis' through 9 companies.

"This has indirectly tried to scuttle the reservations for various categories like SC/ST/OBCs, etc, and hence this move of the government should be cancelled," the delegation urged the Governor. Referring to the steep increase of 22 per cent in crimes against women like rape, molestation, kidnapping and other offences, the state home department has failed to curb the same and Congress urged the Governor to personally examine the matter.

Allu Arjun's wax figure at Madame Tussauds Dubai to be unveiled later this year

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Telugu star Allu Arjun, who recently bagged the National Film Award, is all set to have his wax figure unveiled at the Madame Tussauds Dubai, later this year.

On Thursday, a video of the actor giving his measurements surfaced which showed him donning a black suit.

His figure will wear an iconic red jacket which he wore in the boardroom dance scene of his movie 'Ala Vaikunthapuramuloo'.

On getting the news that he had been selected for a wax figure at Madame Tussauds Dubai, Allu said in a statement: "I visited Madame Tussauds in Los Angeles and was blown away by the experience! I can't believe that now I'll have a wax figure, I never would have believed it."



A 'sitting', that is a meeting between the celebrity and the artists at Madame Tussauds, took place in Dubai earlier this year.

Over 200 measurements were taken, being the normal, detailed process needed to create one of the amazing wax figures.

Sanaz Kollrud, General Manager of Madame Tussauds Dubai said: "Allu Arjun is without a doubt the biggest actor from the south of India. What better way to mark his incredible success than by giving the fans what they want - his first ever wax figure! Our artists have been working with Allu on his likeness and we can't wait to unveil the figure later this year."

The figure will be placed in the beautiful and interactive Bollywood Zone inside the attraction located on Bluewaters.

Many detained as Mumbai AAP protests against MP Sanjay Singh's arrest

Team Absolute | Mumbai

The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) staged a vociferous demonstration protesting against the arrest of party MP Sanjay Singh, outside the Enforcement Directorate (ED) offices in south Mumbai, here on Thursday.

Scores of AAP workers trooped to the spot, carrying banners, posters and belted out slogans against the government, and demanded the release of Singh from the 'illegal arrest'.

Tight police security was deployed at the venue and around 100 activists were bundled off into waiting vans for detention. AAP Mumbai President Preeti Sharma-Menon slammed the Mumbai Police for the strong-arm tactics and preventing the party leaders and workers from staging a simple protest near the ED office.

"So much police deployment outside my humble house... Looks like all criminals are on holiday and Mumbai Police has no other work," said Sharma-Menon in an X post.

Mumbai AAP Working President Dwijendra



Tiwari said that at least 15 senior leaders including Sharma-Menon, Ruben Mascarenhas, Pius Varghese and others were detained by Mumbai Police from their homes without assigning any reasons.

RANBIR KAPOOR SEEKS 2 WEEKS' TIME TO RESPOND TO ED SUMMONS

Mumbai: A day after he was issued a summons by the Enforcement Directorate in the Mahadev App case, actor Ranbir Kapoor has sought two weeks' time to respond to the same. The Rockstar actor was asked to appear before the federal agency on October 6 and cooperate with the ongoing probe.

Kapoor is alleged to have been involved in promotional activities for the app and to have received substantial sums of money from the promoters-in cash and cheques. The exact amount he received has not been disclosed.

The ED official earlier told mid-day.com that they were probing into all possible aspects as they believe "a substantial amount of money laundering has been directed towards celebrities involved in promoting the app".

The ED revealed that many celebrities including Tiger Shroff, Sunny Leone, Rahat Fateh Ali Khan, Atif Aslam, Neha Kakkar, Vishal Dadlani, Ali Asgar, Bharti Singh, Bhagyashree, and Pulkit, attended the extravagant wedding of Mahadev app promoter Saurabh Chandraker in Al Khaimah (RAK), UAE, earlier this year. They were allegedly compensated in cash through an event management company that the ED suspects are linked to the proceeds of the crime.

BOMBAY HC SEEKS DETAILS ON IMPLEMENTATION OF ANTI-HUMAN TRAFFICKING LAW

Team Absolute | Mumbai

The Bombay High Court on Wednesday said offences under anti-human trafficking law have social and cultural ramifications while directing the Union and Maharashtra governments to give an update on the implementation of legislation. The court, according to PTI, directed them to file affidavits stating of the apparatus contemplated per the legislation was functional or not.

A division bench of Chief Justice DK Upadhyaya and Justice Arif Doctor was hearing a Public Interest Litigation (PIL) filed by a non-governmental organisation (NGO) 'Rescue Foundation'. They claimed in their plea that provisions of the Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act are not being implemented by the authorities.

According to the report, the bench in its order observed serious concerns were raised in the PIL about a "not so happy situation" wherein the offenders booked



under the Act escaped the rigours of the law. The Union government, in an

affidavit, had previously informed the bench that offences pertaining to human trafficking for slavery and

sexual exploitation under Sections 370 and 370 A of the Indian Penal Code would be investigated by the National Investigation Agency (NIA) since the crimes have interstate and sometimes international connections.

The court, as reported in PTI, on Wednesday noted that the Union government was silent on other provisions of the Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act. HC further emphasized that the Union government had not yet appointed trafficking police officers to probe offences under the Act which deals with sexual exploitation of persons, allegedly committed in more than one state.

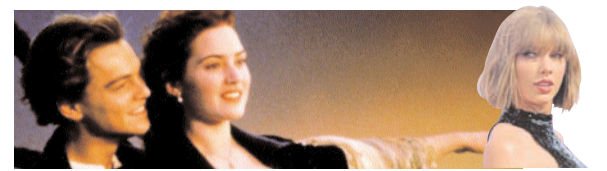
"In the absence of the appointment of trafficking police officers, the offences under the Act reported to have been committed in more than one state will remain uninvestigated and hence there appears to be an urgent need for the appointment of trafficking police officers," HC said. The bench, noting that offences under the Act have social

and cultural ramifications, said the state government needs to reflect upon whether the advisory bodies and the 'Anti-human trafficking units', as contemplated under the Act, have been set up and/or are discharging their duties.

The bench directed the state government to file an elaborate affidavit on whether the provisions of the Act are being implemented and to state specifically the work and functions the Anti-human trafficking units and women's help desks are carrying out.

"The State government shall also indicate as to how many offences reported under Sections 370 and 370A of the Indian Penal Code in Maharashtra have been referred for investigation to the NIA," HC said.

The bench has also asked the Union government to file an affidavit giving details on steps taken by it to ensure appointment of trafficking police officers and the HC said it has to be filed within four weeks. The next hearing on the matter will be on December 4.



SZA slams Grammys as 'thirsty, dark space'



Los Angeles | Agencies

Singer SZA is not a fan of the atmosphere created by artists seeking "validation" from awards, describing being amongst acknowledgement-seeking stars as "the weirdest" and "not normal" experience.

In an interview with Rolling Stone, she said: "It's not normal. I hate that (other artists) are acting like this s**t is normal and nobody talks about it at all."

The singer continued: "There is so much wanting in there. Wanting to be noticed, wanting to be, like, acknowledged, to win, wanting to just be amongst (other artists) in the room, wanting to feel valuable or validated. All of us are in there striving for something. It's like a thirsty, dark space."

SZA herself has won one Grammy from 14 nominations to date, in 2022, for 'Kiss Me More' with Doja Cat, reports [aceshowbiz.com](#).

She said: "It means something, even though, like, this isn't everything. But it's kind of important that I'm here. It kind of matters."

The chart-topping star previously insisted she's not motivated by accolades.

The 'Good Days' singer, whose real name is Solana Rowe, said: "I try not to care too much because I really had some deep disappointments when I would just be so invested. But I can't invest because none of it is real."

"Even if I win a bunch of Grammys, that s**t doesn't matter. It would be so cool. But also, I would not be surprised at all if I didn't win any (more). Because that's just how s**t goes."

Meanwhile, SZA's longtime manager recently suggested that she didn't perform at the MTV Video Music Awards due to not being nominated for Artist of The Year.

I'll always be honest with my fans: Selena Gomez

Los Angeles | Agencies

Actress-singer Selena Gomez has spoken openly about her mental health struggles over recent years, and she said she'll never hide from the reality of the situation. Gomez told [FastCompany.com](#): "I've never promised anyone that I'll never have a bad day again. I've always been honest with my fans. Even when I take breaks from social media, I'll say I'm taking a break."

Gomez has been busily working on her new album over recent months, and the singer has said that it will represent a fun departure from her previous material, reports [femalefirst.co.uk](#).

She shared: "I love sad-girl music; I'm really good at that. However, I can't really write that if I'm not sad. I've had to relearn what being me and being happy looked like. There is not one sad song on this whole album."

Gomez previously confessed that she would actually struggle to write a "sad song" at the moment. The singer said that she's in a particularly positive frame of mind at present. She told [SiriusXM Hits 1](#): "I genuinely don't feel like I have anything in me to write something negative. It just doesn't match with where I am anymore. And I live in sad girl music world. I love that. And I'll write that music all the time, but I, I just felt like this album shouldn't be that." She also revealed that she's happily single.



Pamela Anderson reveals how having 'self-acceptance' inspired her makeup-free movement

Los Angeles | Agencies

'Baywatch' star Pamela Anderson, whose '90s glam became legendary all on its own, has been rocking a stripped-down look as of late.

Pamela stuck to the basics throughout Paris Fashion Week, opting for a makeup-free style at several major shows, reports [etonline](#).

"It's all about self-acceptance," Pamela told [i-D](#) magazine while attending Victoria Beckham's runway show on September 29.

"This is the chapter of my life I'm trying to embrace now. Since I really walk out the door as me, I feel relief -- a weight off my shoulders.... I'm dressing for me now, not for everybody else."

Pamela shared her confidence-boosting mantra. "You just have to understand that you're good enough and that you are beautiful," she noted.

"I like to say the word, 'life-ing' instead of aging. Chasing youth is just futile."

The 56-year-old echoed similar sentiments on Instagram, writing on September 30: "There is beauty in self acceptance, imperfection and love."

The 'Barb Wire' actress is being applauded for redefining beauty standards.

PAW PATROL-THE MIGHTY MOVIE IS DIFFERENT FROM ITS PREVIOUS INSTALLMENT

Los Angeles | Agencies

When a magical meteor crash-lands in Adventure City, it bestows superpowers upon the Paw Patrol pups, transforming them into The MIGHTY PUPS! Skye, the team's smallest member, finds her dream come true with these new abilities. However, the situation takes a dark turn when the pups' archrival, Mayor Humdinger, escapes from jail and joins forces with Victoria Vance, a meteor-obsessed mad scientist, to steal the pups' superpowers and become supervillains. Produced by Paramount Pictures and Viacom 18 studios, 'PAW Patrol: The Mighty Movie' is set to release across India on October 13 in English, Hindi. Director Cal Brunker, returning to helm the project after the first film, expands the PAW Patrol phenomenon further. Brunker and the creative team aimed to give each pup unique superhero powers that resonate with their personalities. Additionally, the newly introduced Mighty Pups' vehicles can reach top speeds in an instant, enhancing the film's action. Brunker states, "We were looking for superhero powers that dovetailed into something personal for the pups."

He also points to the newly christened Mighty Pups' vehicles, which can launch to



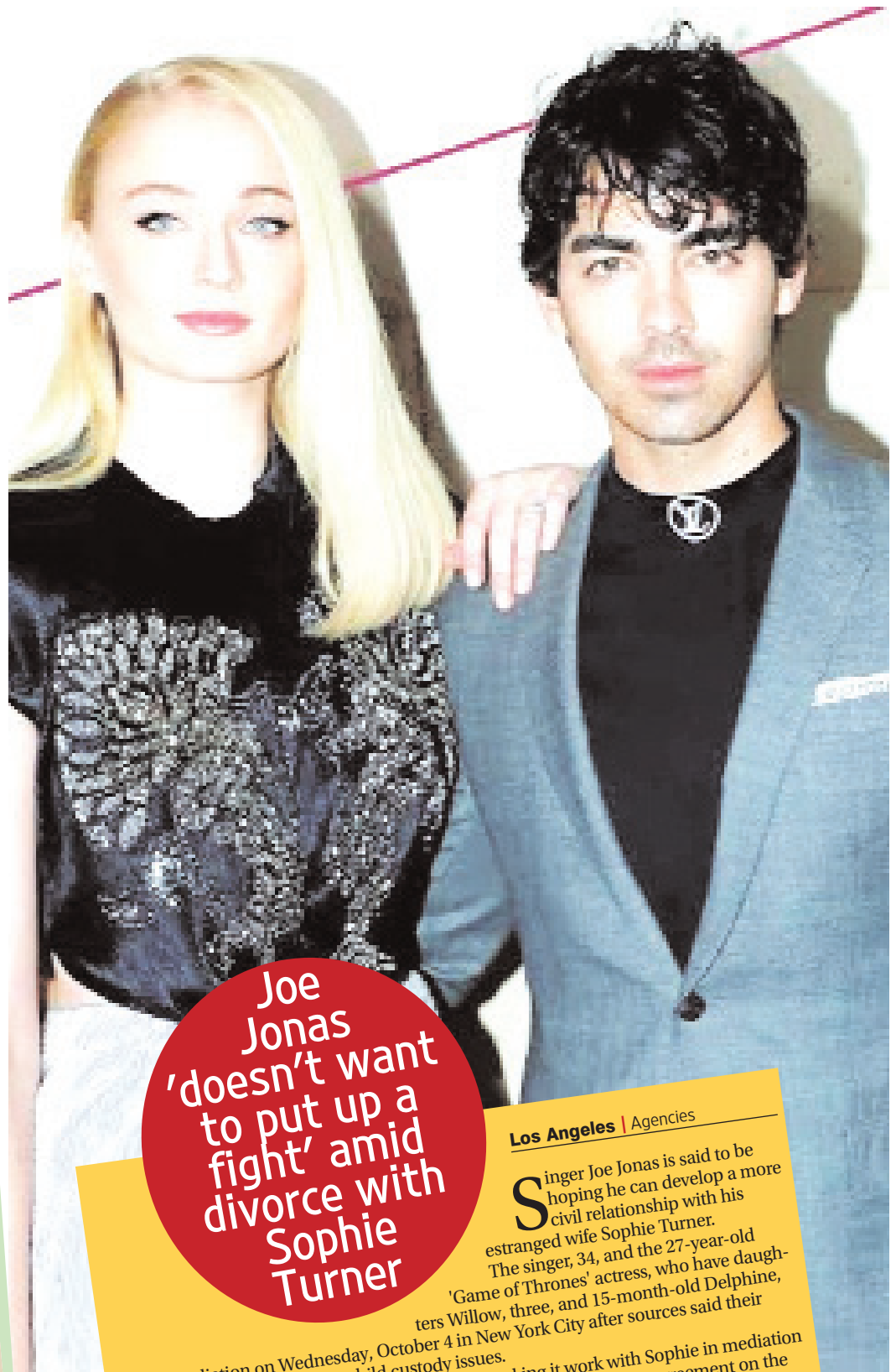
top speeds in a fraction of a second, as another turbo-charged element introduced in this film. He adds, "We have all new vehicles for the Mighty Pups that complement their superpowers, with a futuristic feel, new colors, and incredible functionality - all powered by the pups."

As power surges and glows through their new superhero suits, they can slam their

hands on the vehicle, transfer the power, and bring their rides to roaring life."

Joining the franchise is Taraji P. Henson, portraying the villainous Victoria Vance, a scientist who poses a formidable challenge to the PAW Patrol.

The comedy-adventure also showcases the comedic talents of Marsai Martin, who returns to voice Liberty, a long-haired minia-



Joe Jonas 'doesn't want to put up a fight' amid divorce with Sophie Turner

Los Angeles | Agencies

Singer Joe Jonas is said to be hoping he can develop a more civil relationship with his estranged wife Sophie Turner.

The singer, 34, and the 27-year-old 'Game of Thrones' actress, who has daughters Willow, three, and 15-month-old Delphine, started mediation on Wednesday, October 4 in New York City after sources said their

divorce took a nasty turn over child custody issues.

An insider told [Page Six](#): "Joe is committed to making it work with Sophie in mediation and doesn't want to put up a fight - as long as they can come to a fair agreement on the kids." The couple's mediation sessions are expected to last four days, according to their attorneys, who said during a court hearing on Tuesday the goal is to establish a co-parenting plan for their two kids, reports [aceshowbiz.com](#).

Sophie sued Jonas Brothers performer Joe in September for the "immediate return" of their kids to the "forever home" they had planned to buy in England prior to their separation.

The actress claimed in court documents Joe recently had a change of heart and was withholding Willa and Delphine's passports to keep them in the US.

A representative for Joe later said he was "OK with the kids being raised both in the US and the UK."

The spokesperson also described Sophie's use of the word "abduction" in her emergency lawsuit as "misleading at best and a serious abuse of the legal system at worst."

A Manhattan federal judge set a trial date of January 2, 2024, for the custody battle, which will follow the December 9 conclusion of the Jonas Brothers' ongoing US tour. Joe and Sophie have in the meantime agreed to keep their girls in New York.

The singer filed for divorce from the actress in September, and while the pair said in a joint statement at the time the end of their four-year marriage was a "united decision," Sophie claimed in her lawsuit she had "found out through the media" Joe was leaving her, which he denied.

A source previously told [Page Six](#) "divorce was a last resort" for Joe, but claimed he had "reached a point where he felt that he had exhausted all options to salvage the marriage."



Candice Swanepoel



Asian Games

ABHISHEK, OJAS, PRATHAMESH WIN GOLD IN COMPOUND MEN'S TEAM ARCHERY



Hangzhou | Agencies

Indian men's compound team of Ojas Pravin Deotale, Abhishek Verma and Prathamesh Jawkar South Korean team in the final to clinch the gold at the 19th Asian Games, here on Thursday. The Indian team topped South Korean team of Joo Jaehoon, Yang Jaewon and Kim Jongho 235-230 to clinch the top prize in the men's compound event. En route to gold medal win, the Indian trio defeated Chinese Taipei 235-224 in the semifinal after registering a 235-221 against Bhutan in the quarterfinal. Moreover, India is assured of gold and silver medals in the Compound Men's Individual event with World Champion Ojas and compatriot Abhishek set to meet summit clash on Saturday. Earlier today, the women's compound team of Jyothi Surekha Vennam, Aditi Gopichand Swami and Parneet Kaur bagged a gold medal.

Antim takes bronze

Two-time reigning U20 champion Antim Panghal bagged a bronze medal in women's 53kg wrestling event at the 19th Asian Games after beating Tokyo Olympic medalist Bat-Ochir Bolortuya of Mongolia, here on Thursday. Reigning Asian Champion, Antim, who lost her quarterfinal bout Japan's Akari Fujinami by Fall, advanced to the bronze medal bout via repechage, wherein she received a bye. Meanwhile, Pooja Gehlot missed out on a medal after losing 2-9 to Uzbekistan's Aktenge Keunimjaeva in the women's freestyle 50kg semifinal bronze medal match. Pooja earlier lost to two-time Asian Champion Japan's Remina Yoshimoto via technical superiority in the semifinal.

SAURAV GHOSAL BAGS SECOND SILVER IN MEN'S SINGLES AFTER NINE YEARS

Saurav Ghosal won his second silver in men's singles after Incheon 2014, as he lost 1-3 to Malaysian Eain Yow NG in the final encounter, here on Thursday. The Indian was off to a thumping start as he took the lead Eain Yow NG in the first game 11-9. But the rallies kept getting longer and Eain used that to his advantage to first get level in the game, and then take the third and fourth games to win the contest. The final scoreline of the match read 11-9, 9-11, 5-11, 7-11. It's 9th Asian Games medal for Saurav overall.

Dipika-Harinder pair wins gold in mixed doubles squash

Dipika Pallikal Karthik and Harinder Pal Singh Sandhu won the gold medal in the mixed doubles competition in squash at 19th Asian Games, beating a Malaysian pair in the final on Thursday. The Indian pair defeated Malaysia's Aifa Binti Azman and Mohammad Syafiq bin Mohd Kamal 2-0 in straight games, coming back from game ball to win 11-10, 11-10. The Indians were trailing in the first game but came back strongly to win the first game. Dipika and Harinder had a commanding 9-2 lead in the second game but the Malaysians fought back with all their might to win eight points in a row to make it 10-9 in their favour. The Indian did not lose hope and after a few replays following let balls, they won the next two points to win the match and secured India's second gold in squash, after the men won the Team title beating Pakistan in the final. This takes India's gold medal tally to 20 and the total tally to 83.

ODI Cricket World Cup 2023

Rachin Ravindra smashes fastest World Cup ODI century for New Zealand

Team Absolute | Ahmedabad

New Zealand all-rounder Rachin Ravindra smashed his maiden ODI hundred on his World Cup debut on Thursday. The 23-year-old reached the three-figure mark off 82 deliveries against England in the ODI World Cup 2023 opener, becoming the fastest New Zealand batter to smash a hundred in men's ODI World Cup history. Chasing the target of 283 runs set by England batting first, Rachin came to bat at No. 3 after the early loss of Will Young in the second over. Rachin took the big stage and delivered to his capability, batting fluently and finding the gaps very easily. He cemented the New Zealand



batting order and partnered with Devon Conway who also went on to reach his hundred in 83 deliveries, just one short of making the record which Rachin grabbed with both hands. Conway's 83-ball century was the fastest for New Zealand at the men's ODI World Cup, beating Martin Guptill, 88 balls vs. Bangladesh in 2015, but with

the help of 9 boundaries and 4 maximum, Rachin Ravindra, the 23-year old playing only his 9th ODI innings, getting to three-figures in 82 balls. He also became the became NZ's youngest World Cup centurion. Their unbroken partnership - 273 off 211 balls with 30 fours and eight sixes - sees NZ through with nine wickets and 82 balls to spare.

Sindhu crashes out, no medal for India in women's singles badminton

Hangzhou | Agencies

India's campaign in the women's singles badminton at the 19th Asian Games ended on Thursday morning with two-time Olympic medalist PV Sindhu losing to her old nemesis He Bingjiao of China in a quarterfinal clash at the Badminton Stadium in Binjiang Gymnasium in Hangzhou. Sindhu had beaten Bingjiao in a memorable match to win the bronze medal in the Olympic Games



in Tokyo. They have fought many battles in the BWF circuit and the Chinese player holds an 11-7 advantage over Sindhu in head-to-head record. On Thursday with the passionate home crowd

behind her, Bingjiao defeated the Indian former World Champion in straight games, 21-16, 21-12 in 47 minutes. Sindhu, who won the bronze medal in the Rio Olympic Games in 2016 and was also at the 2018 Asian Games in Indonesia, fought well in the first game but found that the Chinese player was playing a different tempo. So far in Hangzhou, India has won only one medal in badminton, a silver in the Men's Team competition.



Badminton Jr Worlds: Tara Shah, Ayush Shetty extend winning streak; Unnati bows out

Spokane (US) | Agencies

Tara Shah and Ayush Shetty extend their winning streak, advancing to the round of 16 while Unnati Hooda bowed out in round-of-32 of the Badminton World Junior Championships. In the girls' singles match, Tara, the third seed in the tournament, secured a hard-fought victory against Canada's Alena Yu with scores of 23-21, 21-16 in a closely contested battle that lasted 30 minutes. In the boys' singles section, Ayush faced a formidable challenge from Indonesia's Muhammad Reza Al Fajri. Although, Muhammad staged a strong comeback after losing the first game, Ayush showed great composure and ultimately clinched the tie 21-14, 13-21, 21-19. In the mixed doubles, the duo of Sathwik Reddy Kanapuram and Vaishnavi Khadkekar faced Singapore's Nge Joo Jin and Xiao En Heng. Despite an initial setback, they staged a remarkable comeback and secured victory in the final game, with scores of 19-21, 21-10, 21-7. In the other mixed doubles tie, Samarveer

and Radhika Sharma defeated Bryan Jeremy Goonting and Chan Wen Tse of Malaysia in straight games by 21-19, 21-18 in another close encounter. In the other girls' singles category, Unnati Hooda was bested by the tournament's top seed, Tomoka Miyazaki of Japan, with scores of 13-21, 13-21. In the boys' singles, Tushar Suveer faced Indonesia's Alwi Farhan, the fourth seed, and suffered a 16-21, 19-21 defeat. In the girls' doubles section, both the doubles pair of Vennala Kalagotla & Shriyanshi Valishetty and Tanvi Sharma & Radhika Sharma lost against the tournament's fifth seed and third seed pair respectively. Meanwhile, on the boys' doubles court, Nicholas Raj and Tushar Suveer defeated Spain's Daniel Franco and Rodrigo Sanjurjo in straight games with scores of 21-10, 21-16 in just 24 minutes while Divyam Arora and Mayank Rana defeated Estonia's Andrei Schmidt and Hugo Thomas 21-19, 21-15 to move to the next round. Ayush Shetty and Tara Shah along with the four doubles pair will next play in the round of 16.

Bahrain wins women's marathon for third time; China claims first men's gold

Hangzhou | Agencies

He Jie became the first Chinese athlete to win an Asian Games men's marathon gold while Bahrain maintained its with Eunice Chebichii Paul Chumba powering to gold on Thursday. In the events run at the Qiantang River Green Belt course, Chumba became Bahrain's third consecutive women's marathon winner, following the successes of Rose Chelimo (Jakarta-Palembang 2018) and Eunice Jepkirui Kirwa (Guangzhou 2014). "This is the first time I win a gold medal in the Asian Games, or in any championships. All the people are shouting for me, that pushed me to win, pushed me to the finish line," CHUMBA said. "My competitors are really strong, and we were all pushing each other." Chumba finished in 2hr 26min 14sec, 1:41:00 ahead of Zhang Deshun of China in second. Sardana Trofinova of Kazakhstan took bronze. Zhang, who was third in the Jakarta-Palembang 2018 women's 10000m, was proud of her achievement in her new discipline. "This medal is an affirmation for me after transitioning to running marathons," ZHANG said. "Since finishing in third place in 2018, I aimed to get into the top three this year or maybe win a medal of a different colour." China were not to be denied gold in the men's event, however. He Jie crossed the line first in 2:13:02, just 25 seconds ahead of Han Iryong (PRK). "This is a very special and important moment for me to win the marathon gold medal because I started from very humble beginnings," He said. "I started as a training partner and because of the increasing popularity of and increasing participation in marathon running in China, coincidentally I joined the national team, and I started training harder. I feel that I have truly come very far." His compatriot Yang Shaohui finished third. India's Man Singh finished in eighth place in 2:16:05 while compatriot Belliappa Appachangada came in 12th in 2:20:52. The marathons marked the end of the athletics programme at the Hangzhou Asian Games. India finished the 19th Asian Games with 29 medals - 6 gold, 14 silver and 9 bronze.



ment in her new discipline. "This medal is an affirmation for me after transitioning to running marathons," ZHANG said.

Indian women's hockey team loses 0-4 against China in semis



Hangzhou | Agencies

Indian women's hockey team suffered a 0-4 loss against China in the 1st Semifinal of the Asian Games, here on Thursday. Despite creating multiple chances, India was not able to get on the scoresheet, while China netted four goals through Jiaqi Zhong (25'), Meirong Zou (40'), Meiyu Liang (55'), and Bingfeng GU (60'). The match kicked off with China swiftly infiltrating deep into India's territory, immediately challenging India's defense. This early offensive move resulted in China earning the first Penalty Corner of the game, but India's Captain and goalkeeper, Savita, came up with a crucial save to prevent China from taking the lead. Simultaneously, the Indian team attempted to take command of the game by applying pressure on China and executing rapid passes.

Nonetheless, China continued to display its attacking prowess, maintaining pressure on India, who defended admirably to keep China at bay. The second quarter commenced on the same note with China attacking rigorously which earned them an early penalty corner, but once again Savita came to India's rescue with a good save. However, China was finally able to break the deadlock by capitalising on a penalty corner, which saw the shot by Jiaqi Zhong (25') get deflected off Nikki Pradhan's leg before crossing the goal-line. With this victory, China made it to the Final of the tournament, while India will next play against either Korea or Japan in the Bronze medal match on Saturday, 7th October 2023 at 1330hrs IST. India will now play against the winner of Korea and Japan for the Bronze medal on Saturday.

AIFF hails FIFA's decision on 2034 World Cup bid



Team Absolute | New Delhi

All India Football Federation welcomed FIFA's decision to invite the Member Associations under the Asian Football Confederation (AFC) and the Oceania Football Confederation (OFC) to bid for the FIFA World Cup 2034. AIFF President Kalyan Chaubey said, "This is a great opportunity for Asia to once again bid for a World Cup in 2034, and it is certainly an encouraging decision by FIFA." AIFF secretary general Shaji Prabhakaran said, "After the success of the FIFA World Cup 2022 in Qatar, Asia has demonstrated its calibre to successfully host a tournament of such magnitude. The fact that FIFA has once again taken the decision to possibly give such an opportunity to our continent is a welcome development for football in our continent." The FIFA Council had, on October 4, 2023, met virtually to make decisions on the 2030

and the 2034 World Cups, the former being unanimously awarded to a joint bid by Morocco, Portugal, and Spain, with FIFA World Cup Centenary celebration and celebratory games to be played in Uruguay, Argentina, and Paraguay. It was also agreed upon that in line with the principle of confederation rotation and of securing the best possible hosting conditions of the tournaments, the bidding process for both the 2030 and 2034 editions be conducted concurrently, with FIFA member associations from the territories of the AFC and the OFC invited to bid to host the FIFA World Cup 2034. The AIFF President further went on to lend his support to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia on its intentions to bid for the FIFA World Cup 2034. "We at the AIFF extend our support to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to bid for the FIFA World Cup 2034."

Stage set for Round 2 of 26th National Racing Championship

Team Absolute | New Delhi

Bengaluru boys Tijji Rao of Dark Don Racing and Arjun S Nair of Momentum Motorsports will be the cynosure of all eyes in their respective categories as the curtain goes up for Round 2 of the 26th JK Tyre FMSCI National Racing Championship during the coming weekend at Kari Motor Speedway in Coimbatore. Both the participants were in excellent form and staved off stiff challenges from their fellow competitors to finish the opening round at the top of the leaderboard in their respective categories. They will look to continue their good run and aim to consolidate their positions at the top of the leaderboard. The second round of the championship will be the penultimate round and will help racers to further strengthen their overall standings. Some nail biting action is anticipated during the rounds between the top contenders across categories as they will be fighting head to head to be a step closer towards winning the overall championship title. Tijji, who entered the championship as one of the early favorites, lived up to the hype as he nosed ahead in the blue riband LGB Formula 4 category with 27 points. He got off



to a jubilant start, winning the opening race and finished second and third in the next two races. He could have logged in more points to increase the gap at the top, but a sixth-place finish in the final race pegged him back. However, he will have to be at his imperious best during the weekend as Arya Singh of Kolkata is breathing fiercely down his neck. Arya, another youngster on the grid, is trailing by just a solitary point and will hope to turn the tables on his fellow Dark Don racer. Arya also had a near-perfect race weekend for Round 1 in August, winning one and finishing second in two races. He was in contention to finish on top, but a DNF in the last race meant he had to be content with the second spot.



Tamannaah Bhatia shells fashion goals in Zurich

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Actress Tamannaah Bhatia, who is known for her roles in projects like 'Lust Stories 2', 'Babli Bouncer', 'Baahubali: The Beginning' among several others, was recently spotted in Zurich, Switzerland, shelling major fashion goals for her fans. The actress looked red carpet ready in a beautiful green floral printed dress, while checking out the scenic views of Zurich's Old Town with its guild houses, historic churches, and hidden squares that dot the Limmat River. She opted for a neutral makeup, messy hair bun, and completed the look with red pointed heels. Zurich is the perfect destination for globe trotters like Tamannaah that love the convenience of a city surrounded by nature with lakes and mountains close by. The city is also a capital for gastronomy, wine and fashion and has many delectable options for vegetarian foodies as well.

In fact, while in Zurich the actress also visited the magical Lindt Home of Chocolate -- an interactive museum that serves as a beacon to chocolate lovers everywhere with the world's largest chocolate fountain. However, it is not yet clear that the actress is in the city for the ongoing 19th Zurich Film Festival which is on till October 8. Meanwhile, Tamannaah was recently seen in the action comedy film 'Jailer', directed by Nelson Dilipkumar and produced by Kalanithi Maran of Sun Pictures. The film stars Rajinikanth in the lead role, alongside Vinayakan, Ramya Krishnan, Vasanth Ravi, Tamannaah, Sunil, Mirnaa Menon and Yogi Babu in supporting roles. She was also seen in crime investigative thriller series 'Aakhri Sach'. The show is directed by Robbie Grewal, and also stars Abhishek Banerjee, Shivin Narang, Danish Iqbal, Nishu Dikshit, Kriti Vij and Sanjiv Chopra. The actress next has 'Bandra', 'Aranmanai 4', and 'Vedaa' in the pipeline.



I NEVER GOT TO PLAY A PUNJABI ON SCREEN: MONIKA KHANNA

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Actress Monika Khanna is thrilled to play the pivotal role of Tejinder Kaur in the upcoming fiction show 'Ikk Kudi Punjab Di', calling it a great opportunity for her as an actor. 'Ikk Kudi Punjab Di' is a high-octane drama that promises to captivate audiences with its powerful storyline and well written characters.

Monika's character Teji is a strong and respected woman, wielding significant influence and commanding authority in the Atwal house. She efficiently oversees all aspects of her household, from taking care of her in-laws to expanding her husband's business empire and political career.

The role she will play in all that transpires with Heer after marrying into the Atwal family will be interesting for viewers to watch.

Talking about the same, Monika said: "I believe this a great opportunity for me as an actor to challenge myself with Teji's character because it is very different from what I have played in the past, so I am really excited about it."

"In fact, this is my first Punjabi show, although I am one in real life, I never got to play a Punjabi on screen. I hope I do justice to the delivery of my dialogues in my native language and live up to everyone's expectations," shared Monika.

The actress further added: "There are many layers to my character, and I am sure the viewers will enjoy the drama my character will bring to the show. I'm ready to give it my 100 per cent and can't wait for the audience to watch me as Teji."

Produced by Dome Entertainment, the show is set to deliver a riveting narrative that will be filled with unexpected twists and turns.



'Learnt cooking, scriptures, worked out': Sanjay Dutt recollects his time in jail

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Bollywood star Sanjay Dutt, who is set to be seen in the upcoming adventurous culinary show 'Star vs Food Survival', has spoken on serving jail time at the Yerwada jail in Pune. Talking about the difficult time in his life, the actor said: "The first time I went to jail if you see the photographs outside Thane jail --- Anna (Suniel Shetty), Akshay Kumar, Ajay Devgn, Shah Rukh Khan, everybody came and wished me well. I had no respite from serving jail time, so why overthink it? I had to make up my mind that yes I had to go. I have to face it." Sharing about how he utilised his time while serving the sentence, Sanjay said: "In six years, I faced it, managed it, made the most out of it, and learned from it. I used that time to learn cooking, scriptures, and working out. I came out with a better physique."

The premiering episode of 'Star vs Food Survival' will feature Suniel Shetty and Sanjay Dutt.

The duo along with Chef Ranveer Brar (the show host) traverse through the pristine, untouched terrains of rural Coorg, which also happens to be Shetty's native land.

Talking about Bollywood during the 1980s and now, Sanjay said: "There was so much bonding among all of us. We were so together, we worked in so many movies together."



Team Absolute | Mumbai

Actor Jimmy Sheirgill has shared that one mistake he regrets in his acting career is shedding his chocolate boy image and opting for intense roles.

The actor, who is now being seen in the Netflix series 'Chooona', spoke candidly about his role in it, the character roles he has been doing over the years and a mistake he regrets making in his acting career.

Talking about a mistake he made in his acting career, he said, "I want to tell all the young actors of today that one should enjoy the image of a chocolate boy in their prime youth. Don't try to rush towards mature roles. Enjoy this phase as much because it will never come back. You will automatically move towards mature roles in your career. This is one mistake I made in my career that I was in a rush to change my chocolate boy image. And I regret doing that today."

Talking about performing character roles, he said, "I feel I stayed relevant for so many years in the industry because of the character roles. I was doing back to

back romance, singing songs and one day I realised people would have enough of this now. That's when I decided to do character roles and I did films like 'Munna Bhai', 'A Wednesday', 'Tanu weds Manu' and it all started to make a difference for me."

'Chooona' is a heist comedy drama created, written

and directed by Pushpendra Nath Misra and produced by Flying Saucer.

It also features Ashim Gulati, Arshad Warsi, Vikram Kochhar, Namit Das, Chandan Roy, Gyanendra Tripathi, Monika Panwar. The series is now streaming on Netflix.



Arijit Singh spotted at Salman Khan's house ending 9-year old feud



Team Absolute | Mumbai

Singer Arijit Singh was recently spotted at the premises of Bollywood superstar Salman Khan's Galaxy apartments in the Bandra area of Mumbai. The singer was seen sitting at the passenger seat in a multi-purpose vehicle (MPV) as he donned a beige coloured t-shirt. One of the fans of Salman shared the video on X (formerly Twitter). The singer and the actor got into a tiff almost a decade ago at an award function which Salman was hosting. Arijit, who bagged the award for Best Playback Singer for his stellar work in the 'Aashiqui 2'

album. However, the announcement for the Best Singer happened during the wee hours as usually happens in Bollywood award ceremonies.

The singer, who had dozed off by then, arrived late on stage only to be mocked by Salman to which Arijit casually replied, "Sir aap log itna late kar dete hain". This didn't go down well with the 'Tere Naam' actor and that's when the relationship between the two went awry. Following this, Arijit apologised to Salman on text many times as he lost two films.

He was denied a chance in 'Bajrangi Bhaijaan'. Worst of all? His version of 'Jag Ghoomeya' in Sultan was replaced by Rahat

Fateh Ali Khan. Arijit later took to Facebook in 2016 to issue a public apology to Salman to mend the relationship but soon took it down, and has since then has kept silent. Arijit is perhaps the only artiste in the Hindi film industry, whose career didn't take a hit despite being on not so good terms with Salman. With Arijit's spotting at Salman's house it seems the two have ended their feud after nine years and a collaboration may very well on the cards mediated by music composer Pritam Chakraborty, who is composing the music for Salman's next film 'Tiger 3' and has been the mentor to Arijit for close to 20 years now.



Vaani Kapoor