



मोदी की गारंटी भाजपा का भरोसा



मध्य प्रदेश संकल्प पत्र



सशक्त नारी

लाइली बहनों को मासिक आर्थिक सहायता के साथ मिलेगा पक्का मकान

₹450 में गैस सिलेंडर

गरीब परिवार की छात्राओं को केजी से पीजी तक मुफ्त शिक्षा देंगे

15 लाख ग्रामीण महिलाओं को कौशल प्रशिक्षण द्वारा लखपति बनाएंगे

लाइली लक्ष्मियों को जन्म से 21 वर्ष तक कुल ₹2 लाख देंगे



समृद्ध किसान

किसानों से ₹2700 प्रति क्विंटल पर गेहूं और ₹3100 प्रति क्विंटल पर धान की होगी खरीद

किसान सम्मान निधि और किसान कल्याण योजना से किसानों को सालाना ₹12,000

सभी लघु और सीमांत किसानों, खेतिहर श्रमिकों एवं बटाईदार किसानों के बच्चों को मुफ्त शिक्षा प्रदान करेंगे

मुख्यमंत्री सिंचाई टास्क फोर्स का गठन करेंगे जो प्रदेश में ₹32,000 करोड़ की सिंचाई परियोजनाओं को समय पर पूरा करेंगी



जनजातीय कल्याण

जनजातीय समुदाय के सशक्तिकरण के लिए ₹3 लाख करोड़

तैदूपत्ता संग्रहण दर करेंगे ₹4,000 प्रति बोरा

एसटी ब्लॉक में एकलव्य विद्यालय और एसटी बहुल जिलों में खुलेगा मेडिकल कॉलेज



उत्तम शिक्षा एवं सक्षम युवा

गरीब परिवार के सभी छात्रों को 12वीं कक्षा तक मुफ्त शिक्षा

सरकारी स्कूल में मिड-डे मील के साथ मिलेगा पौष्टिक नाश्ता

IIT और AIIMS के तर्ज पर खुलेगा मध्य प्रदेश इंस्टिट्यूट ऑफ टेक्नोलॉजी और मध्य प्रदेश इंस्टिट्यूट ऑफ मेडिकल साइंस

प्रत्येक परिवार में कम से कम एक सदस्य को रोजगार अथवा स्वरोजगार के अवसर



सबका साथ सबका विकास

5 सालों तक गरीबों को मिलता रहेगा मुफ्त राशन

मध्यप्रदेश का कोई भी परिवार बेघर नहीं रहेगा। प्रधानमंत्री आवास योजना के साथ ही मुख्यमंत्री जन आवास योजना शुरू करेंगे



सुदृढ़ आधारभूत संरचना

6 नए एक्सप्रेस-वे का निर्माण- विंध्य एक्सप्रेस वे, नर्मदा, अटल प्रगति, मालवा निमाड, बुंदेलखंड एवं मध्य भारत विकास पथ

80 रेलवे स्टेशनों के आधुनिकीकरण के साथ वंदे मेट्रो, वंदे भारत स्लीपर ट्रेन और रीवा, सिंगरौली और शहडोल में बनेंगे हवाई अड्डे



स्वस्थ प्रदेश

₹20,000 करोड़ के निवेश से स्वास्थ्य व्यवस्था बनेगी हाई-टेक, हॉस्पिटल और आईसीयू में बिस्तरों की संख्या होगी दोगुनी

5 लाख से ज्यादा व्यय होने पर आयुष्मान भारत के सभी लाभार्थियों को सीएम रिलीफ फंड के अंतर्गत मिलेगा लाभ

डॉक्टर, नर्स एवं पैरा-मेडिकल स्टाफ की रिक्तियां शीघ्र भरेंगे साथ ही प्रत्येक जिले में नर्सिंग कॉलेज स्थापित करेंगे



प्रगतिशील अर्थव्यवस्था एवं औद्योगिक विकास

मध्य प्रदेश की अर्थव्यवस्था को अगले 7 वर्ष में ₹45 लाख करोड़ की बनाकर देश की शीर्ष 3 अर्थव्यवस्थाओं में लाएंगे

प्रदेश की प्रति व्यक्ति आय को दोगुना करेंगे

एक्सप्रेस-वे के पास औद्योगिक कॉरिडोर का निर्माण करेंगे जिससे 4.5 लाख से अधिक युवाओं को मिलेगा रोजगार और स्वरोजगार के अवसर



सुशासन एवं कानून व्यवस्था

भोपाल एवं इंदौर के बाद जबलपुर और ग्वालियर में कमिश्नर प्रणाली लागू करेंगे

भोपाल में राष्ट्रीय रक्षा विश्वविद्यालय के नए परिसर का निर्माण



सांस्कृतिक धरोहर एवं विकसित पर्यटन

13 सांस्कृतिक लोकों का होगा भव्य निर्माण

सभी जनजातीय नायकों के भव्य स्मारकों का निर्माण

₹7,500 करोड़ के निवेश के साथ 2 लाख युवाओं को पर्यटन के क्षेत्र में प्रशिक्षण और रोजगार तथा स्वरोजगार के अवसर





MODI REFERS TO 'LAL DIARY' IN HIS SPEECH, SAYS 'PRESS THE LOTUS BUTTON AS IF YOU ARE HANGING THE CORRUPT'

Jaipur | Agencies

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday accused the Gehlot Government of corruption and disturbing law and order in Rajasthan and said that the 'Lal Diary' has now started speaking loudly.

"Punish the corrupt and press the lotus button as if you are hanging them," he said while addressing an election rally in the Baytoo Assembly of Barmer district.

"These people call Lal Diary fake, but now their own letters have started coming out. The Lal Diary has started speaking loudly. Now, should even a single Congressman win? If any Congress candidate comes, ask him, 'What is the Lal Diary issue and whose diary is it? Earlier you used to deny everything, now facts have started coming out of it'," he added.

Taking a dig at Gehlot, Modi said that when the Chief Minister declares atrocities against women "fake", when a minister in the Assembly endorses atrocities against women by calling it "mardon ka pradesh", then the morale of the oppressors will rise. He has insulted the men and women of Rajasthan, he added.

Modi said that pro-terrorism slogans are being raised in Rajasthan. Wherever the Congress comes to power, the courage of terrorists, bullies and rioters increases. The Chief Minister remains busy saving the chair for five years, he added.

Modi said that after Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh, the Congress will be completely



wiped out from Rajasthan too as it has brought the state to the forefront in the matter of corruption.

He further commented on the recent seizure of gold and cash from lockers in Jaipur and said, "Lockers are opening, looted goods are becoming visible. Lots of money and gold are being recovered from Rajasthan. This gold is not made of potatoes (Aaloo se sona). Otherwise they will go and say that we have made it from potatoes." "Action should be taken against people involved in corruption. The public should take the first action. In elections you press the lotus button as if you are hanging them," Modi said.

Introducing himself as a brother on the festival of

Bhai Dooj, he said, "Today is Bhai Dooj. I have come among the sisters of Rajasthan and am concerned about their health. Your brother saved you from smoke by giving you free gas connections. I was concerned about the dignity and respect of mothers and sisters that is why crores of toilets were built across the country."

Modi also spoke on free grains being distributed to the poor. He said, "To ensure that no one in my country sleeps hungry, I gave free food grains to 80 crore people. This is the power of your one vote. Every poor person should get food, hence the scheme of free food grains was extended by five years. "Attacking corruption in the state, he said, "Haath ka Panja has become habitual of hitting anywhere. I don't know where the claws of Congress go and loot. I send money to provide tap connections to homes, but the Congress works to earn money in this noble cause. The Jal Jeevan Mission was not implemented in Barmer-Jaisalmer but its payment was made." "Further commenting on the law and order situation in the state he said, "Riots take place frequently in Rajasthan, and curfew is also being imposed. Pro-terrorism slogans are also being raised in Rajasthan. Why does the courage of terrorists, bullies and rioters increase wherever the Congress comes? The answer is the Congress' appeasement policy."

Modi also praised his government's approach and said, "When there were terrorist attacks during the Congress Government, it used to take the issue to foreign countries. They used to ask for help. However, we kill terrorists by entering their house."

UPA created a haven for tax evaders, those left are your 'Param Mitras': BJP to Rahul

Team Absolute | New Delhi

The BJP on Wednesday hit back at Congress leader Rahul Gandhi, saying that it was under the UPA government that the India-Cyprus tax treaty created a haven for tax evaders, and those who left are 'your Param Mitras' and your legacy of promoting tax havens and opaque financial practices is what drove them out.

The saffron party also said that the BJP government's reforms have not only plugged these gaps, but have also showcased its unwavering commitment to transparent and accountable tax governance. In a post on X, BJP IT cell chief Amit Malviya said, "Let us get this straight - it was under the UPA government that the India-Cyprus tax treaty created a haven for tax evaders. You practically rolled out the red carpet for investors to bypass the capital gains tax, with Cyprus not imposing such taxes either. Add to that the low withholding tax rate, and you have got yourself a



perfect recipe for creating a tax haven, luring businesses and individuals to funnel money into Cyprus." He added that when the BJP-led NDA came to power, "we saw through this charade and took immediate, decisive action".

"In 2016, we didn't just tweak the Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement (DTAA) with Cyprus, we overhauled it. Our revision, effective retrospectively from November 2013, was a game-changer. It shifted the taxation of capital gains right back to where the income is made -- the source country -- rather than letting investors hide behind the veil of their country of residence. This wasn't just a policy shift, it was a direct challenge to the tax avoidance circus you had running," Malviya said.

Taking a jibe at Rahul Gandhi, he said that let's talk

about the "grandfathering clause we introduced for investments made before April 1, 2017". "It wasn't just a clause; it was a statement. We ensured a fair transition to the new regime, where capital gains would be taxed in the investor's country of residence for investments made before this deadline," the BJP leader said. "This shift was monumental. It wasn't just about fair taxation; it slammed the door shut on using offshore entities for tax evasion. The so-called 'Golden Passport' that you accuse us of promoting... It's a relic of your governance, a symbol of the opaque, under-hand dealings you endorsed," he said. "So, let us set the records straight. Those who have left are your 'Param Mitras'. Your legacy of promoting tax havens and opaque financial practices is what drove them out. Our reforms have not only plugged these gaps, but have also showcased our unwavering commitment to transparent and accountable tax governance."

Gehlot and Pilot fighting Raj election keeping differences aside, Kharge underlines at MP rally

Team Absolute | Bhopal

Congress President Mallikarjun Kharge on Wednesday said Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot and former Deputy Chief Minister Sachin Pilot have kept their differences aside and are contesting the Assembly elections unitedly to ensure their party's victory.

Differences between Gehlot and Pilot had been out in public domain for the few months and their political moves had been raising speculations.

"I have held 2-3 meetings with Gehlot and Pilot. I and Rahul Gandhi have spoken to them. I met Sachin Pilot last evening also and we had a long conversation on issues. Things are fine now and we are going to win Rajasthan also," Kharge claiming while addressing a poll rally in Berasia in Bhopal district on the last day of campaigning for the November 17 elections in Madhya Pradesh.

He said the Congress to win elections in all five states in the fray, including Madhya Pradesh.

"Madhya Pradesh ki BJP sarkar chori ki sarkar hai (The BJP government in Madhya Pradesh is a stolen one. Now, people will send them all back," he added.

Kharge alleged that the BJP has not only



stolen the Congress government but its election manifesto too.

He said that the Congress will uproot PM Narendra Modi-led BJP in the general election to be held in 2024.

On the INDIA bloc, Kharge said things are moving on right direction and all parties in the alliance will contest the election together to defeat the BJP. "We will send out PM Modi in 2024," he claimed.

IYC STAGES PROTEST SEEKING PROBE AGAINST NARENDRA TOMAR'S SON

Team Absolute | New Delhi

Hundreds of Indian Youth Congress (IYC) workers on Wednesday staged a protest outside the ED office over the silence of the agency in connection with the alleged monetary transactions of Union Minister Narendra Singh Tomar's son.

Hundreds of IYC workers led by its national president Srinivas BV raised slogans against the ED outside its office.

However, the Delhi Police personnel soon detained them. Srinivas BV wondered that after the revelations in the case of Devendra Singh Tomar, son of the Union Minister "what is the ED waiting for now"?

He said: "The video of Narendra Singh Tomar's son has surfaced in front of everyone today, in which he is talking about crores of rupees. All the BJP leaders of Madhya Pradesh are involved in corruption, but PM Narendra Modi does not get them investigated, why?" He also said that out of all the actions taken by ED since 2014 till now, 95 per cent of these actions have been taken



against opposition leaders.

"In the last 5 years, many big raids took place on media houses and journalists, but Narendra Singh Tomar's son is doing dealings worth hundred of crores. The ED, CBI and the I-T are missing," he said. The IYC leader said that the Election Commission should take suo motu

cognizance of this video and take action. "There should be a judicial inquiry into this matter by a retired judge of the Supreme Court.

Narendra Singh Tomar should be removed from the post. A case of money laundering should be registered and the ED, IT, the CBI should take action," he added.

The protest in the national capital came a day after another video clip surfaced showing Union Minister Tomar's son Devendra Singh Tomar allegedly discussing transactions worth "hundreds of crores", mounting trouble for the ruling BJP ahead of the Madhya Pradesh Assembly elections.

TWO INFILTRATORS KILLED IN URI SECTOR

Srinagar: Two terrorists were killed after an infiltration bid was foiled in a joint operation of the army and police at Uri sector in north Kashmir's Baramulla district on Wednesday, officials said.

"Two infiltrating terrorists neutralised by vigilant security forces. Recovered incriminating materials, arms and ammunition. Extensive search operations are on," police said.

There have been a series of infiltration attempts that were foiled by the security forces in the recent past.

On October 26, an infiltration bid was successfully foiled in a joint operation launched by police and army along the Line of Control in Machil Sector of Kupwara district.

On October 30, one terrorist was killed after an infiltration bid was foiled in a joint operation of the police and army in Kupwara district.

Challans of BS-III vehicles increased to 34% from previous day, says Delhi Traffic Police

Team Absolute | New Delhi

In a bid to deal with environmental degradation, the Delhi Police is rigorously implementing punitive measures against people adding to vehicular pollution.

The focus is on ensuring that vehicle owners adhere to the necessary environmental standards, particularly possessing a Pollution Under Control Certificate (PUC).

According to traffic police, Tuesday witnessed an increase in challans of BS-III vehicles and they touched 34 per cent, which was up from 128 the previous day to 183 challans today.

Similarly, the prosecution of BS-IV vehicles touched 42 per cent and 917 challans were issued in comparison to the 518 challans issued on November 13.

The prosecution of trucks (except those carrying



essential goods, etc.) touched 800 per cent on Tuesday in comparison to the previous day. As many as 49 LCVs registered outside Delhi were prosecuted in comparison to 11 the previous day.

The officer further stated that from November 3 to November 14, a total of 107 vehicles were impounded, and 15,327 challans were issued for lacking a valid PUC.

"A total of 31 vehicles were impounded, and 38 challans have been issued for the operation of 10/15-year-old diesel/petrol vehicles while 19 challans have been issued for vehicles carrying C&D waste without proper covering," said the Traffic Police. "Overall 13,091 challans have been issued for improper parking, out of which seven vehicles have been impounded, 18,276 notices have also been issued for improper/obstructive parking, and 4,273 vehicles have been towed away by cranes," said the official.

Maharashtra: Man kills drunk brother for abusing, beating aged mom

Bhandara (Maharashtra) | Agencies

In a Diwali chiller, a man from Lakhani hatched a conspiracy to finish off his younger sibling who was addicted to alcohol and used to abuse and assault their aged mother regularly, the police said here.

The shocking incident occurred late on Monday when Rahul R. Bhojar (35), along with his friends Bhupendra Nyaymurti (27) and Kartik Mandhare (24), stabbed Akash R. Bhojar (31) multiple times on a desolate road.

According to officials of the Lakhani police station, Akash was known to be an alcoholic who regularly came home drunk and abused his family members, particularly his aged and ailing mother, who also suffered beating at his hands.

Akash turned a deaf ear to the repeated pleas by the family members, including Rahul, to discard his bad habits, reform himself and help keep the clan united.

Fed up of Akash's wayward behaviour, Rahul, Bhupendra and Kartik



plotted to bump him off in the midst of Diwali festivities.

That night, as the heavily inebriated

Acash was returning home, they forced him to accompany them to an isolated spot on the outskirts of the

town, whipped out knives and repeatedly stabbed him under the cover of darkness.

As he lay in a pool of blood, they dragged his body at least 20 metres in the bushes before decamping from the scene.

Early on Tuesday morning, the police got a tip-off about the murder and rushed to investigate, along with a dog squad, and recovered Akash's body with at least three-dozen stab wounds. Senior officials like Superintendent of Police Lohit Matani and Deputy SP Ishwar Katkade rushed to the spot, and the probe finally pointed the needle of suspicion at Akash's elder brother, Rahul.

He was detained on Tuesday and after sustained interrogation, finally confessed to the crime he had committed along with his friends Bhupendra and Kartik.

The accused trio was arrested and produced before the Magistrate's Court which remanded them to police custody till Friday.

Uttarakhand tunnel collapse: Fresh landslide delays rescue of 40 workers trapped for 80 hrs, new machine on the way

Uttarkashi | Agencies

As the rescue operation at the Uttarkashi collapsed tunnel site entered the fourth day, a fresh landslide has delayed the rescue of 40 labourers trapped in an under-construction tunnel for over 80 hours.

With the assistance of the Air Force, heavy auger drilling machines are being arranged for the rescue operation.

Uttarakhand DGP Ashok Kumar has stated that they will soon rescue all the workers.

This machine, equipped with pipe pushing technology, will drill through the debris in the tunnel and insert a pipe of 880 to 900 mm, creating an escape passage for the workers.

The landslide occurred in the Silkyara tunnel during construction on Sunday morning. After the landslide, debris has spread within a



radius of 60 meters. From Monday to Tuesday, approximately 25 meters of the area was cleared of debris.

However, intermittent falling of debris continues, affecting relief and rescue work.

On Tuesday night, around 12 a.m., drilling work with the machine began, raising hopes of rescuing the workers. The drilling for inserting the first pipe into the tunnel began. However, technical issues arose with the auger drilling machine, affecting the rescue operation. After

removing the faulty machine, the work of leveling the platform for installing a new drilling machine began.

However, the rescue work was affected when a fresh landslide caused debris to fall from above, causing a stampede-like situation that left one labourer injured. After this incident, those involved in the task of removing the soil and the machine operators have been given instructions to work cautiously.

absolute india

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Kim Kardashian says she's 'more religious than most people...'



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Mohammed Shami's 7-57 helps India script 70-run win...



Men's ODI WC: Kohli gets past Tendulkar with record 50th century; Shami's claimed 3rd fifer (7/57)

INDIA STORMS INTO THE FINALS

▶ KOHLI'S TON WAS HIS 50TH, THUS SAILING PAST SACHIN TENDULKAR'S RECORD OF 49 ODI CENTURIES. WITH THE 80TH RUN ENROUTE HIS CENTURY, HIS TALLY OF RUNS IN THE ONGOING EDITION ALSO SURPASSED TENDULKAR'S AGGREGATE OF 673 IN THE 2003 WORLD CUP.

▶ WITH THIS EXHIBITION, SHAMI BECAME HIGHEST WICKET TAKER IN THIS TOURNAMENT (23 WKTS) SURPASSING AUSTRALIA'S ADAM ZAMPA. HE IS ALSO HIGHEST INDIAN WICKET TAKER IN WORLD CUP.



Team Absolute | Mumbai

India's Virat Kohli on Wednesday set the record for hitting most centuries in One-Day International cricket, marching to the 50th century of his career. Later, in second half Mohammed Shami claimed his third five-wicket haul of the tournament in a brilliant 7-57 as India overcame a valiant century by Daryl Mitchell (134) to defeat New Zealand by 70 runs and storm into the final of the ICC Men's ODI World Cup 2023 on at the Wankhede Stadium here. Kohli scored his hundred off 106 balls, hitting eight boundaries and one maximum as he broke the record of 49 centuries he had jointly held with Sachin Tendulkar. His 50th century

came in 279 innings. There were huge expectations of Kohli breaking the record at the Wankhede after he failed to do so in India's last league match against the Netherlands. He had equalled the record with an unbeaten 101 against South Africa at the Eden Gardens in Kolkata on November 5. Sachin Tendulkar, who hoped that Kohli would break his record and was present in the Wankhede Stadium on Wednesday as the Delhi batter went past him, is now second in the list with 49 centuries off 452 innings. India skipper Rohit Sharma is third in the list with 31 tons off 253 innings followed by Australia's Ricky Ponting on 30 (off 365 innings). Sri Lanka's Sanath Jayasuriya is fifth on the list with 28 hundreds off 433 innings.



"I've been given a role this tournament and I'm trying to dig deep. That's the key to consistency -- play according to the situation and play for the team. The great man just congratulated me. It feels like a dream. Too good to be true. It's the stuff of dreams. Sachin paaji was there in the stands. It's very difficult for me to express it. My life partner, my hero - he's sitting there, and all these fans at the Wankhede."

Virat Kohli

I COULDN'T BE HAPPIER THAT AN INDIAN BROKE MY RECORD: SACHIN TENDULKAR

Mumbai: Former Indian cricketer Sachin Tendulkar penned down a heartfelt message after Virat Kohli slammed his 50th ODI century against New Zealand, breaking legend's record of most ODI centuries at Wankhede Stadium, here on Wednesday. Tendulkar took Instagram to express his appreciation as he felt happy that an Indian broke his record. "The first time I met you in the Indian dressing room, you were pranked by other teammates into touching my feet. I couldn't stop laughing that day. But soon, you touched my heart with your passion and skill. I am so happy that that young boy has grown into a 'Virat' player. I couldn't be happier that an Indian broke my record. And to do it on the biggest stage - in the World Cup Semi-Final - and at my home ground is the icing on the cake."

Manipur tribal body to set up 'self-government' soon to govern tribal inhabited areas

Imphal | Agencies

The Indigenous Tribal Leaders' Forum (ITLF), an apex body of tribals in Manipur, on Wednesday after a massive rally announced to set up a 'self-government' soon to govern the tribal inhabited areas of the northeastern state. The ITLF Secretary Muan Tombing said that over six months have passed after the ethnic violence continued in Manipur and nothing has been done to their demand of 'separate administration' (equivalent to separate state) for the tribals. "As our voice is not heard, just within a couple of weeks



we would set up our self-government, whether the Centre recognises it or not, we would go ahead. Our proposed 'self-government' would look into all matters in the Kuki-Zo tribal areas," Tombing told the media in Churachandpur. The ITLF leader said that 10 tribal MLAs including seven BJP legislators, various civil society groups and all other tribal based organisations

have been demanding total separation from Manipur. Thousands of people including women and youths on Wednesday organised a massive rally in Churachandpur district, one of the tribal inhabited districts and worst hit areas of the ethnic riot. Senior ITLF leader and spokesman Ginza Vualzong said that while the Manipur government is dominated and run by the Meitei leaders led by Chief Minister N. Biren Singh, the Central agencies including the NIA and CBI have not taken up brutal cases relating to Kuki-Zomi tribals.

36 KILLED, 19 INJURED IN J&K AS BUS FALLS INTO GORGE

Jammu | Agencies

Thirty six people were killed and 19 injured on Wednesday in a road accident in Jammu and Kashmir's Doda district. Officials said that the driver of a passenger bus lost control in Assar area of Doda district in J&K and the vehicle fell into a deep gorge. "Thirty six people have died in this accident so far and 19 are seriously injured. The injured have been shifted to hospital. Doctors said some of the injured have sustained critical injuries. Security forces and civilians started a relief and rescue operation immediately after the accident", officials said. Condoling the loss of lives, J&K Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha said in a post on his X handle, "Extremely pained by the loss of lives



in a tragic bus accident in Assar, Doda. My heartfelt condolences to bereaved families & wishing for a speedy recovery of those injured in the accident. Directed Div Com & Dist Admin to provide all necessary assistance to affected persons." The hilly Doda and Rajouri districts are known for bad roads leading to

major accidents. Traffic department officials said over speeding and rash driving were the main reasons for accidents in these districts. Locals blame the traffic department for lack of supervision on overloaded passenger buses and over speeding private vehicles.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday announced Rs 2 lakhs as ex-gratia relief to the next of kin of those killed in the road accident in J&K's Doda district. "The bus accident in Doda, Jammu and Kashmir is distressing. My condolences to the families who have lost their near and dear ones. I pray that the injured recover at the earliest. An ex-gratia of Rs. 2 lakh from PMNRF would be given to the next of kin of each deceased. Rs 50,000 would be given to the injured," the PMO wrote on X. Amit Shah also expressed grief over the loss of lives in the accident. Thirty six people were killed and 19 injured in the Doda road accident. Officials said that the driver of a passenger bus lost control in Assar area of Doda district in J&K and the vehicle fell into a deep gorge.

'Miracles of life,' says doctors on US woman pregnant with 2 babies in 2 uteruses

Team Absolute | New Delhi

Marvelled at the case of the US woman who is pregnant with two baby girls in both her uteruses, city doctors on Wednesday called it as "miracles of life" and "reflects the power of God's creation". Kelsey Hatcher, 32, a massage therapist was born with a rare condition called uterus didelphys in which a person has two uteruses. It occurs when the two tubes that normally fuse to form a single uterus during foetal development fail to join completely, resulting in two separate uteri. Hatcher and her husband

Caleb, who are already parents to three children aged 7, 4, and 2, are expecting the babies on Christmas. "I find this case of a woman pregnant with two babies in two uteruses both intriguing and extraordinary," Dr. Archana Dhawan Bajaj, Gynaecologist, obstetrician and IVF Expert, Nurture IVF Clinic, told reporter. "As a gynaecologist, I



am amazed at the resilience and strength of women's bodies, and this case is a prime example. It's a testament to the miracles of life and the extraordinary capabilities of the human body. However, it also underscores the importance of regular prenatal care and the role of healthcare professionals in ensuring a safe pregnancy and delivery," she added. Hatcher, currently in her third trimester (34th week), discovered about the babies in each of her

uteruses during a routine eight-week ultrasound visit in May. "We were kind of blown away! During that first ultrasound we had LOTS of laughs," she wrote in a post on her Instagram account "doublehatchlings," where she is documenting her story. "This is indeed the rarest of the rarest cases and reflects the power of God's creation. Despite technological advances in IVF, even today nature has its own surprises! This is a completely natural pregnancy. However, the doctors mentioned that the situation presents unique challenges and risks, both for the mother and the babies.

KCR predicts coalition govt at Centre

Nizamabad (Telangana) | Agencies

Telangana Chief Minister K. Chandrababhan Naidu on Wednesday predicted that a coalition government will be formed at the Centre after the 2024 elections. The Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) president believes that coalition politics would assume centre-stage in the country as both BJP and Congress would slide further. Addressing a BRS election rally in Nizamabad, he also said that BRS will play a key role at the Centre after the next elections. He alleged



that Congress used Muslims only as a vote bank. "It does drama. It is talking of closing down 'nafrat ki dukan'. I am asking who demolished Babri Masjid. If you are secular, you should always be secular and your work should prove this," KCR said. He also slammed BJP for dividing people in the name of religion. The BRS leader said the BJP government at the Centre did grave injustice to Telangana.

Stating that Telangana remained an example of communal harmony for the last 10 years, he said there was not a single riot and curfew was not imposed anywhere. He recalled that in the past under the Congress rule, there used to be frequent communal riots. "As long as KCR is alive, Telangana will remain secular," he said while claiming that his government maintained peace and law and order for the last 10 years. He also told the public meeting that the government was working for the welfare of all without any discrimination on the basis of religion or caste.





EDITOR'S SPECS

Avg assets of 192 re-contesting MLAs in MP grew by 50%

The average assets of the 192 sitting MLAs in Madhya Pradesh increased by almost 50 per cent to Rs 17.81 crore from Rs 11.91 crore in 2018, a report revealed on Monday. The report prepared by the Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR) and Madhya Pradesh Election Watch is based on the analysis of the self-sworn affidavits of 192 re-contesting MLAs in the Madhya Pradesh Assembly Election. It said that out of the 192 re-contesting MLAs, the assets of 180 MLAs (94 per cent) have increased ranging from one per cent to 192 per cent and assets of 12 MLAs (six per cent) have decreased ranging from -- one per cent to -- 64 per cent. The report stated that the average assets of these 192 re-contesting MLAs fielded by various parties, including independents in 2018 was Rs 11.91 crore, which in 2023 is Rs 17.81 crore. The report stated that the average asset growth for these 192 re-contesting MLAs, between the Madhya Pradesh Assembly Elections of 2018 and 2023 is Rs 5.90 crore. The report said that Chetanya Kasyap of BJP from Ratlam City constituency has declared maximum increase in assets with an increase of Rs 91.45 crore, i.e., from Rs 204.63 crore in 2018 to Rs 296.08 crore in 2023, while the assets of Sanjay Sharma (Sanju Bhaiya) of Congress from Tendukheda constituency have increased by Rs 81.55 crore, from Rs 130.97 crore in 2018 to Rs 212.52 crore in 2023. It also said that the assets of Sanjay Shukla of Congress from Indore-1 constituency have risen by Rs 77.47 crore, from Rs 139.93 crore in 2018 to Rs 217.41 crore in 2023. The report said that out of the 192 recontesting MLAs, 100 are from BJP.

Subrata Roy: The man who left behind a legacy beyond business

Jasim Mohammad

Sahara Group Chairman, Subrata Roy, who passed away at the age of 75 after battling an extended illness has left an indelible mark on the business world and beyond, leaving behind a legacy that will be remembered for generations. The founder of Sahara India, Subrata Roy, fondly known as "Sahasrasi", breathed his last on November 14 at around 10.30 p.m. at the Kokilaben Dhirubhai Ambani Hospital & Medical Research Institute. The Sahara India Pariwar, in a heartfelt statement, announced his demise, citing cardiorespiratory arrest resulting from complications arising from metastatic malignancy, hypertension, and diabetes. A visionary and inspirational leader, Roy's impact on the Sahara India Pariwar was immeasurable. The statement expressed: "Sahasrasi ji was a guiding force, a mentor, and a source of inspiration for all who had the privilege to work alongside him." Roy, a prominent figure in the business world, earned recognition as one of India's most influential businessmen in 2012. His entrepreneurial journey led to the creation of a vast business empire spanning retail, real estate, and financial services. However, his legacy faced challenges as legal disputes emerged with SEBI in 2011, centered around the refund of funds raised through Optionally Fully Convertible Bonds. Sahasrasi's influence extend-



ed beyond business, reaching into the realms of politics and Bollywood. His philanthropic endeavors, commitment to journalism in Urdu, Hindi, and English, and unwavering support for sports. Roy's demise has been described as "unbelievable, shocking, and shattering". His life journey is nothing short of a remarkable saga of success and resilience. His entrepreneurial spirit cata-

putted the Sahara Group into a multi-billion dollar enterprise, standing as one of the largest employers in India. Under Roy's leadership, Sahara ventured globally, acquiring iconic properties such as New York's Plaza Hotel and London's Grosvenor House. His foray into sports sponsorship, particularly with the Indian cricket and hockey teams, showcased not only a commitment to sports but also a passion for contributing to India's global image. His larger-than-life personality resonated not only in business circles but also in the corridors of power and fame, fostering friendships with influential figures in politics and Bollywood. Beyond the boardroom, his philanthropic endeavors left an enduring impact on society. His commitment to uplifting communities and championing social causes underscored his role as a responsible corporate leader. Roy would also be remembered for providing opportunities to athletes, and promoting cultural and educational initiatives. The Sahara India Pariwar, in the statement, said that "in the face of this profound loss, remains steadfast in its commitment to carry forward Sahasrasi's legacy". (The author is former Head and Group Editor Roznama Rashtriya Sahara and Aalmi Sahara TV. Currently, he is Professor of Comparative Literature, AUS Namsai, Arunachal Pradesh. He can be contacted at: profjasimmd@gmail.com).

Telangana polls: All in the family

Mohammed Shafeeq

From Telangana Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhara Reddy to Congress leader Uttam Kumar Reddy, several political families have two or more of their members contesting the Assembly elections scheduled on November 30. Leaders of different parties, dominating the political scene for decades, have managed to get tickets for their kin. This phenomenon runs across the parties. Interestingly, members of some political families are in rival parties. The prominent political family is of Chief Minister and Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) president K. Chandrasekhara Reddy. Like the last three elections, KCR, his son K.T. Rama Rao and nephew T. Harish Rao are in fray. KCR, who is often targeted by both BJP and Congress for family rule, is contesting from Gajwel and Kamareddy seats. His son KTR, who is a key member of the Cabinet and working president of BRS, is seeking re-election from Siricilla for a fourth term. Finance and health minister and a key leader of BRS, Harish Rao is contesting once again from Siddipet. He has been representing the seat since 2004. Interestingly, sitting MLA from Malkajigiri, Myanmpalli Hanumanth Rao quit BRS as KCR refused to give ticket to his son Myanmpalli Rohit from Medak. Though Hanumanth Rao was fielded by the party, he resigned from the ruling party and joined Congress on the precondition that he and his son will get the tickets from Mlakajigiri and Medak respectively. The Congress party set aside Udaipur resolution of one family one ticket to field both Hanumanth Rao and his son. The party also exempted a few others. Senior Congress leader and former TPCC president Uttam Kumar Reddy is once again contesting from Huzurnagar while his wife Padmavathi Reddy is in



the fray from Kodad. In 2018, Uttam Kumar Reddy had won Huzurnagar but his wife suffered defeat in Kodad. However, Uttam Kumar Reddy was fielded in Lok Sabha election in 2018 and following his victory from Nalgonda, he vacated Huzurnagar. The Congress fielded Padmavathi in the by-election but she lost to Saiji Reddy of TRS (now BRS). Congress leader Komatireddy Venkat Reddy, who was elected to Lok Sabha from Bhongir in 2019, is contesting for Assembly from Nalgonda while his brother Komatireddy Rajgopal Reddy is in fray from Munugode. Interestingly, Rajgopal Reddy managed to get the seat within hours after his return to Congress from BJP. He had quit Congress to join the saffron party last year and resigned from Munugode Assembly

seat to force by-election but failed to get re-elected. Former minister and Congress G. Vinod is contesting from Bellampalle while his brother G. Vivekanand is in fray on Congress ticket from Chennur. Vivekanand was given a ticket immediately after he quit BJP and joined Congress party. Vinod and Vivekanand are sons of senior Congress leader and former union minister late G. Venkatswamy. Labour minister Malla Reddy is seeking re-election from Medchal and he managed to secure a BRS ticket for son-in-law Marri Rajasekhara Reddy from Malkajigiri. Some families have their members in rival camps. Senior Congress and former deputy Chief Minister Damodar Rajanarasimha is contesting once again from Andole while brother Ramchandra Raja Narasimha is BJP candidate from Zahirabad. BRS leader and minister for panchayat raj E. Dayakar Rao is seeking re-election from Palakurthi while his son-in-law Madan Mohan Rao is Congress candidate from Yella Reddy. The family of former Congress leader late Chittam Narsi Reddy is divided into three parties. His son C. Ram Mohan Reddy is contesting from Makthal on BRS ticket and granddaughter Parnika Reddy is Congress candidate from Narayanpet. Narsi Reddy's daughter and former minister D. K. Aruna is BJP vice-president. She plans to contest again from the Mahabubnagar Lok Sabha constituency next year. Parnika Reddy is daughter of C. Venkateswar Reddy who died along with his father Narsi Reddy in Maoist attack in 2005. Narsi Reddy was then a member of united Andhra Pradesh Assembly.

international

Governor signs legislation making Diwali public school holiday in New York

New York Agencies

New York Governor Kathy Hochul on Wednesday signed a historic legislation making Diwali a school holiday in public schools.

The legislation requires that all public schools in the city be closed on the "15th day of the eighth month of the Indian calendar in each year, which is known as Diwali".

"New York City is rich in different religions and cultures, and we're taking an important step to recognize and celebrate this diversity in the school calendar," Governor Hochul said in a press statement. "This legislation to designate Diwali as a New York City school holiday is an opportunity for our children to learn about and celebrate traditions from across the world," she added. The legislation was signed during a special reception at the Hindu Temple Society of North America in Flushing during Diwali celebrations. "I believe that a celebration of light should not be com-



memorated in the dark. That's why tonight, we took action to bring people together," Hochul wrote on X. The press statement from Hochul's office said that the legislation "amends the education law to declare Diwali a holiday for New York City public schools".

"Many people of the Hindu, Sikh, Jain, and Buddhist faiths in New York City and throughout the state observe the festival of Diwali and more than 1 billion people around the world cele-

brate this holiday," the statement read. The move came after the New York State legislature on June 9 passed a Bill to make Diwali a school holiday in the city with efforts from NYC Mayor Eric Adams and Indian-origin Assemblywoman Jenifer Rajkumar. "With the signing of my bill, we have lit an everlasting lamp in the hearts and minds of all New Yorkers... By signing my bill, we say to over 600,000 Hindu, Sikh, Jain, and Buddhist New Yorkers, 'We see you, we

recognise you, and Diwali is an American holiday," Rajkumar, the first Hindu American and first South Asian American woman elected to New York state office, said. Rajkumar said that for over two decades, the South Asian community has lobbied for the Diwali holiday. Two earlier attempts to pass the legislation in 2021 and 2022 did not succeed. "In this time of local and global racism and anger, Diwali's message is critically important and needed. The Diwali celebration not only represents the rich cultural heritage of our diverse community, but also serves as a reminder of the values that bind us together," State Senator Joseph Addabbo said, thanking Hochul. According to city officials, more than two lakh New York residents celebrate Diwali which is observed by Hindus, Sikhs, Jains, and some Buddhists. Earlier this year, Pennsylvania became the first US state to officially recognise Diwali as a public holiday.

Tributes pour in for 5 victims of Hindu family who died in UK house fire

London Agencies

Tributes have been pouring in for the five members of a Hindu family, including three children, who died in a house fire during Diwali celebrations in west London. Seema Ratra died along with her three children -- Riyan, Shanaya and Arohi -- and a house guest in a blaze took hold in Channel Close, Hounslow on Sunday night. While Ratra's husband Aroen Kishen survived and was taken to hospital, a sixth person remains missing as the police continue to investigate the cause of the fire. Bunches of flowers for the children were placed at the scene on Tuesday on behalf of Springwell school. Notes attached to the flowers read: "Rest in peace sweet child," The Guardian reported. "Words cannot even begin to express our sorrow at hearing the loss of



three beautiful souls. Forever in our hearts! Good night and God bless," a tribute left on behalf of a 'Mrs Sheldon' read. "Dear Riyan. I am so sorry that this has happened to you. All crying today and missing you today. You are still part of our family. We will never forget you, and you will always be in our hearts. May God grant you eternal life in heaven," a tribute by a six-year-old read. Devastated cousins of the victims held back tears and were too traumatised to

speak following the deadly blaze, The Independent reported. Neighbours said they witnessed Kishen escaping the home screaming, "my kids, my kids," after the fire. Ten fire engines and about 70 firefighters were pressed into service to control the blaze in which the ground floor and first floor of the mid-terrace house were destroyed and part of the roof was also damaged. The bodies of the five family members were found on the first floor of the house by firefighters. Addressing a press conference, Sean Wilson, Chief Superintendent at Metropolitan Police, called it a "terrible incident" and said the London Fire Brigade (LFB) will work tirelessly to find the reason behind the tragedy. LFB said that it was too early to know whether fireworks or candles for recent Diwali celebrations caused the fire.

Israeli forces raid Gaza's largest hospital to search for Hamas militants

Gaza Agencies

Dozens of the Israeli army forces on Wednesday carried out a raid at the Al-Shifa hospital in Gaza city amid heavy gunfire, according to a senior medical official. In a press statement sent to Xinhua news agency, Monir al-Bursh, director-general of the pharmaceutical department at the Gaza Health Ministry, said that "the Israeli army officially informed the hospital in a phone call that the raid was being carried out, demanding that people not approach windows, balconies or doors". For its part, the Israeli army said that it was carrying out a precise operation against Hamas in a specific area inside Al-Shifa hospital based on intelligence information and an operational need, Xinhua news agency reported. Ashraf al-Qedra, the spokesman of the Health Ministry, said, "There is nothing that would require shooting inside the hospital because there is no form of resistance there, and what the occupation is doing constitutes terrorism for those in the complex." About 1,500 staff members and 7,000 displaced people are currently stuck in the hospital, depending on



capacity, according to al-Qedra. Israeli tanks surrounded several hospitals in Gaza city over the past few days, claiming that they contain tunnels that constitute a base used by Hamas to shelter its leadership in addition to leading military operations against the Israeli army. Both Hamas and the Health Ministry in Gaza denied Israel's accusations, considering them "an attempt to mislead and incite in preparation for the destruction of hospitals and the killing of patients".

Torrential rains, floods leave 3 missing, wreak havoc in Vietnam

Hanoi Agencies

Torrential rains since early this week left three people missing in the central region of Vietnam, according to the latest report of the country's National Steering Committee on Natural Disaster Prevention and Control on Wednesday. Nearly 40 people, including those from military forces, police, and local flood and storm prevention teams, have been mobilised to search for a missing couple believed to have been swept away by the floodwaters in Huong Hoa district, Quang Tri province,



Vietnam News reported. They went to search for goats, but the Nguon Rao stream had risen, preventing them from returning home, Xinhua news agency

reported. Another man in Vinh Linh district disappeared when fishing at the La Nga irrigation lake. His personal belongings were discovered in the area. More than 1,300 houses in Quang Tri province and Da Nang city were flooded. The rains also triggered the risks of landslide in mountainous areas, flooding in low-lying areas and the isolation of numerous roads. Natural disasters in Vietnam left 136 people dead or missing, and injured 130 others in the first 10 months of this year, according to the General Statistics Office.

N.Korea tests newly developed solid fuel engines for new-type IRBM: State media

Seoul Agencies

North Korea has successfully conducted ground tests of newly developed solid-fuel engines for a new type of intermediate-range ballistic missile (IRBM), Pyongyang's state media said on Wednesday. The first- and second-stage engines were tested on Saturday and Tuesday to evaluate the technical specifications of the newly developed high-thrust solid-fuel IRBM engines, the Korean Central News Agency (KCNA) said. "The first ground jet tests of the first- and second-stage engines were very successful and the reliability and stability of the already-established Korean-style high-thrust



solid-fuel engine designing and manufacturing technologies were clearly verified once again," the KCNA added. "The test provided a sure guarantee for reliably accelerating the development of the new-type IRBM system," it said. The KCNA said the North Korea's General Missile Bureau attached "great significance" to the development at a time the

country faces a "grave and unstable security environment" and "vicious" military collusion among its enemies, Yonhap news agency reported. Despite international condemnation, the North Korea has been seeking to bolster its nuclear and missile capabilities that are banned under UN Security Council resolutions. Analysts said the latest tests may be part of such attempts to advance its weapons system in the face of growing trilateral security cooperation among Seoul, Washington and Tokyo. An IRBM, which can fly some 4,000 km, goes beyond the Korean Peninsula and puts the US territory of Guam within range.



Campaign frenzy comes to an end, MP all set for Nov 17 polls

Team Absolute | Bhopal

The high voltage election campaign for the Madhya Pradesh Assembly election ended on Wednesday evening with polling on November 17. The rallies of some of the star campaigners continued beyond the scheduled time of closure at 6 p.m. prompting the Election Commission to step in.

With this, a political controversy also erupted as the Congress lodged a complaint with the Election Commission (EC), accusing the BJP of violating provisions of the Representation of the People Act, 1951.

A delegation of Congress leaders reached the EC office in Bhopal with a complaint that in a large election advertisement taken out by the BJP in newspapers across Madhya Pradesh, it has been announced that Shivraj Singh Chouhan, BJP candidate and



Chief Minister of the state, will be speaking/interacting with all the brothers and sisters of Madhya Pradesh at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday.

In its representation, the Congress complained that Shivraj Singh Chouhan and the BJP's election speech scheduled for 5:30 p.m. will be in violation of the silence period since there is no time limit provided for the speech. It cannot be allowed to be publicized in the remaining constituencies where the silence period shall be in

effect from 6 p.m.

The EC stopped the election campaign and has issued directions to the Chief Electoral Officer, Madhya Pradesh to take the necessary steps to ensure that no campaigning takes place after the commencement of the silence period at 6 p.m. as per the provisions of Section 126(1)(b) of the RP Act 1951.

As per Section 126(1)(b), no person shall display to the public any election matter by means of cinematography, television or other similar

apparatus in any polling area during the period of forty eight hours ending with the hour fixed for the conclusion of polling.

Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge was addressing his last rally in Bhopal but his speech lasted a few minutes after the scheduled time was already over. Kharge was addressing the rally of former minister P. C. Sharma who is contesting the election from Bhopal and who reminded him twice about the time. Kharge, however, said that he can't finish his speech in the next two minutes, no matter if he is put in jail. The voting for the single phase election for 230 assembly seats will be held on November 17. The voting will start at 7 a.m. and end at 5:30 p.m. The results will be announced on December 3 along with those of four other states - Chhattisgarh, Rajasthan, Telangana and Assam.

People very angry with "Dynastic, Negative" politics of Congress: PM Modi

Team Absolute | New Delhi/Bhopal

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday appealed to voters in Madhya Pradesh to elect the BJP to power for a developed state and country, asserting that people are very angry with the "dynastic and negative" politics of the Congress. In his posts on X, PM Modi also assured voters in Chhattisgarh that the BJP is committed to fulfil all its pledges. "The Congress is set for a rout in the elections. People believe in the good governance of the BJP and not the hollow promises of the Congress. I want to assure the people of Chhattisgarh that the coming BJP government in the state will be a dispensation of their aspirations and the state's prosperity," he said. People have this unbreakable faith that only the BJP can make a developed state belonging to the 21st century, he said in the message to Madhya Pradesh voters. The people of Madhya Pradesh have seen the benefits of a double-engine government and appreciate its requirement, PM Modi said, adding that he witnessed in his public meetings their deep anger with the dynastic politics of negativity of the Congress. The Congress has no vision or roadmap for the state's development, he said. PM Modi's message came on the last day of campaign for the Madhya



Pradesh assembly polls, and the second and final phase of the Chhattisgarh elections. Most observers have been of the view that the Congress and the BJP are locked in a keen battle in the two states, with both parties claiming the pole position. The Congress is in power in Chhattisgarh and the BJP in Madhya Pradesh. The prime minister cited his observations and experience during his barnstorming campaign across the two states to exude confidence about people's support for the BJP and the rejection of the Congress.

Women voters in Madhya Pradesh have made it their priority to return the BJP to power in the same way the party has their empowerment as its goal, he said, adding that they are also taking a lead in developing Chhattisgarh.

The new generation are aligning their next 25 years with the country's 25 years and have been coming forward to make India a developed country, he said, in a

reference to his goal for the country by 2047. PM Modi cited his experience during the campaign in Chhattisgarh as wonderful and unprecedented.

The people of the state are full of new expectations and energy to make it better and know that only the BJP can pull Chhattisgarh out of corruption and mis-governance, he said.

The way OBC, SC and ST youths are joining the BJP's development model is very encouraging, he said. "This strength of Chhattisgarh's youth will write a new chapter of change." The BJP's campaign in the current round of assembly polls, including in Rajasthan, Telangana, and Mizoram, has revolved around Modi, with the party not declaring its chief ministerial candidate in any of the state. In his intensive campaign, the prime minister has often emphasised on "Modi ki guarantee" to convince people the BJP will fulfil all its promises. Reacting to Modi's post on the Madhya Pradesh polls, Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan said under the prime minister's guidance the state has touched new heights. The next five years are about making it a self-reliant and a golden state which can be achieved only in a BJP government, he added. He also appealed to people to make the party victorious for the state's development and welfare.

Canada bizman claims Narendra Tomar's son spoke to him on cash deals

Team Absolute | Bhopal

A video related to Devendra Singh Tomar, the son of Union minister Narendra Singh Tomar, discussing transactions worth huge amounts of money with a person surfaced in poll-bound Madhya Pradesh on Tuesday, triggering a fresh political controversy in the state with elections just three days away.

The video came to the fore on Tuesday, and the person in the said clip claimed that the last two videos that had surfaced on social media were genuine and were related to the transaction of money discussed with Devendra Tomar.

The person identified himself as Jagmandeep Singh, a businessman who claimed to be living in Canada.

"The video that went viral on social media a few days back is related to Union minister Narendra Singh Tomar's son Devendra Singh Tomar, and the person on the phone call from the other



end is me," Singh claimed in the clip that went viral on Tuesday.

Singh claimed that he met Devendra Tomar at Narendra Tomar's official bungalow in Delhi during the lockdown period in March 2020, and they became friends since then.

"During the lockdown in March 2020, I was in Delhi when I met Devendra Tomar at his father's official bungalow. I

do cannabis farming in Canada and Devendra Tomar said he is also interested in the same," he claimed.

The new video went viral on social media a day after the second clip purportedly showing Devendra Tomar discussing cash deals surfaced on Monday.

The opposition Congress has shared that videos on its social media accounts, and has also held a press conference on this issue. Congress spokesperson Supriya Shrinete said during the presser in Bhopal, "The BJP termed Narendra Singh Tomar's son's video as fake without investigation. Now another video has surfaced in which a man is saying that the Tomar family has rigged not Rs 500 crore, but Rs 10,000 crore. It also wants to invest money in ganja cultivation."

Narendra Singh Tomar is BJP's election convener for Madhya Pradesh, who is also contesting the November 17 Assembly elections from his home town Dhimni Morena district.

"Congress never thought about women in Madhya Pradesh": Jyotiraditya Scindia

Team Absolute | Gwalior

Union Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia on Wednesday said that Congress never thought about the development of women whenever it was in power in Madhya Pradesh, adding that the BJP government led by Shivraj Singh Chouhan launched multiple welfare schemes to ensure their progress.

Speaking to news agency, Jyotiraditya Scindia said, "Congress never thought about women. They ruled Madhya Pradesh for 55 years and then 18 months, but what did they do? Shivraj



Singh Chouhan brought in 'Ladli Laxmi Yojana', 'Scooty Yojana', he also introduced 'Kanyadan Yojana' and 'Ladli Behna Yojana'. We have ensured that there is a holistic development of a girl across all stages of her life." Responding to the opposition allegation that the Enforcement Directorate and CBI are being misused during election time by the BJP, Union Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia said, "Based on what they're saying that I don't know, if something wrong goes on somewhere, investigating agencies will definitely look into it."

Foreign Diplomats witness PM Modi's roadshow in Indore

Team Absolute | Indore, Madhya Pradesh

A three-member delegation of foreign diplomats witnessed Prime Minister Narendra Modi's roadshow in Indore ahead of the November 17 assembly elections in Madhya Pradesh, with one of them describing polls in India are like a festival that people celebrate.

The delegation had first-hand experience of the ruling party's election campaign, a BJP functionary said on Wednesday.

Michael Rees, second secretary in the Australian High Commission, Bazil M Lyakinana, minister (consular affairs) in the Tanzanian High Commission, and Mayumi Tsubakimoto, second secretary at the Japanese embassy were part of the delegation that witnessed the BJP's campaign



for the assembly elections, the official said.

"We saw the prime minister's roadshow in Indore on Tuesday evening," Japanese diplomat Mayumi Tsubakimoto said.

"We also met local leaders to know how the BJP is reaching out to the people as part of its election campaign," she said.

According to Mayumi, she saw that elections in India are like a festival that people celebrate.

A similar delegation comprising representatives of diplomatic missions from Nepal, Australia, New Zealand, Denmark and Singapore had visited Himachal Pradesh and Gujarat to understand the party's campaign during assembly elections in the two states in November and December 2022 respectively, the BJP functionary said.

BJP complains against Madhya Pradesh Bureaucrat for prohibiting vehicle movement ahead of Polls



Team Absolute | Bhopal

A Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) delegation on Wednesday filed a complaint with the state election commission against Bhand district collector for prohibiting the movement of vehicles in the district on polling day. The BJP delegation reached the office of election commission in the state capital under the leadership of Union minister Ashwini Vaishnaw. After the complaint, Vaishnaw told the reporters, "An election officer has prohibited the movement of all vehicles in his district in the state and this is not according to the direction of the Election Commission. Therefore, we have lodged a complaint with the Chief Election Officer

(CEO) and requested him to impose restrictions on any movement according to the guidelines of the Election Commission. The Chief Election Officer has agreed with us and we hope that he will issue his instructions soon." Notably, in view of the upcoming state assembly polls which is scheduled to be held this week, Bhand collector Sanjeev Shrivastava on Tuesday issued an order to prohibit the movement of all vehicles, including two wheelers (bike and scooty) from 7 am to 7 pm within the border of the district on polling day, November 17. The state is set to undergo polls on November 17 and the counting of votes will take place on December 3. Voters will choose legislators from 230 Assembly constituencies.

Scindia a short man with high arrogance: Priyanka Gandhi

Team Absolute | Bhopal

Congress General Secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra on Wednesday blasted Union Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia in his Gwalior-Chambal bastion on the last day of campaigning for the Madhya Pradesh Assembly elections. The Congress leader hit out hard at the scion of the erstwhile royal family of Gwalior saying, "Unhone apne pariwar ki parampara achhe se nibhai hai. (He is living up to the traditions of his family)."

Expressing anger on her former party colleague and close family friend Jyotiraditya Scindia for toppling the Congress Government in Madhya Pradesh in 2020, Priyanka Gandhi called him a "man of short height and high arrogance. Scindia ji height me thoda kam rah gaye, lekin ghamand bahut bada hai unka."

Priyanka Gandhi said when she was working with Scindia during the UP Assembly elections last year, she found him to be very arrogant and party workers had a problem with his arrogance.

"Hum to UP wale hai, jab gussa aata hai to byan kar deten hai, lekin hame Maharaj kahne ki aadat nahi hai. Yahi sabse badi samasya hai ki hum maharaj ni bol sakte (We are from UP and we are used to telling it like it is when we get angry. But the biggest problem is that we can't refer to him as maharaj)."

She further said that Scindia had cheated the Congress and the people of Gwalior-Chambal region by hatching a conspiracy to topple the Kamal Nath-led Congress Government in 2020.

"He toppled the Congress Government. He cheated the people of Gwalior-Chambal region," she added.

Priyanka, who has been leading the Congress' poll campaign since the beginning in Madhya Pradesh, hit out at Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan and state Home Minister Narottam Mishra on the last day of campaigning.

Addressing a poll rally in Datia, the home district of senior BJP leader



Narottam Mishra, who is trying to project himself as a hardline Hindutva leader, Priyanka Gandhi took a swipe at him.

'I will contest Lok Sabha elections in 2024', Uma Bharti announced in Tikamgarh rally

Team Absolute | Tikamgarh

Addressing an election rally at Baragaon Dhasan in Tikamgarh district in Madhya Pradesh on Tuesday, former Chief Minister Uma Bharti said that she will contest the Lok Sabha elections in 2024 and will fight at any cost. He said that he himself had refused to contest the 2019 Lok Sabha elections, but now preparations are complete to contest the 2024 elections.

Uma Bharti, who had expressed her displeasure over not getting a helicopter after getting the election campaign command from the BJP's election management committee, reached Tikamgarh by train on Tuesday. Addressing a public meeting in Baragaon Dhasan, he said that he had to fight a long battle to eradicate feudalism from Bundelkhand.

In the public meeting, Uma Bharti said that those who are rebelling against BJP and contesting the elections, will bring feudal people to power by benefiting Congress. During the



meeting, he praised Prime Minister Narendra Modi and said that in the last 10 years, no central government minister has been accused of corruption, whereas there was a long list of corrupt ministers in the Congress government.



Kim Kardashian says she's 'more religious than most people guess'

Los Angeles | Agencies

Reality TV star Kim Kardashian claims she and her children pray every day together even if they are not in the same place.

She said her Christian faith has helped her through the toughest times in her life and she wants her children -- North, Chicago, Saint, and four-year-old Psalm, whom she has with ex-husband Kanye West -- to have religion to guide them through life, too.

"I'm probably more religious than most people guess. That's how I manage life. I look at everything as lessons. Things happen exactly the way that they are supposed to and take you exactly where you need to be. Even if it doesn't make sense at the time, it's leading you to a path," Kim told GQ's 28th annual Men of the Year issue -- of which she is a cover star, reports aceshowbiz.com.

The family also read Bible stories that her late father Robert Kardashian read to her and her siblings as kids.

"The Kardashians' star has followed in her dad's footsteps by training to become a lawyer and she wants her children to have a strong work ethic like the legal eagle and not forget their 'responsibilities'."

"My dad had me sign a contract for everything. When I got a car, I needed to have it washed once a week, make sure that it had enough gas and that I didn't run it into the ground. It was a gift he gave me at 16, but I had responsibilities," she said.

Kim also shared that her eldest daughter North is showing signs of good business acumen at an early age, often running a lemonade stand on their street, though she has been overcharging those she knows.



Los Angeles | Agencies

Actor Dwayne Johnson has confirmed he will soon embark on production for the live-action adaptation of the 2016 Disney animated film 'Moana'. "My next project that I will be shooting is a live-action version of Moana," he revealed on 'The Tonight Show' Starring Jimmy Fallon, reports People magazine. "You're real life Maui!" host Jimmy Fallon exclaimed at the fact that Johnson will be reprising his role as the shapeshifting demigod. "I am the real life Maui. Thank you guys very much. I'm so excited about this," added Johnson.

The 'Black Adam' star also shared that the "incredible" 'Hamilton' director Thomas Kail will help the upcoming project, with Lin Manuel-Miranda returning as a songwriter for all the original music featured in the animated version. "I cannot wait. Here's the thing, Jimmy, listen," Johnson said before he grabbed a mic and broke into song with the lyrics to his character's hit song "You're Welcome." Fallon joined in at the chorus.

As per People, the live-action reimagining of 'Moana' was first revealed to be in the works when Johnson announced the upcoming project during Disney's 2023 shareholder meeting in April.

"Deeply humbled to announce we're bringing the beautiful story of 'Moana' to the live action big screen!" Johnson wrote in the caption of his announcement on Instagram.

"This story is my culture, and this story is emblematic of our people's grace, mana and warrior strength. I wear our culture proudly on my skin and in my soul, and this once in a lifetime opportunity to reunite with MAUI, inspired by the spirit of my late grandfather, High Chief Peter Maiviva, is one that runs very deep for me".

"We're honoured to partner with @DisneyStudios to tell our story through the realm of music and dance, which at the core is who we are as Polynesian people," Johnson added before ending the announcement with a nod to his character's magical fish hook in an emoji after he quoted the lyrics to "You're Welcome."

DWAYNE JOHNSON REVEALS HE'S SHOOTING LIVE-ACTION REMAKE OF 'MOANA'

OLIVIA RODRIGO CALLS HER SIX GRAMMY NOMINATIONS A 'MASSIVE HONOUR'

Los Angeles | Agencies

Singer-actress Olivia Rodrigo is still unable to get over the massive love she has received in Grammys as she received over six nominations. Reeling in disbelief, Rodrigo has called the nods a "massive honour".

Speaking to 'People' at the 'Hunger Games: The Ballad of Songbirds and Snakes' premiere in Los Angeles, the songstress said: "Yeah. So insane. It's just such an honor and such a pleasure to be recognised by the music community in such an incredible way."

She also jokingly added that watching so many of her peers being nominated, made the six nods less exciting. The 20-year-old said: "Honestly, sometimes that's more exciting than you getting nominated. You are just so proud of everyone that you love."

Rodrigo further added: "Noah Kahan got nominated for best new artist, and we were so excited. I was so excited that he got nominated. He was so excited that I got nominated. So it's just a wonderful sharing of love."

The singer's Grammy nominations include Record of the Year for her song 'Vampire', Album of the Year for 'Guts', Song of the Year for 'Vampire', Best Pop Solo Performance for 'Vampire', Best Pop Vocal Album for 'Guts', and Best Rock Song for 'Ballad Of A Homeschooled Girl'.

The Grammy-winner's song 'Can't Catch Me Now', which was released earlier this month is also featured on the 'Hunger Games: The Ballad of Songbirds and Snakes' soundtrack. "I love everything 'Hunger Games'", Rodrigo told 'People'.



Ben Affleck laughs as he reunites with ex-wife Jennifer Garner



Los Angeles | Agencies

Hollywood star Ben Affleck was seen laughing and smiling as he reunited with ex-wife Jennifer Garner at their son's basketball game. The 51-year-old Oscar winner looked healthy and happy as he met up with 'The Yes Day' actress, 51, to watch their 11-year-old son Samuel play in Los Angeles, reports 'Mirror.co.uk'.

The former couple, who were married from 2005 to 2015, shared a laugh and joke as they chatted with their son ahead of his game, and looked like picture-perfect co-parents as they joined forces to support rarely-seen son Samuel, who looks just like his dad.

As per 'Mirror.co.uk', Ben looked dapper in a long-sleeve plaid shirt, teamed with grey jeans and Nike sneakers, while Jennifer looked gorgeous in a grey jumper, black leggings and purple trainers.

After the game finished, they exited the building together, and were seen smiling at each other, while Ben carried a black backpack over his shoulder. The notoriously private star was in a cheeky mood, as she laughed and smiled during an animated conversation with his ex-wife.

The 'Argo' star and director share three children with ex-wife Jennifer - Violet, 17, Seraphina, 14, and son Samuel - and the couple tied the knot in an intimate ceremony in 2005.



Los Angeles | Agencies

Singer Taylor Swift will likely still make time for her family this Thanksgiving despite her tight schedule. According to a new report from Page Six, the 33-year-old plans to spend the upcoming holiday with her family. She reportedly will jet back home to spend Thanksgiving on November 23, with her loved ones after her concert in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil on November 19.

The Grammy-winner, however, will have to soon travel again as she is scheduled to perform in Sao Paulo, Brazil on November 24, one day after Thanksgiving. There is no word on whether her boyfriend Travis Kelce will join her for Thanksgiving, reports aceshowbiz.com.

Travis recently joined Taylor at her "Eras Tour". He traveled to Argentina during his bye week and was seen arriving on November 11.

Taylor Swift to spend Thanksgiving with family

Unfortunately, Taylor was forced to postpone her Friday show due to bad weather, but Travis got to cheer on his girlfriend on her Saturday concert.

He was seen dancing next to her father at the VIP tent.

At the end of the concert, Taylor ran off stage to kiss her beau, who was waiting for her with a huge smile.

Taylor and Travis are apparently deeply committed in their relationship as they are trying to spend a lot of time alone together despite their hectic careers.

ABSOLUTE PIC OF THE DAY



Margot Robbie



MEN'S ODI WORLD CUP

MOHAMMED SHAMI'S 7-57 HELPS INDIA SCRIPT 70-RUN WIN, REACH FINAL

Babar Azam resigns as Pakistan captain across all formats

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Mohammed Shami claimed his third five-wicket haul of the tournament in a brilliant 7-57 as India overcame a valiant century by Daryl Mitchell (134) to defeat New Zealand by 70 runs and storm into the final of the ICC Men's ODI World Cup 2023 on Wednesday.

Shami, who came into the team after Hardik Pandya was injured and claimed 5-54 against New Zealand at Dharamsala and then picked 5-18 against Sri Lanka at the Wankhede Stadium here, struck when India needed the most as he bagged 7-57 in 9.5 overs.

After Virat Kohli (117) had struck a record-breaking 50th century and Shreyas Iyer blazed to a second successive ton to help India post a massive 397/4 in 40 overs, Shami came to India's rescue as he inspired the team to fight back and restrict New Zealand to 327 all out in 48.5 overs to script a memorable triumph.

India will next meet the winner of the second semifinal between Australia and South Africa to be played at the Eden Gardens in Kolkata on Thursday. The final will be played in Ahmedabad on Sunday (Nov 19).

Providing vital breakthroughs when India needed the most, Shami prised out openers Devon Conway (13) and Rachin Ravindra (13) to give India a good start and then returned to dismiss Kane Williamson (69) and Tom Latham (0) in one brilliant over to pull India back into the game after the New Zealand skipper and Daryl Mitchell had raised



183 runs for the third-wicket partnership and were looking dangerous for India.

Shami, who bowled in five spells, sent back Mitchell, Tim Southee and Lockie Ferguson in the final few overs to complete his best haul in ODIs.

India made early breakthroughs with Shami sending back both Devon Conway (13) and Rachin

Ravindra (13) in a similar fashion, caught behind by KL Rahul as New Zealand slumped to 39/2 in the eighth over. Conway was the first to go when he edged a delivery that moved in off the seam and Rahul took a blinder down the legside. Ravindra was done in by one that moved away a bit and kissed his bat on its way into Rahul's gloves.

Williamson got a life when Mohammed Shami dropped a regulation catch at mid-on off Bumrah with the New Zealand captain on 52 and the team at 187/2 in the 29th over.

Shami provided India the much-needed breakthrough when he claimed two wickets in three deliveries in the 33rd over (his fifth over of the day), giving away only 1 run.

He got Williamson holing out to Suryakumar Yadav at deep square, just short of the boundary ropes. It was not a great delivery but a tad slower and hit the bottom of Williamson's bat. A ball later, Shami trapped Tom Latham (0) with one skid back to hit the front foot, New Zealand were down to 220/4 and the Indians had their tails up in the air.

Brief scores:

India 397/4 in 50 overs (Virat Kohli 117, Shreyas Iyer 105, Shubman Gill 80 not out; Rohit Sharma 47; KL Rahul 39 not out; Tim Southee 3-100) beat New Zealand 327 all out in 48.5 overs (Kane Williamson 69, Daryl Mitchell 134, Glenn Phillips 41; Mohammed Shami 7-57) by 70 runs.

Lahore | Agencies

Babar Azam on Wednesday stepped down as Pakistan captain across all formats after the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) asked him to quit over the team's debacle in the ICC Men's ODI World Cup in India.

The PCB had sacked the Pakistan Selection Committee on Tuesday after chief selector Inzamam-ul-Haq resigned from the position amid a controversy over a conflict of interest because of his alleged ownership of a player management company registered in the UK. The PCB completed the overhaul by asking Babar to put in his papers.

Pushed to the wall, Babar Azam took to X (previously Twitter) to announce his resignation from the captain's role, expressing sincere thanks to PCB.

"I vividly remember the moment when I received the call from PCB to lead Pakistan in 2019. Over the past four years, I've experi-



enced many highs and lows on and off the field, but I wholeheartedly and passionately aimed to maintain Pakistan's pride and respect in the cricket world. "Reaching the number 1 spot in the white-ball format was a result of the collective

efforts of players, coaches, and management but I'd like to express my gratitude to passionate Pakistan cricket fans for their unwavering support during this journey," Babar Azam said in his social media post.

"Today, I am stepping down as the captain of Pakistan in all formats. It's a difficult decision but I feel it is the right time for this call," he said.

However, Babar will continue to represent Pakistan across all formats and will share his experience with the new captain. Babar also thanked the PCB for entrusting him with the role.

"I will continue to represent Pakistan as a player in all three formats. I am here to support the new captain and the team with my experience and dedication.

"I want to express my sincere thanks to the Pakistan Cricket Board for entrusting me with this significant responsibility."

Babar Azam has been Pakistan's best batter across formats in the last few years.

Rohit Sharma sets record for hitting most sixes in World Cups

Team Absolute | Mumbai

India captain Rohit Sharma on Wednesday became the batter to hit most number of sixes in World Cups, blasting his 50th maximum in the semi-final match against New Zealand in the ICC Men's Cricket World Cup 2023 at the Wankhede Stadium here.

Rohit hammered four sixes in his 29-ball 47. He started by lofting Trent Boult over the extra-cover boundary for his first six of the day in the third over and then struck Tim Southee for a six in the fourth over, flicking a ball landing on good length.

In the course of his blazing knock, the India captain went past the record for most sixes in World Cups held by West Indies legend Chris Gayle. He was out for



47 after raising 71 runs in the opening wicket partnership with Shubman Gill in 50 balls.

Rohit has already set the record for the most sixes in a calendar year during India's match against the Netherlands in Bengaluru. The 36-year-old reached this milestone by launching a colossal 92-metre six over long-on off Colin Ackermann, marking his 59th maximum of the year and surpassing the record set by former South African captain AB de Villiers in 2015.

Additionally, in the match against the Netherlands, he also achieved the distinction of being the captain with the most sixes in a single World Cup edition. Surpassing former England captain Eoin Morgan's record of 22 maximums in the 2019 edition, Rohit secured this feat with his 23rd six in the 2023 World Cup.

INDIA READY IN THE TRENCH TO FIGHT IN RIVALS' DEN

Kuwait City | Agencies

The FIFA World Cup is the greatest stage in the world of football.

In theory, the stage is set once every four years. Practically, the hustle to make it there carries on every single day. It is a rigorous process, and India's 10th quest to qualify for the World Cup gets underway 30 months before the 2026 edition kicks off in the USA, Mexico, and Canada.

The 60,000-capacity Jaber Al-Ahmad International Stadium will be the stage where the dreams of a billion and a half will start to take flight. The Blue Tigers' first opponents are 136-ranked Kuwait, familiar faces from this summer's SAFF Championship. It was just over four months ago when Gurpreet Singh Sandhu's outstretched left glove pushed out Kuwait captain Khaled Hajiah's penalty to win the final in Bengaluru.

But all that's in the past now. Head coach Igor Stimac has instructed his wards to forget that success and start



with a clean slate. Different circumstances, an unknown venue, and several changes in both squads, but most importantly, it's a World Cup qualifier. The stakes are never higher when you are team India. These are the

matches that could define and shape Indian football's future. The Blue Tigers have played 14 matches this year, but none were as important as the one they will play in Kuwait on Thursday.

"This match has nothing to do with the games we played two months ago because a lot of things have changed since then," explained Stimac at the pre-match press conference on Wednesday. "The players had a long rest and started the season with their clubs. India and Kuwait are not the same sides, we both have had a few injured players. But that's normal in football. Teams change from month to month."

Crucially, the matches double up as qualifiers for the 2027 AFC Asian Cup as well. The top two in the group (reigning champions Qatar and Afghanistan are the other sides in Group A) will not only progress to the final round of World Cup qualification, but also book their berth at the continental showpiece in Saudi Arabia.

"We had a good preparation. We trained for five days in Dubai, adjusting to everything that we are expecting. How you open the qualifiers, with zero, one or three points, can make a huge difference," said Stimac.

ATP Finals HOME FAVOURITE SINNER SHOCKS DJOKOVIC TO GO 2-0 IN GREEN GROUP

Turin | Agencies

Home favourite Jannik Sinner earned a dramatic 7-5, 6-7(5), 7-6(2) victory against Novak Djokovic at the ATP Finals group match for his first Head-to-Head win in four tries against the Serbian great.

The result improved Sinner to 2-0 in ATP Finals and put him in command of the Green Group - though his qualification for the knockout semi-final stage is not yet confirmed, reports ATP.

In the pair's first hard-court meeting, Sinner's brilliant ball-striking ended Djokovic's 19-match winning streak, which dated back to his Cincinnati title run. The Italian's career-best season now includes 59 match wins - the most by an Italian in the Open Era - and a 10-5 record against the Top 10.

Sinner also improved to 15-1 indoors for 2023 by earning his sec-



ond victory against a reigning World No. 1; he also beat then-No. 1 Carlos Alcaraz in the Miami semifinal earlier this season. Djokovic spent much of the three-hour, nine-minute

matchup battling back from behind, but he had no answer for Sinner's lightning start to the decisive tie-break. Long after he won nine straight points to snatch the opening set,

breaking from 40/0 before a love hold, Sinner surged ahead in the final tie-break with five consecutive points, hitting huge ground strokes in the face of extreme pressure to build what proved to be an unassailable lead. In the third set, Sinner led 4-2 but was pegged back immediately as Djokovic broke serve for the first time in the match. There would be no comeback in the tie-break, as Sinner sent the crowd to fever pitch with victory before receiving a warm embrace from his opponent at net.

Djokovic dropped to 1-1 in Turin with the defeat but still remains in with a chance of reaching the semi-finals. He will close out his round-robin campaign against Hubert Hurkacz on Thursday, with the Pole coming in as an alternate to Stefanos Tsitsipas (back injury).

Sinner will meet Holger Rune as he seeks to finish 3-0 in the group.

Team Absolute | New Delhi

The long-awaited aspiration of the All India Football Federation (AIFF) to set up a world-class academy will finally become a reality in Bhubaneswar, Odisha, on November 21.

The AIFF-FIFA academy, to be launched under the FIFA Talent Development Scheme, will be inaugurated by Arsene Wenger, FIFA Chief of Global Football Development, the AIFF release read.

"Arsene Wenger will be here in India from November 19 to 23. During this period, he and his team will meet ISL, I-League clubs and all those who are involved with Youth Development in Indian football," AIFF President Kalyan Chaubey said. "In the past, we have seen several academies coming up in India. Taking a cue from it, our efforts would be to build this academy into a flawless one. We are confident that Wenger's vast experience and keen understanding of things would be of huge help in turning this academy into a world-class facility. I personally remain grate-



ful to the FIFA President, Gianni Infantino for taking the initiative and for sending Wenger to India," he added.

AIFF Acting Secretary General Satyanarayan M said, "This is a giant step towards our long-term vision and investing in youth as young as below 14 is perhaps the greatest start. We will start working on such similar endeavours in other parts of the country to ensure talent does not get overlooked. It is certainly exciting times for Indian Football."

SHAN MASOOD TO LEAD PAKISTAN TEST TEAM, SHAHEEN AFRIDI NAMED T20I CAPTAIN

Lahore: The Pakistan Cricket Board has appointed Shan Masood as the Test captain of Pakistan Men's Cricket Team, while Shaheen Shah Afridi has been named T20I skipper after Babar Azam stepped down from captaincy role on Wednesday.

34-year-old Shan has featured in 30 Tests, scoring 1,597 runs, which includes four centuries and seven half-centuries.

Shan has been appointed captain till the end of the ICC World Test Championship 2023-25. Shan will be leading the Pakistan side for a three-match test series against Australia starting from December 14. Meanwhile, left-arm pacer Shaheen Shah will lead Pakistan Men's Team in the T20I format and will lead the side for a five-match T20I series in New Zealand starting from January 12.

Men's ODI WC Old foes Australia, South Africa clash with an eye on weather at Eden Gardens

Kolkata | Agencies

There is something about the Australia-South Africa clash which makes the fans be on edge of their seats. Right from the 1999 World Cup semi-final, where Australia got ecstasy and South Africa were spiraled into the endless so-close-yet-so-far phase, matches between the two teams have been keenly watched and contested.

Come Thursday, and the Australia-South Africa rivalry will have another chapter added when the two teams clash in the semi-finals of 2023 Men's ODI World Cup at the Eden Gardens in Kolkata on Thursday, to decide who goes to Ahmedabad for the title clash on Sunday.

In this World Cup, there has been little to separate Australia and South Africa. Both lost two matches and won seven games; both collected 14 points in the league. But the net run rate meant Proteas finished at second ahead of Australia's third place.

When the two teams played in the league match at Lucknow last month, Quinton de Kock's sizzling century propelled South Africa to a comfortable 134-run victory. After that, Australia have been on a



seven-match winning streak, though they won't be underestimating the mighty South Africa.

Helping South Africa lead the charge apart from de Kock in the batting have been Heinrich Klassen, Rassie van der Dussen, Aiden Markram and David Miller, with Temba Bavuma's availability still shrouded in mystery. Australia also have a power-packed batting line-up of David Warner, Travis Head, Steve Smith, Marnus Labuschagne, Glenn

Maxwell and Mitchell Marsh.

In the bowling, both teams have capable people to win matches on their own: Kagiso Rabada, Lungi Ngidi, Gerald Coetzee, Marco Jansen and Keshav Maharaj for South Africa, with Markram being another option, as they have bowled out opposition seven times. From Australia, they have stars like Mitchell Starc, Josh Hazlewood, Pat Cummins and Adam Zampa, with Maxwell, Head and Marsh

able to roll their arm over, as they bowled out oppositions five times. Both have points of weakness too: South Africa are iffy in chases, while Australia can become thin on middle-order.

There's a rain threat too in Kolkata, which adds more drama to the semi-final which promises to be another classic World Cup encounter. Australia will be fueled by the desire to continue their winning streak, and South Africa will be stirred by the fire to get a step closer to the trophy.

Squads

Australia: Pat Cummins (captain), Steve Smith, Alex Carey, Josh Inglis, Sean Abbott, Cameron Green, Josh Hazlewood, Travis Head, Marnus Labuschagne, Mitch Marsh, Glenn Maxwell, Marcus Stoinis, David Warner, Adam Zampa, and Mitchell Starc.

South Africa: Temba Bavuma (captain), Gerald Coetzee, Quinton de Kock, Reeza Hendricks, Marco Jansen, Heinrich Klaasen, Keshav Maharaj, Aiden Markram, David Miller, Lungi Ngidi, Andile Phehlukwayo, Kagiso Rabada, Tabraiz Shamsi, Rassie van der Dussen, and Lizaad Williams.



Deepika, Ranveer spotted holidaying in Brussels

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Bollywood star couple Deepika Padukone and Ranveer Singh, whose film 'Goliyon Ki Raasleela Ram-Leela' celebrates its 10th anniversary on Wednesday, were spotted in Brussels. The two celebrated their 5th wedding anniversary on Tuesday and were seen holidaying in Belgium. A picture of the couple, sitting inside a property with their backs facing the street has emerged on the Internet.

Taking to X, a fan claimed to have spotted the couple in Brussels. He also shared a snapshot capturing the duo engaged in a conversation inside a salon, seated on a plush couch.

Another picture, shared by a fan, shows the couple posing with their fans and donning warm clothes.

Ranveer-Deepika tied the knot on November 14, 2018, at Italy's Lake Como after dating for six long years. Their romance started with 'Goliyon Ki Raasleela Ram-Leela'.

Recently, on popular chat show 'Koffee With Karan' Ranveer Singh shared that in 2015, he had proposed to Deepika.

He said, "Iske pehle ki koi aur aa jaye main jaake chappal rakh deta hoon (sic)".

Kareena Kapoor Khan reveals why she wants to unfollow her BFF Karan Johar

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Bollywood diva Kareena Kapoor Khan has revealed the reason why she wants to unfollow her closest friend Karan Johar on social media and it has everything to do with fashion!

Karan's pout selfies and style has always been a point of talk but Kareena has a different opinion them.

Talking about the same, Kareena said, "I think these days, with that backdrop of your terrace, Balenciaga Sweatshirts and Givenchy and this and that you."

"Everybody is going crazy. I am only firing him by sending messages saying, what are you doing? I am unfollowing you now if you continue this, your photo-shoots from the top angle with those bada glasses.

The previous episodes featured Deepika Padukone, Ranveer Singh, Sunny Deol, Bobby Deol, Ananya Panday and Sara Ali Khan as guests.

'Koffee with Karan' Season 8 is streaming on Disney+ Hotstar.



Team Absolute | Mumbai

GURU RANDHAWA, JAY SEAN, NORA FATEHI, MINDY KALING THROG LILLY SINGH'S DIWALI BASH IN LA



Team Absolute | Mumbai

One of the biggest YouTubers across the world, Lilly Singh hosted her annual Diwali bash in Los Angeles. The celebrations were a starry affair as it saw guests like Terry Crews, Jay Sean, Nora Fatehi, Guru Randhawa, Mindy Kaling, Ruby Rose, Tan France, Victoria Justice and Teshar in attendance. For the occasion, Lilly chose an ethnic outfit by designer duo Falguni Shane Peacock. She took to her Instagram and shared an array of pictures and a video from the party.

She captioned the pictures: "I have zero pictures from the event on my phone. In fact, I don't think I saw many people on their phone, period. Community anywhere is important, but I find more and more we're only experiencing it online. In fact, we only measure moments, behaviour and worth by what's online these days. These pictures hold memories that a caption or IG post will never do justice to... and I love that."

She added: "After the party, so many people texted me saying 'your family and friends are so warm and welcoming', and that makes me really proud. I've been to one too many events in my life where I walked in and immediately felt awkward. I felt this pressure to put on an act and find acceptance. That's the opposite of what I want this annual event to be. Whether this is your 30th Diwali, or your first, this party will always be about unity, warmth and inclusion. That good, good energy is mandatory."



Richa reflects on a decade of collaboration with SLB

Actress Richa Chadha, who was recently seen in the comedy film 'Fukrey 3', looked back at her film 'Goliyon Ki Raasleela Ram-Leela' and her journey with the film's director Sanjay Leela Bhansali as the film clocked 10 years of its release on Wednesday. The actress has collaborated again with filmmaker Sanjay Leela Bhansali for his web series debut 'Heeramandi'.

The film, which was directed by Sanjay Leela Bhansali, featured an ensemble cast, including Ranveer Singh, Deepika Padukone, Richa Chadha, Gulshan Devaiah, Supriya Pathak, Sharad Kelkar and Abhimanyu Singh.

Richa Chadha expressed gratitude for the opportunity to work with SLB once again after a decade in 'Heeramandi'.

She said: "There are very few actors in Hindi cinema who get repeated in his larger-than-life movies. Working with SLB is an experience of a lifetime for any actor, and I am overjoyed to collaborate with him twice, especially as we celebrate the 10-year milestone of 'Goliyon Ki Raasleela Ram-Leela.' It feels like a true celebration of artistic collaboration."

'Heeramandi' explores the cultural reality of Heeramandi, a dazzling district, through the stories of courtesans and their patrons set against the tumultuous backdrop of the Indian freedom struggle of the 1940s.

Sanjay Leela Bhansali's ability to create cinematic spectacles has left an indelible mark on Hindi cinema, and Richa Chadha is thrilled to continue this artistic journey with him.

The series also stars Aditi Rao Hydari, Manisha Koirala, Sonakshi Sinha, Sharmin Segal, and Sanjeeda Sheikh and brings back the signature SLB aesthetics.

Pop meets cricket as Dua Lipa engages in candid conversation with KL Rahul, Shubman Gill

Team Absolute | Mumbai

In a rather unexpected and surprisingly delightful event, cricketers Shubman Gill, KL Rahul and Kane Williamson engaged in a candid conversation with global pop icon Dua Lipa with both of them asking her some strange questions which actually caught her a bit off-guard.

The interaction unfolded just before the crucial World Cup semi-final clash where India would be facing off New Zealand. Just before this crucial event, K L Rahul asked her about her favourite jersey number, while Shubham Gill asked her what song would she pick if she were to perform at a cricket match.

KL told her: "Jersey numbers are really important to us players.

So my jersey number is one because I feel I must be number one at whatever I do, and win."

Liking KL's reasoning, she said: "I really like that. KL, if I had to pick a number then I'd say 22. It is my lucky number."

Shubman Gill however threw an ultimate curveball, asking Dua which song from her catalogue would she use, if she were to perform at both the beginning and the end of ICC World Cup 2023 closing ceremony.

Taken somewhat aback by this question, Dua nonetheless answered by saying: "I think because it is a sporting event, I'd have to go with 'Physical' because it is only fitting. And then 'One Kiss' always seems to go well at matches. Then there are also some of my new songs."



SALMAN IS HAPPY THAT 3RD OF 'TIGER' FRANCHISE TOO IS SCRIPTING A SUCCESS STORY

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Bollywood superstar Salman Khan is over-the-moon with the response that his latest release 'Tiger 3' has got and has said that the franchise has been the closest to his heart.

Salman said: "I'm delighted with the response from (the) audience and fans for Tiger 3! They have given the film a brilliant start and I'm happy that the third part of this franchise is also scripting a success story."

Over the weekend, 'Tiger 3' collected Rs 148.50 crore net in India and Rs. 240 crore gross box office worldwide.

He added: "Tiger is a franchise that is close to my heart. So, to see it get more and more love film after film is really special. I hope the film continues to entertain audiences worldwide."

Produced by Aditya Chopra and directed by Maneesh Sharma, Tiger 3 is running in Hindi, Tamil and Telugu.



INSTAGRAM PIC OF THE DAY



Priya P Varrier