



EDITOR'S SPECS

The Interim Budget

An Interim Budget is presented by a government in its last year in office ahead of the Lok Sabha elections. The need for an interim budget arises because a fresh approval is required from the Parliament to withdraw money from the Consolidated Fund of India to run the government as the existing 2023-24 Budget is valid only till March 31 this year. Since the Lok Sabha elections will be held in April-May this year, funds will be required to run the country till the new government takes over after the elections. The interim budget is a practical arrangement that enables the government to fill this gap. The full Union Budget is presented by the newly-elected government after the Lok Sabha polls. An Interim Budget is similar to a Union Budget in that the ruling government tables in Parliament the estimates of its expenditure, revenue, fiscal deficit, and financial performance and projections for the upcoming financial year. Although major tax proposals are not made, the ruling government can tweak some taxes. This had happened in the interim budget ahead of the 2019 Lok Sabha elections, when the income tax deduction limit was raised by the government to give salaried professionals some relief. The government, however, does not make any major policy announcements during the Interim Budget which could financially burden the next government that will present the full Union Budget. According to the Election Commission's Code of Conduct, the ruling government cannot include any major scheme in the Interim Budget as it could influence voters. The government also does not present the Economic Survey along with the Interim Budget which is done a day before the presentation of the main budget.

Male spells a geo-political trend

D.C. Pathak

The anti-India remarks made by Maldives President Mohamed Muizzu on returning home from a five-day high-profile state visit to China on January 13, go beyond what could be considered as the consequence merely of India's known political support for his predecessor Ibu Solih in the recently held presidential poll in Maldives. They reflect a global trend of the rise of radicals in the Muslim world on one hand and the impact of US-China polarisation - indicating a new Cold War on the horizon - on the Islamic world, on the other. The spread of 'radicalisation' was accentuating the divide between the forces fiercely hostile to the US-led West and those Muslim countries who chose to be friendly with the US. The 'war on terror' that followed 9/11 proved to be a direct combat between the Islamic radical forces and the US-led West and helped the former to spread their hold on the Indian sub-continent, West Africa and the Middle East. The US-China polarisation is pushing radicalised Muslim entities closer to China for political reasons. The developments in Maldives are a part of the current geopolitics marked by the ascendancy of India as a major power which is friendly with the US, the deepening conflict between the US on the one hand and an ambitious China aspiring to become the second superpower, on the other and the anti-India narratives built by lobbies in India and abroad about the treatment of Muslim minority in the country. Significantly, some of the ministerial colleagues of Muizzu had earlier described India as a 'puppet of Israel' injecting a communal bias against secular democratic India and confirming their own 'radicalised' approach. It is likely that Maldives would add to the group of countries like Pakistan, Turkey and Malaysia in the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) accentuating the divide between pro-US and 'radicalised' Muslim countries. Mohamed Muizzu had contested the Presidential election in Maldives on an 'India out' platform opposing the 'India First' call of Ibu Solih and emerged victorious. On return from China, President Muizzu - who broke the tradition of a newly elected Maldivian President making his first foreign visit to India - in an apparent jibe against India declared that "we may be small but we are not in any country's backyard - nor does it give any country license to bully us". Asserting that the Indian Ocean does not belong to any single country, he claimed that China-Maldives relations were based on respect for sovereignty, equality and non-interference in internal affairs. Muizzu announced a slew of measures aimed at curtailing the dependence of Maldives on India in key sectors including health care, food security and tourism. China's Indian Ocean footprint was visibly enhanced by the elevation of ties between Maldives and China to the level of 'strategic partnership' during Muizzu's visit to Beijing. On January 14, Muizzu stepped up his anti-India rhetoric by asking India to withdraw all Indian military personnel deployed in the Indian Ocean archipelago by March 15. He reportedly directed the Maldivian delegation participating in the talks on the issue to inform Indian officials that the troops must be withdrawn by that date. There are around 70 military personnel and a dozen medical hands assisting in flying and managing helicopters and also in disaster management. Muizzu has taken a strange stance - apparently attributable to Chinese influence - considering the fact that India looked upon the Maldives as a key maritime neighbour in the Indian Ocean Rim (IOR) and gave it a special place in an initiative like SAGAR (security and growth for all in the region). India will certainly find ways and means of countering any Chinese designs in the Indian Ocean - particularly any hostile



activity pursued through China's new-found friendship with Maldives. The impact of radicalisation on the Muslim world should not be underestimated. Just as the 'war on terror' in Afghanistan led to the growth of Al Qaeda and Taliban, the US action in Iraq in 2003 enabled the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS) to strike roots in the Iraq-Syria region. ISIS had its origins in Al Qaeda in Iraq (AQI) and while 'competing' with Al Qaeda in furthering the cause of radical Islam, it attracted notice more for its hostility to the Shiites in the region on sectarian lines. This explains the intensity of ISIS opposition to the Alawite regime of Bashar al-Assad in Syria as well. All Islamic radical outfits consider the US-led West as their prime enemy and for political reasons alone, may be inclined to be on the side of China in the latter's rift with the US. China is taking full advantage of this geopolitical environment to expand its influence. Its adjustment with the Taliban Emirate in Kabul - with the helping hand of Pakistan - enabled it to extend its Belt & Road Initiative (BRI) to Afghanistan. The new level of friendship struck by China with Maldives during Muizzu's visit to Beijing saw the Maldivian President recording his appreciation for BRI and China extending a grant of MVR 2 billion to Maldives. Islamic radicals are 'revivalists' who demand going back to the Puritan Islam of the period of the four 'Pious Caliphs' that brooked no compromises and who advocate recourse to Jihad to restore the political hold and glory of the faith. Western culture with its 'corrupting' influence and the Shiite 'deviants' are the prime targets of radicalised Sunnis. Interestingly, the Shiite regime of Ayatollahs in Iran is ideologically against Capitalism and is hence fundamentally against the US too. Iran shares the antipathy that radicalised Hamas had towards Israel and this pretty much explains the active support extended by Hizbollah and Houthis to the former in the current Israel-Hamas confrontation. It is a matter of concern that the post-Cold War era is witnessing a proliferation of proxy wars and cross-border offensives and an increasing trend of misuse of cyberspace for combat and destruction.

Technology can be used for both development and destabilisation and rogue nations and non-state actors cannot be easily prevented from misusing technology. India has in the follow-up on the G20 Summit already taken the initiative of calling an international conference to examine the issue of regulating the operations of Artificial Intelligence. The phenomenon of proxy wars has been further complicated by the new trend of terrorists attacking the strategic and economic lifelines of the targeted country to economically weaken the opponent. Further, 'information warfare' has become another new form of combat in which social media is used for peddling misinformation or building false narratives to bring down a legitimate regime or influence the outcome of a democratic election in a country. Instigating separatism or an insurgency from outside is also a kind of external threat countries face today - India has seen this happening in both Kashmir and the North East. ITBP is a matter of great satisfaction that measures have been taken by the present Union Home Minister to curb Naxalism, terrorism and separatist movements, with good results. Developments in the Maldives reflect the current geopolitics that features the US-China clash of interests, the Ukraine-Russia military confrontation, the Hamas-Israel conflict, the rise of Islamic radicals in the Muslim world and a Sino-Pak axis that was active against India. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has, by taking an independent stand on the Ukraine-Russia military confrontation and getting India to abstain from voting in UNGA on a US-sponsored resolution against Russia - while at the same time clearly messaging the two warring sides that "this is not an era of war", helped India to become an important voice in the world on issues of war and peace. What is more, India has been able to establish that its relationship with the US would remain deep and irreversible despite its continuing bonds of friendship with Russia. India has a clear sight of which side to be on, in the emerging polarisation between the US and China and has decided to take on the latter on LAC, on the marine front and on international platforms - it has already stepped up its role in Quad. On the threat from Islamic radicalisation and faith-based terrorism, India again is firmly with the US in dealing with the shared danger. India has unequivocally condemned the terror attack of Hamas on Israel but has favoured a 'two-state' solution in Palestine and restraint in the use of military power to avoid civilian loss of life. As regards the Sino-Pak axis, India is prepared to deal with the two adversaries and foil their attempts to carry out covert operations against this country's internal security. On the whole, there is clarity in Prime Minister Modi's policy of getting the two largest democracies of the world - India and the US - to lead the democratic order against the perils of dictatorial and fundamentalist regimes. Indo-US cooperation is touching new heights in the spheres of both security and economic development and is at the forefront in regard to the application of new technologies including Artificial Intelligence (AI) to the same. In a multipolar world order, India is rightly opting for bilateral and multilateral friendships designed to serve the mutual interests of the partners while preserving the cause of global peace. (The writer is a former Director of the Intelligence Bureau. Views are personal)

international

Storm Isha causes mass power cuts, travel disruption in UK

Tens of thousands of homes were left in blackouts and trains were cancelled on Monday as Storm Isha brought gusts and heavy rainfall across the UK. An unusual wind warning for almost the entire country issued by the UK's Met Office ahead of the storm is still in force and expected to last until Wednesday, Xinhua news agency reported. According to the National Meteorological Service, strong gusts of 99 miles per hour (159 km per hour) were recorded at Brizlee Wood, Northumberland. About 45,000 people in Northern Ireland, along with thousands more in England and Wales, were left without power overnight. On Monday morning, Northern Ireland Electricity Networks said that "the severity and prolonged duration of Storm Isha has caused widespread damage to the electricity network" across the region and they were still working to restore power. All passenger and freight train services



in Scotland were suspended for safety reasons following the storm. Network Rail, which owns and maintains the UK's train infrastructure, said reopening Scotland's Railway would be "a challenge" due to damages, including fallen trees and overhead wire damage in "at least 20 separate locations". Several rail operators also warned of delays and changes on Monday, advising travellers to check their journey in advance. Storm Isha also impacted Ireland, causing power cuts in at least 230,000 properties and flight cancellations at Dublin Airport. The Met Office said the winds were expected to "gradually ease through the day on Monday".

25,000 civilian fatalities reported in Gaza conflict amid mounting humanitarian demands

Intense Israeli strikes in Gaza and Palestinian rocket fire into Israel persisted on Monday, with UN humanitarian reports stating more than 25,000 deaths in the enclave since the war's onset on October 7. Referencing information from Gaza's health authorities, the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) reported that 62,681 Palestinians have suffered injuries due to Israeli strikes. These strikes were in response to Hamas-led attacks in Israel, which resulted in about 1,200 fatalities and around 250 hostages. Two Israeli soldiers had been killed in Gaza since Friday, OCHA said, which brought the total to 193 since the start of the ground operation, and 1,203 soldiers were injured, according to the Israeli military as quoted by Xinhua news agency report. The same period saw 343 Palestinians killed and another 573 people injured, the UN aid coordination office said. Addressing a summit of the Group of 77 countries and China (G77) in the Ugandan capital Kampala on Sunday, UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres described the Middle East as "a tinderbox," before issuing an appeal to "do all we can to prevent conflict from igniting across the region". "Israel's military operations have spread mass destruction and killed civilians on a scale unprecedented during my time as Secretary-General," Guterres said, having earlier reiterated his support for a two-state solution for Israelis and Palestinians. Highlighting the scale of need among Gazans after more than three months of "intense" bombardment, OCHA said that only 15 bakeries were now operational in Gaza -- "six in Rafah and nine in Deir al Balah" -- and none is open north of Wadi Gaza. Almost all of these functioning bakeries have continued to



receive support from the UN World Food Programme which has provided flour, salt, yeast and sugar. "Through this initiative, about 250,000 people were able to purchase bread at a subsidised price," OCHA noted in its latest update on the emergency on Sunday. The UN agency for Palestinian refugees UNRWA, meanwhile, reported on Monday that telecommunications shutdowns had entered a seventh day. In its most recent update, UNRWA disclosed that the number of internally displaced people within Gaza has reached 1.7 million. Of these, at least 335 have been killed while taking refuge in the agency's facilities, and 1,161 have been injured. Additionally, since October 7, 151 UNRWA staff members have been killed and 141 of its installations have suffered damage.

South Korea: Nearly 350 flights at Jeju airport canceled due to snow, winds

Nearly 350 flights set to land or take off at Jeju International Airport in South Korea have been canceled on Tuesday due to heavy snow and gusty winds. Around 347 flights -- 176 outbound flights and 171 inbound flights -- were cancelled at the Jeju airport, affecting about 20,000 outbound passengers, a Korea Airports Corp. (KAC) official said over the phone, Yonhap news agency reported. Two flights on international routes --



one bound for Macao and the other bound for Taipei -- scheduled to leave the airport

at 10:40 p.m. have yet to be cancelled, the official said, adding there remain no planned domestic flights this evening. On Monday, some flights were also cancelled or delayed at the resort island's airport due to heavy snow and strong winds. "Passengers need to check their flight schedules in advance as some of the planned flights at Jeju airport are expected to suffer cancellations or delays until Wednesday morning due to heavy snow and winds," the official said.

21 Israeli soldiers killed in single attack in Gaza

At least 21 Israeli soldiers have been killed in Gaza while fighting Hamas, the Israel Defense Forces said on Tuesday. Addressing a press briefing, IDF spokesman Daniel Hagari said soldiers were preparing explosives to demolish two buildings when militants launched a rocket-propelled grenade at a nearby tank on Monday, triggering a premature explosion that resulted in the collapse of the build-



ings while the soldiers were either inside or

nearby, Xinhua news agency reported. Offering condolences to the families of the soldiers who died, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu posted on X: "I wish to strengthen the dear families of our heroic warriors who fell on the battlefield. I know that for these families, their lives will be changed forever. Prime Minister Netanyahu said the military has launched an investigation into the incident.

Five killed as Russia shells Ukraine



At least five people were killed in Russia's strikes on Ukraine's Kharkiv and Kiev, local authorities said. Regional Military Administration head Oleh Syniehubov Russia struck the Kyivskiy and Saltivskiy districts of Kharkiv with Kh-22 missiles in which four people were killed, Ukrainska Pravda reported. He said the Russian missile strike destroyed an apartment block. "People are under the rub-



ble. Rescuers and other emergency services are working at the scene," he added. According to a local power operator, Kharkivoblenergo, energy companies are already working to restore electricity supply to the residential quarters. In Kiev, one person was killed and four others injured. At least eight explosions were reported in Kharkiv. However, the Russian military said that it does not target civilians when it hit objects in Ukraine.

New York-bound flight cancelled after passenger spots missing screws on plane's wing



Moments before takeoff, a New-York bound Virgin Atlantic flight from Manchester was cancelled after an alert passenger spotted missing bolts on plane's wing, the media reported. The incident occurred on January 15, when Phil Hardy, 41, who was onboard the flight at Manchester Airport in the UK, noticed four missing fasteners and informed the cabin crew. Engineers were promptly called out to carry out maintenance checks on the Airbus

A330 aircraft before its scheduled takeoff to John F. Kennedy International Airport in New York City, New York Post reported quoting a Virgin Atlantic representative. In a video shared on social media, an engineer can be seen climbing on to the plane's wing and fixing the issue. Though Hardy was repeatedly assured by the airline staff that there was no safety issue, he was panicked as the incident comes days after one of the doors of an Alaska Airlines Boeing 737 9 MAX blew open mid-air.



Los Angeles | Agencies

Singer-actress Selena Gomez has spoken candidly about her body image. The singer recently shared a series of Instagram stories, showing off her body in photos from over the years. The 'Only Murders in the Building' star, 31, first shared a photo from an earlier date, where she's photographed wearing a zebra bikini, reports People magazine.

In the Instagram story, Selena wrote: "Today I realised I will never look like this again".

She followed up the first photo with a more recent bathing suit image. This photo showed Selena in a black, high-waisted bikini bottom with a white tube-top bikini top.

As per People, the second Story caption read, "I'm not perfect, but I am proud to be who I am... Sometimes I forget it's ok to be me".

Her recent posts follow her previous body positivity messages, along with the instances when she's called out body-shamers for sharing unpleasant comments about her body.

People further states that in April 2022, the 'Selena + Chef' star called out body shamers who criticised her appearance.

"Honestly, I don't care about my weight because people bitch about it anyway", she said in her TikTok Stories.

"You're too small,' you're too big,' that doesn't fit.' Meh meh meh meh!."

"B****, I am perfect the way I am," she added.

"Moral of the story? Bye."

Selena Gomez reflects on body changes in then & now Instagram posts

DAKOTA JOHNSON CLAPS BACK AT CRITICISM OVER HER STATEMENT OF '14 HOURS OF SLEEP'

Los Angeles | Agencies

Actress Dakota Johnson has told people to "leave her alone" over the idea she sleeps for 14 hours every night.

The 34-year-old actress caused a stir last month when she told the Wall Street Journal she could "easily" sleep for such a long amount of time, but now she's insisted she doesn't "demand" it after her comments were misinterpreted, reports 'Female First UK'.

Appearing on 'The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon', she said: "I didn't even say that like that!" When the late night host asked if she "likes to sleep 14 hours," she responded: "No. I said that I could easily sleep 14 hours. But I don't like to demand it. I'm not a monster."

As per 'Female First UK', after Jimmy noted that plenty of outlets picked up the story which sparked a debate on the right amount of sleep, Dakota jokingly argued her case.

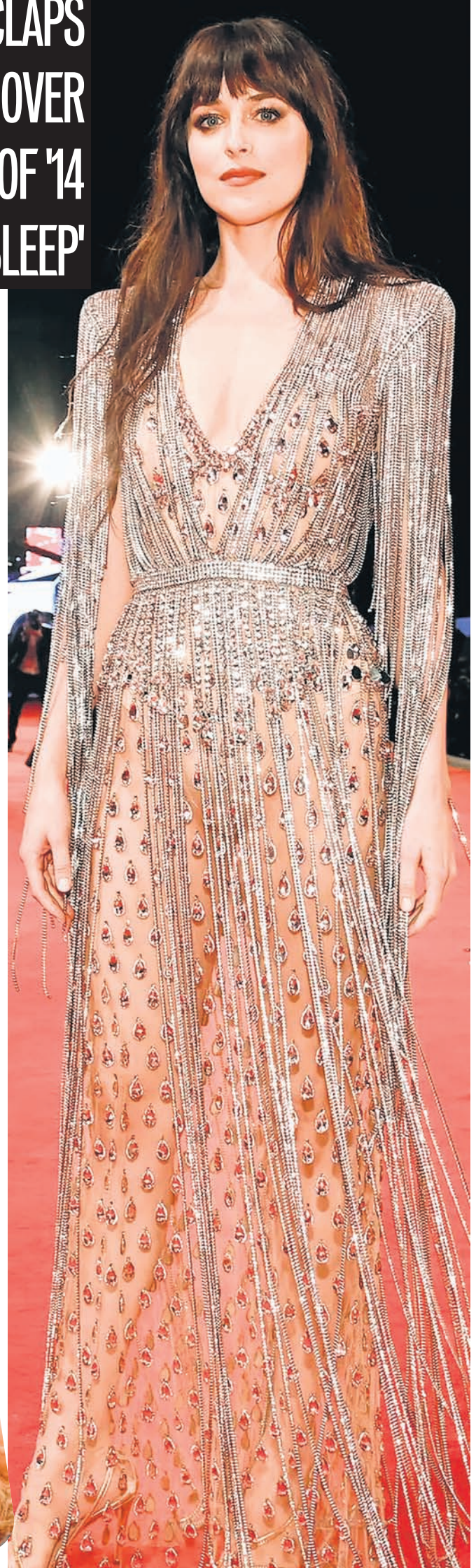
She laughed: "Why is sleep bad? Like, why? Leave me alone. I'm just asleep. I don't have to take anything to sleep like that either, I can just sleep like that. I think if I took like an Ambien, I think I'd wake up next year."

Last month, she told the WSJ that sleep is her "number one priority", while meditation helps her cope with anxiety.

She explained: "I don't have a regular [wake-up] time. It depends on what's happening in my life." "If I'm not working, if I have a day off on a Monday, then I will sleep as long as I can. Sleep is my number one priority in life."

Dakota, who is currently promoting upcoming superhero movie 'Madame Web', told the outlet that she needs at least 10 hours of kip a night to function.

She added: "I'm not functional if I get less than 10. I can easily go 14 hours."



Los Angeles | Agencies

Actress Sofia Vergara has shed more light on her divorce from Joe Manganiello. The actress revealed that she and Manganiello, 47, weren't on the same page when it came to expanding their family.

She said the difference ultimately led to their divorce, reports People magazine.

In a new interview with Spanish newspaper El Pais, Sofia, 51, said: "My marriage broke up because my husband was younger; he wanted to have kids and I didn't want to be an old mom. I feel it's not fair to the baby. I respect whoever does it, but that's not for me anymore."

Sofia, who shares son Manolo with ex-husband Joe Gonzalez, continued: "I had a son at 19, who is now 32, and I'm ready to be a grandmother, not a mother. So, if love comes along, he has to come with (his own) children. I'm almost in menopause; it's the natural way of things."

She added, "When my son becomes a dad, let him bring the baby to me for a while and then I'll give it back to him and go on with my life; that's what I have to do." As per People, in July, Sofia and Manganiello, 47, released a joint statement, saying that after seven years of marriage, they made the "difficult decision" to divorce. They wrote, "As two people that love and care for one another very much, we politely ask for respect for our privacy at this time as we navigate this new phase of our lives." Two days later, Manganiello filed for divorce, citing "irreconcilable differences" as the reason for the dissolution of the marriage. He listed the date of separation as July 2.

SOFIA VERGARA SAYS SHE & JOE MANGANIELLO DIVORCED AFTER DISAGREEMENT ON KIDS



Padma Lakshmi dishes on her 'big issue' with 'Top Chef'

Los Angeles | Agencies

India-born supermodel, TV host, producer, cookbook author and actor Padma Lakshmi served as a host for the show 'Top Chef' from 2006 until 2023, and although she enjoyed the food, said that it was still a "big, big, big issue" for her.

"No, I don't. I mean, the food is great but when you have to eat that much of it, it's really hard. So I'm happy not to have ... that was a big, big issue, yeah," Padma told people.com when asked if she missed eating the food.

She also shared that she'll miss her 'Top Chef' colleagues. The model likened the show's crew to a "family."

She said, "I miss my friends. I miss the whole crew -- they're like family to me."

Last year, Padma outlined her reasons for quitting the show after 17 years.

The runway star -- who also hosts 'Taste the Nation', a travel and food show -- told the 'Awards Circuit' podcast, "I had been on location for eight months out of the year."

"And when I wasn't on location, I was in pre- and post-production for both my shows. And I was looking at edits of one show while on the set of another show. It was just exhausting and untenable for me to continue that way."

Padma also said that her busy schedule was harming her personal life.



Los Angeles | Agencies

Actor Jamie Foxx recently returned to filming 'Back in Action' and will be filming all his parts without stunt doubles.

A source told People, "Jamie is indeed back on set and shooting through February. He looks and feels fantastic."

Jamie is fully committed to the new film, which also features Cameron Diaz. The insider added, "They tried to finish the movie with a stunt double but it didn't come out right so Jamie is going to do all of the parts now. He is doing so well."

Despite his high-profile health struggles, Jamie has always been determined to complete 'Back in Action'.

Another source said: "For Jamie, the show must go on and he has always been eager to

JAMIE FOXX TO FILM ALL HIS PARTS IN 'BACK IN ACTION' WITHOUT STUNT DOUBLE

see this project completed. Jamie is super talented and loves his work. He will finish this film."

In April 2023, Jamie's daughter Corinne announced that her dad was suffering from a medical complication.

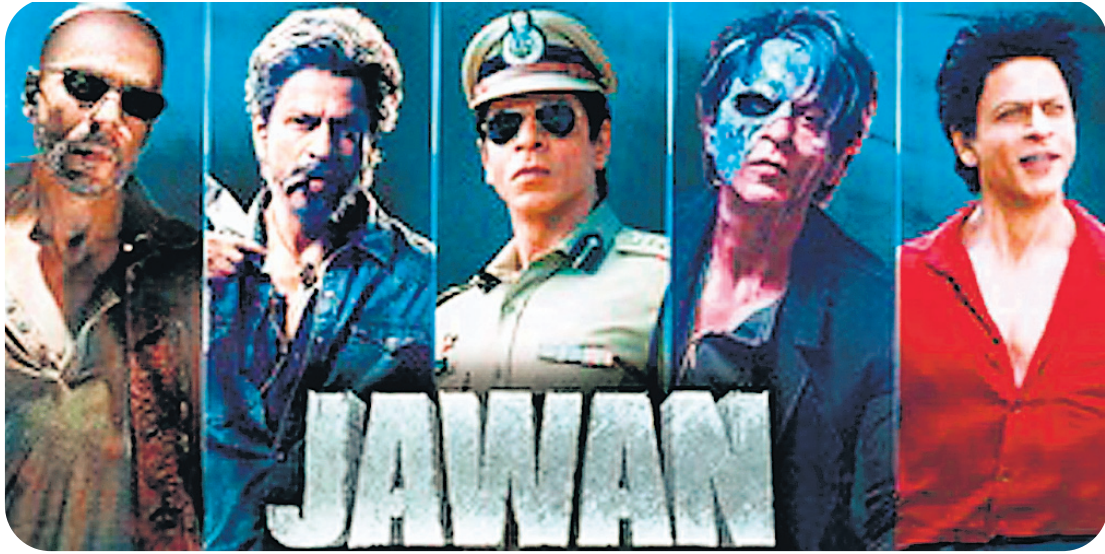
In a statement written on behalf of her family, Corinne explained, "We wanted to share that my father, Jamie Foxx, experienced a medical complication yesterday."

"Luckily, due to quick action and great care, he is already on his way to recovery. We know how beloved he is and appreciate your prayers. The family asks for privacy during this time."

ABSOLUTE PIC OF THE DAY



Kim Kardashian



SRK shares mantra to stay 'Jawan' at heart

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Bollywood superstar Shah Rukh Khan has shared the mantra to remain 'Jawan' at heart and in life, and it is to be pure at heart, and not to have cynicism towards people or things that you are doing.

SRK's action packed pan-India film 'Jawan' has enthralled audiences across the globe with its gripping plot, brilliantly choreographed action sequences, masaledaar dialogues and enticing acting prowess.

The flick stars Shah Rukh in a dual role as Vikram and Azad Rathore, alongside Nayanthara, Vijay Sethupathi, Deepika Padukone (billed as a special appearance), Priyamani and Sanya Malhotra.

Opening up on the mantra to remain 'Jawan' at heart and in life, the 'Pathaan' actor said: "The only way to be Jawan at heart, happy at heart is to be pure at heart. The only way to do that is not to have cynicism towards people or things that you're doing."

"Have the nicest and highest regards for people that surround you, love your family and friends and just be kind hearted. I think it takes very little to remain young at heart," he said.

Talking about the genre of 'Jawan', which is directed by Atlee, SRK said: "There's a genre of filmmaking that exists-- a genre that's dynamic, larger, bigger than life. It's a rollercoaster ride of everything packed in one film

and it really is a fun, worthwhile trip."

"Jawan will make you think, will make you fall in love, make you angry, make you laugh and cry but it will be a journey worth experiencing with your family."

The film features SRK in different looks. Speaking of the same, the 'Don 2' actor said: "Adding so many different variations was a unique addition which we thought would create intrigue. The narrative warranted for us to experiment with looks, also a first for me, and an exciting part of the film."

He shared: "Each look was central to carrying the storyline forward. And honestly, we chose the bald look because I was too lazy to sit through hair and makeup for two hours."

On collaborating with Atlee, SRK said it was not just about executing a script, but it was a mutual exploration of characters, narratives, and storytelling.

"Atlee's clarity of vision and his ability to communicate is truly commendable. I really appreciate his directorial style. He's massy, bold, larger than life-- he's Atlee," SRK added.

The Red Chillies Entertainment presentation, directed by Atlee, produced by Gauri Khan and Co-produced by Gaurav Verma, the movie had a theatrical release on September 7, 2023.

The film has reportedly collected over Rs 1160 crore worldwide.

It will premiere on Zee Cinema on January 28.

ANANYA PANDAY WALKS RAMP AT PARIS FASHION WEEK IN GIANT SIEVE



Team Absolute | Mumbai

Actress Ananya Panday, who has been receiving a lot of positive response to her work in the recently released streaming film 'Kho Gaye Hum Kahan', walked the ramp at the ongoing Paris Fashion Week.

The actress turned showstopper for designer Rahul Mishra at the Paris Haute Couture Week 2024.

She became the youngest Bollywood actor to walk the ramp. However, it was her attire that left people talking on the internet.

Ananya wore a butterfly-inspired black mini dress. She also carried a giant sieve decorated with butterfly motifs. The sieve was seemingly attached to the dress underneath. She rounded up her look with a sleek hair bun and black high heels.

The actress took to her Instagram stories and posted a video from the show.

Ananya wrote in the caption, "Walking for @rahulmishra_7 at Paris Couture week".

Rahul's collection is titled 'Superheroes' and is inspired by insects and snakes.

The Internet had a field day reacting to the outfit sported by the actress on the ramp. One user wrote in the comment section, "Ananya in Paris couture week so proud of her".

Another commented, "Fashion inspired from Urfi". A third user wrote, "As a model, she is fantastic".

Another user wrote, "Is this a new Uorfi?" Meanwhile, on the work front, the actress will be next seen in a cyber-thriller tentatively titled 'Control', directed by Vikramaditya Motwane. She also has 'Call My Bae' and Akshay Kumar-starrer 'Shankara' in the pipeline.



Hansika Motwani

Doing a single shot film is very difficult

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Actress Hansika Motwani, who will be soon seen in a one-shot Telugu film '105 Minutes' has opened up on working in such a unique cinematic narrative, saying she loves challenges and wanted to do something different.

The entire movie unfolds seamlessly in a single, uninterrupted shot, pushing the boundaries of filmmaking.

Hansika, who is known for her work in 'Koi... Mil Gaya' takes on the challenge of a one-shot film, revealing her versatility and superb acting abilities.

This experimental film takes place in real time, drawing viewers into a suspenseful horror story that lasts for 105 minutes without a single cut.

Talking about the same, Hansika said: "I have never done something like that, like a single shot. We do have a few here and there, stitches in the film. Um, but yes, the longest takes. The whole idea of, you know, doing a single shot film?"

"It's very difficult because there's literally one side, there is wind, then another side there is fire, and the other side there's rain and there's so much to coordinate, but I love challenges and I wanted to do something different, so I did it," she added.

Meanwhile, on the work front she was last seen in Telugu thriller film 'My Name Is Shruthi'.

She also has 'Rowdy Baby', 'Guardian', 'Man', and web series 'Nasha' in the pipeline.

SAIF REVEALS THE ADVICE RANI MUKERJI GAVE HIM ON DATING KAREENA KAPOOR

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Actor Saif Ali Khan has spoken about one piece of advice that Rani Mukerji gave him when she got to know about him dating Kareena Kapoor Khan.

Saif and Kareena were asked about their love life in the final episode of 'Now Bingeing' by Tata Play Binge.

Saif said: "Rani is really amazing, I enjoy being friends with her now, more than ever before. But she said this thing, we were shooting I remember, and she was away from the love of her life and she was like 'Lets just shoot non-stop really fast and finish this and let's not take a day off' and she also told me 'Oh you're going out with Kareena I'm so happy.'"

"I'll give you some advice, just think of it as two heroes in the house. I kind of got what she meant, but now more than ever I go back to that advice sometimes. Because it is, it's two people who are equal, who are contributing to the sanity and the sanctity of the home." He added: "When one is working the other one is doing that with the children."

Continuing on the same thought, he said: "But I understand it, it was really good advice, it was brilliant advice and it's a complicated thing what she was saying because she was talking about gender, roles and whether you feel -- 'is it okay for my wife to be out of the house working so much while I'm doing this'." "And what she meant was of course it is! Just give her the respect of equality, is what she was talking about." In the episode, Saif and Kareena got candid and spill the tea about their relationship, choosing off beat projects, working life as parents, the media's interest in their children, some advice from co-stars and their bingeing habits!



Boman Irani to receive a special honour from British Parliament

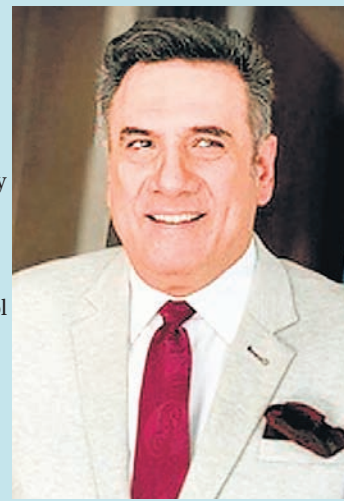
Team Absolute | Mumbai

Actor Boman Irani, who is known for 'Munna Bhai' franchise, '3 Idiots', 'Khosla Ka Ghosla', and others, will be conferred with a special honour by the British Parliament for his contributions to Indian cinema.

The actor has also been invited as a featured speaker at Oxford University and The London School of Economics. Boman will be travelling to London on January 24 with his family for the events. On January 25, he will deliver speeches at the aforementioned venues. With this memorable achievement, Boman has now joined the ranks of esteemed speakers at Oxford, following in the footsteps of Shah Rukh Khan and Shashi Tharoor. Boman expressed his gratitude for the opportunity and honour, as he said: "It's truly humbling to represent India on such esteemed global platforms and receive this recognition. Especially as my family will be present with me to witness this gratifying moment."

He added, "I look forward to sharing my life experiences and the wisdom gained throughout my two-decade career with other bright minds there. Taking a piece of India with me, I'm truly grateful for this opportunity." Boman was recently seen in the Shah Rukh Khan-starrer 'Dunki' which released last month.

The film touches upon the subject of illegal immigration. The two have earlier worked in films like 'Main Hoon Na' and 'Happy New Year'.



Aahna Kumra