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PAKISTAN BASED TERROR MODULE BUSTED IN DELHI

SIX ARRESTED

The Special Cell informed that one person out of the six arrested was given the task to identify locations in major cities of the country where they could carry out the terror attacks during the forthcoming festival season.

The first person named Sameer, hailing from Maharashtra, was arrested from Kota while he was travelling in a train while two other were nabbed in the national capital. From more human and technical inputs, the Special Cell in close cooperation with the Uttar Pradesh Anti Terrorist Squad (UP-ATS) conducted



Team Absolute | New Delhi

The Special Cell of Delhi Police said on Tuesday that it has busted a Pakistan-based terror module and arrested six persons, including two people who were trained in Pakistan. Furnishing details of the multi-state operation, a Delhi Police Special Cell

official said that they had received inputs from the central agencies that a conspiracy was being hatched to conduct terror strikes in major cities of the country. After receiving this input, the Special Cell constituted a team under the supervision of DCP Pramod Khushwaha and ACPs Hridya Bhushan and Lalit Joshi. "After analyzing human and technical inputs, we realized that it was a very big network that was spread in different states. On Tuesday morning we concluded this operation by con-

ducting multiple raids in different states," Special Commissioner of Police, Special Cell, Neeraj Thakur, said at a press briefing. Thakur said of the six arrested, two had been taken to Pakistan via Muscat where they were trained to use explosives and firearms, including AK-47. "The training continued for 15 days after which they returned to Muscat. They revealed that during their training in Pakistan, there were also 14-15 Bengali speaking persons in their group," the special cell official

said. Thakur said that it seems like the terror operation was closely coordinated from across the border. He said the module was divided into two teams. "One team was given to the underworld which was being coordinated by Dawood Ibrahim's brother, Anees Ibrahim. Their task was to get the arms from across the border into India and keep them concealed. The second team was asked to arrange funds via Hawala," the officer said. "The Special Cell is interrogating the suspects and a further probe is on," the official added.

Bengal Speaker Biman Banerjee summons ED, CBI officers

Rohit Vaid | New Delhi

Kolkata: Speaker of the West Bengal Legislative Assembly, Biman Banerjee has summoned two senior officers - one each from Enforcement Directorate and Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) and asked them to appear before him on September 22 with regard to the charge sheet filed by the two agencies in the Narada bribery case. According to sources in the assembly, Speaker Biman Banerjee has sought an explanation in regard to the names of the MLAs in the charge sheet. "According to the rules the names of the MLAs can be given in the charge sheet after taking written permission from the Speaker. In case of the MPs the permission will have to be taken from the Speaker of the Parliament. Banerjee will ask why this procedure has not been followed in this case," an official in the assembly said. The two probe agencies recently chargesheeted and summoned several MLAs of the ruling Trinamool Congress, including ministers, for their alleged involvement in ponzi scam cases and the Narada sting operation case. In the charge sheet by both ED and CBI, names of state Panchayat



BENGAL LAW MINISTER REFUSES TO APPEAR BEFORE ED

Kolkata: After Trinamool Congress MP Abhishek Banerjee and his wife Rujira Banerjee, West Bengal Law Minister Moly Ghatak also informed the enforcement directorate that it is not possible for him to go to ED office in New Delhi on Tuesday and suggested that the ED officers can come to Kolkata to interrogate him. Ghatak was summoned by ED in connection with the coal scam and money laundering case. According to sources the minister instead proposed to record his statement in a video conference. Ghatak's lawyer Divakar Kundu is going to Delhi. The minister informed him that he had received the notice on September 10 but the next two days were holidays followed by a cabinet meeting on September 13. So, it was not possible to prepare all the documents so quickly.



Minister Subrata Mukherjee, State Transport Minister Firhad Hakim and TMC MLA from Kamarhati Madan Mitra, figured. The CBI has issued summons against them and they have been asked to be present before the court on November 16. The letters have been sent to the assembly.

Rs 10 lakh reward for info on accused in 6-year-old's rape, murder case

Team Absolute | Hyderabad

Hyderabad police on Tuesday announced a Rs 10 lakh reward for any information leading to arrest of the accused in rape and murder of a six-year-old girl. Hyderabad Police Commissioner Anjani Kumar announced the reward as Pallakonda Raju remained absconding. He declared a reward to any person who gives information/clue leading to arrest of the absconding accused. The information can be passed to Deputy Commissioner of Police, East Zone on contact number 9490616366 or Deputy Commissioner of Police, Task Force on 9490616627. The police also released a photograph of the accused, aged about 30



years. The child was sexually assaulted and murdered on September 9 by Raju who happens to be her neighbour in Saidabad. The body of the girl, who was missing since 5 p.m. Thursday, was found in the house of her neighbor after midnight.

RAPIST WILL BE KILLED IN ENCOUNTER: TELANGANA MINISTER

Hyderabad: A Telangana Minister on Tuesday said the guilty person in the rape and murder of a six-year-old girl in Hyderabad "will be killed in an encounter". Labour Minister Malla Reddy's sensational comment came a day after state Congress chief Revanth Reddy made a similar demand. "We will definitely arrest him and will do the encounter," Malla Reddy told reporters on the sidelines of an event in Hyderabad. The talk of encounter gave new twist to the case amid the ambiguity over the whereabouts of the accused. Initially, the police sources had claimed that the accused was arrested from his native village in Yadadri Bhuvanagiri district. However, a senior official clarified that the accused is still at large.

Primary classes to resume from September 20 in MP

Team Absolute | Bhopal

Efforts are on to bring normal life back on track after the second wave of corona epidemic in Madhya Pradesh weakens. In the same sequence, now in all government and non-government schools of the state from 1st to 5th i.e. primary classes are also going to be conducted from 20th September. Attendance in classes will be 50 percent. Pramod Singh, Deputy Secretary, School Education Department said that this decision has been taken keeping in mind the instructions of Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan and the circumstances of Covid-19 infection in the state. Deputy Secretary Singh informed that hostels and residential schools would be run for 100% students of class VIII, X and XII. Schools



and hostels will also be opened for class XI students, but not more than 50 percent of their total strength will be allowed in the hostel. Students will be able to attend the school and hostel only with the consent of the parents. Singh said that the consent of the District Disaster Management Committee

would be taken with regard to the opening of schools, hostels and residential schools in the districts. SOPs issued from time to time by the Government of India and State level in schools and hostels. And the Covid-19 protocol will be followed. Online classes and digital medium of students will be conducted as before.

Data shows booster shots 'not appropriate' for public: Lancet

NEW YORK | Agencies

Vaccine efficacy against severe Covid-19 is so high, even for the Delta variant, that booster doses for the general population are "not appropriate" at this stage in the pandemic, an international group of scientists argued in a review published in The Lancet. The review, which includes scientists from the World Health Organization (WHO) and two from the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA). It summarises the currently available evidence from randomised controlled trials and observational studies published in peer-reviewed journals and pre-print servers and asserts that the benefits of the first shots are clear. It added that vaccination had 95 per cent efficacy against severe disease both from the Delta variant and from the Alpha variant, and over 80 per cent efficacy at protecting against any infection from these variants. Although vaccines are less effective against asymptomatic disease or against transmission than against severe disease, the unvaccinated minority are still the major drivers of transmission, the scientists argued in the review published on Monday.



LIFE IMPRISONMENT MEANS RIGOROUS IMPRISONMENT FOR LIFE, RULES SC

New Delhi: The Supreme Court on Tuesday reiterated that a sentence of imprisonment for life means rigorous imprisonment for life. The top court judgment came on two separate appeals, where questions were raised whether life sentence awarded to them would be treated as rigorous imprisonment for life. The bench said the issue raised has been authoritatively decided in various verdicts including the one involving younger brother of Nathuram Godse, convicted in the Mahatma Gandhi assassination case. The appeals were filed challenging two high courts judgments which upheld the conviction and sentence of petitioners for the offence of murder under Section 302 of the IPC.

AFGHAN WOMEN PROTEST TALIBAN'S HIJAB DIKTAT BY SHARING PHOTOS IN COLOURFUL DRESSES

Team Absolute | New Delhi

Afghan women around the world are protesting the Taliban's new hijab diktat in schools by posting photos of themselves wearing colorful traditional dresses on social media, CNN reported. The Taliban have mandated the segregation of genders in classrooms and said that female students, lecturers and employees must wear hijabs in accordance with the group's interpretation of Sharia law. Photos have emerged of a group of female



students wearing head-to-toe black robes and waving Taliban flags in the lecture hall of a government-run university in Kabul. Other Afghan women responded by posting pictures of themselves in bright and colorful traditional Afghan dresses -- a stark contrast to the black hijab mandate outlined by the Taliban.

TELANGANA MOVES SC ON GANESH IDOLS IMMERSION

Team Absolute | Hyderabad

The Telangana government on Tuesday challenged, in the Supreme Court, the High Court order banning immersion of Ganesh idols made of plaster of Paris in Hussain Sagar lake in Hyderabad. With the High Court on Monday refusing to modify its order, the state government filed an

appeal in the apex court. The government decided to go for an appeal keeping in view the sentiments of devotees and the problems faced in implementing the ban on immersion of idols made of PoP in Hussain Sagar. The High Court on Monday dismissed the revision petition filed by the state government to allow immersion of PoP idols in the lake.

64.6 kg gold donated to weigh then PM Shastri in 1965 goes to govt

After five decades, 64.6 kg of gold which was given to the District Collector in Rajasthan's Chittorgarh for weighing then Prime Minister Lal Bahadur Shastri in the wake of the 1965 India-Pakistan war, has finally been handed over to the CGST by the Udaipur district administration after a court order. The value of this gold is around Rs 32 crore.

Archana Sharma | Jaipur

The controversy over the ownership of the gold dates back to late 1965 when the precious metal was given to the Chittorgarh District Collector for weighing Shastri. The case, since then, has been heard five times in different courts and each time the decision went in the government's favour. In fact, the controversy did not end even this time as the records showed an entry of 56.8 kg of gold stored with the district administration. However, during its weighing, it turned out to be 67.8 kg. Senior Central Goods

and Service Tax (CGST) officials were present during the entire process. Finding more gold than registered in the records raised many questions. Meanwhile, a gold biscuit weighing 3.2 kg had a different number in the documents and hence the District Collector has not handed it over to the CGST team. While the biscuit carried the number G-2560, the documents carried M-2560. As per advocate Khandelwal, an application will be

made in the court for 3.2 kg of gold. The District and Sessions Court in Chittorgarh in February this year directed the officials concerned to hand over the gold to the Assistant Commissioner of Central Goods and Service Tax which was lying in a warehouse of the Udaipur District Collector's office since then. Finally, on Monday night, the CGST team collected the gold and left for Delhi with the yellow metal.

- On December 9, 1965, a person named Gunwant filed a case against another person Ganpat and two others, alleging that the accused did not return 56.86 kg gold to him.
- On December 16, 1965, Ganpat handed over the gold to the Chittorgarh Collector for weighing Shastri, who was to visit Udaipur. However,

- Shastri passed away in Tashkent in January 1966 following talks with Pakistan organised by the then Soviet Union. Thereafter, police seized the gold but its custody was given to the Chittorgarh Collector.
- In 1969, a challan was presented in the Assistant District Sessions Court in Udaipur and the gold was then brought to

- Udaipur.
- On January 11, 1975, the court sentenced Ganpat and Hiralal to two years imprisonment and the rights over the gold were given to the Gold Controller.
- Ganpat and Hiralal challenged the judgment in the sessions court and were freed, but they did not regain the right to possession of the gold.



AFTER LOCKS, ALIGARH WILL NOW SECURE INDIAN BORDERS: MODI

ALIGARH | Agencies

Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Tuesday that Aligarh, which was known to manufacture locks for securing houses, will now play an important role in securing the country's borders.

Inaugurating the defence node here, the Prime Minister said the foundation of the defence node of Aligarh was being laid on the auspicious occasion of Radha Ashtami which made the occasion all the more pious.

He said that till now importing defence equipment was a rule but with the establishment of the defence corridor, India would soon be in a position to export defence equipment.

"India will not only become self-reliant in defence matters but will also become a major exporter in this sector," he said.

The Prime Minister who also laid the foundation stone for the Raja Mahendra Pratap Singh state university, said that the university will focus on modern education and emerge as a hub for defence



studies and defence research.

Talking about Raja Mahendra Pratap Singh, the Prime Minister said that he was a freedom fighter who had been forgotten by the previous governments.

"Every youth who has dreams, should know about Raja Mahendra Pratap Singh and can learn from his life. Today, we are trying to acquaint the new generation with these icons even as the country celebrates Amrit Mahotsav," he said.

The Prime Minister said that the defence node in Aligarh and the Raja Mahendra Pratap Singh university would transform western Uttar Pradesh soon.

Lauding the Yogi Adityanath government for creating a new work culture and acting as a catalyst for development, the Prime Minister said that the chief minister had given a new face to Uttar Pradesh which was earlier known only for corruption and scams.

Recalling an anecdote from his

childhood, the Prime Minister said that a Muslim man would visit his village every three months to sell locks from Aligarh.

"As a child, I knew about Aligarh because of the locks and about Sitapur because everyone used to go to Sitapur for eye treatment. Today Aligarh is poised to make a name in a much larger field," he said.

The Prime Minister also remembered former chief minister late Kalyan Singh and said that his absence was being deeply felt.

Earlier, the Prime Minister viewed the models of the proposed defence node and the state university. The university is being established by the state government in the memory and honour of the great freedom fighter, educationist and social reformer, Raja Mahendra Pratap Singh.

The university will be set up in a total area of over 92 acres in the Lodha village and Musepur Kareem Jarouli village of Aligarh's Kol tehsil. The university will provide affiliation to 395 colleges of the Aligarh Division.

Country can't forget sufferings of Kashmiri Pandits: Rahul Gandhi

Team Absolute | New Delhi

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Tuesday took to social media to express his solidarity with the Kashmiri Pandits, saying the "country cannot forget those who have suffered due to militancy in Jammu and Kashmir".

In a Facebook post in hindi, the Congress MP wrote, "The country cannot forget the sufferings of you all and my goodwill is with all my Kashmiri Pandit brothers and sisters, humble tributes."

Last week during his visit to Jammu, Rahul Gandhi had said that he is a Kashmiri Pandit and feels at home whenever he visits Jammu and Kashmir.

"My family is a Kashmiri Pandit family. A delegation of Kashmiri Pandits met me today. They said the BJP has done nothing for them while the Congress had implemented many welfare schemes for them. I promise my Kashmiri Pandit brothers that I will do something for them."

"J&K has a special place in my heart, but I am also pained.



There is brotherhood in J&K, but the BJP and the RSS are trying to break the bond of that brotherhood," he had said. He had also

said that the BJP had snatched away the statehood from the people of J&K, which should be restored.

Four killed, one missing due to heavy rain in Odisha

BHUBANESWAR | Agencies

With the death of one more person due to wall collapse on Tuesday, the death toll due to the heavy rains in Odisha has risen to four, officials said.

As per the situation report prepared by Special Relief Commissioner P.K. Jena's office, the death was reported from Ganjam district while one person is missing in Nischintakoili block of Cuttack.

On Monday, two deaths in Kendrapara district due to wall collapse and one in Khordha due to drowning were reported. Over 20.46 lakh people in 111 blocks and 27 urban local bodies of 20 districts have been affected due to the heavy rainfall. The government has evacuated 13,534 persons from affected



areas in seven districts while 2, 870 houses have been damaged in the rain, as per the report. Meanwhile, Jena has asked all District Collectors to submit damage reports by September 22.

"Assessment of damage to the properties in different sectors such as houses, agriculture (crop loss of 33 per cent & above), sand cast of

agriculture land, loss of cattle, etc and enumeration of beneficiaries have to be taken up on priority so that the assistance as per norms of the State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) can be paid to the affected persons expeditiously to enable them to repair/reconstruct their houses and restore livelihood," he said in a letter.

Hardcore Maoist carrying Rs 20 lakh on head arrested in Odisha

BHUBANESWAR | Agencies

In a major success in the fight against Maoists, Odisha police have arrested a top Maoist leader Dubashi Shankar carrying Rs 20 lakh reward on his head, Odisha DGP Abhay said on Tuesday. Shankar is the highest-ranking Maoist to be arrested or neutralised in the past 20 years by the Odisha police, he said.

On receipt of credible information regarding movement of a group of banned Maoists in the forest area under Boipariguda police limits in Koraput district, an anti-Maoist operation was launched on September 12 night, Abhay said.

On the next day early morning, the police party apprehended the hardcore Maoist who has several names -- Dubashi Shankar, Mahender, Arun, Ramesh, RM and Mahesh, he said.

One Insas Rifle, 10 rounds of ammunition, a mobile phone, radio, Amazon kindle, cash of Rs 35,500 and other articles have been recovered from the possession of Shankar. Koraput police forwarded him to court, the DGP said. On interrogation,



the ultra reveals that he joined the Maoist organization in 1987 in Indrapurial area committee, then Andhra Pradesh as a party member.

He was promoted to the rank of special zonal committee member (SZCM) in 2003, joined Andhra Odisha border special zonal committee (AOBSZC) in 2004. In the year 2010 he joined the State Military Commission (SMC). Abhay said the Maoist was involved in several heinous crimes including ambush in Damanjodi in which 10 CISF jawans were martyred and Govindapalli landmine blast in 2010 in which 11 police personnel were killed. Besides, he was also involved in the Janiguda ambush case in 2012 in which four BSF personnel were killed, he pointed out. He was also involved in two criminal cases in Koraput district, 18 cases of Malkangiri district, 32 cases of Visakhapatnam district and 24 criminal cases in Telangana.

In a related development, Sonal Madvi Kiran, a member of Guma Area Committee surrendered before the SP and DIG of Koraput on Tuesday, he informed.

Mamata suppressed facts in her affidavit, BJP complains to EC

Kolkata | Agencies

Fresh controversy has erupted after BJP complained to the Election Commission of India objecting West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee's candidature from Bhabanipur Assembly constituency as she has suppressed facts in her affidavit along with her nomination papers.

The BJP has complained that Banerjee has not disclosed in her affidavit five criminal cases pending against her.

In a letter to the Returning Officer of Bhabanipur Assembly Constituency, BJP candidate Priyanka Tibrewal's chief election



agent Sajal Ghosh said that Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee has not disclosed

five criminal cases pending against her in her affidavit. Giving details of the cases,

Ghosh said that the Chief Minister has been booked under sections 120B (criminal conspiracy), Section 153A (promoting enmity) and Section 338 (causing grievous hurt by act endangering life or personal safety of others) of Indian Penal Code in several police stations of Assam including Geeta Nagar police station, Panbazar police station, Jagiroad police station, Lakhimpur police station and Udharbond police station. Ghosh, referring to several newspaper reports, said that Mamata Banerjee has not mentioned these cases in her affidavit and hence her nomination papers should not be accepted.

MAN, 3 KIDS BURNT ALIVE AS FIRE ENGULFS HOUSE IN HIMACHAL VILLAGE

Shimla: Four members of a family, comprising three minors, were burnt alive when their house caught fire in Chamba district of Himachal Pradesh on Tuesday, an official said.

They have been identified as Rafi Mohammad (25) and his three children -- daughters Julkha (two) and Jaitun (six) and son Samir (four).

The incident occurred at Karatosh village in Churah tehsil at around 3 a.m., state Disaster Management Director Sudesh Kumar Mokhta told the media here.

Mohammad's wife got serious burn injuries, he said. The cause of the fire is yet to be ascertained, the police said.

Owner held in Delhi building collapse case

Team Absolute | New Delhi

Delhi Police on Tuesday arrested the owner of the ill-fated building in North Delhi that collapsed on Monday, killing two siblings and injuring an elderly man.

According to the police, the accused Mohak Arora resident of Panjabi Basti, Subji Mandi, was arrested in the building collapse case under sections 288, 304, and 34 of the Indian Penal Code.

Though the police is still investigating the incident, nearby residents alleged that renovation work that began 7-8 days ago, could be the possible reason of the building collapse. According to Section 288 of the IPC, whoever, in



pulling down or repairing any building, knowingly or negligently omits to take such order with that building as is sufficient to guard against any probable danger to human life from the fall of that building, or of any part thereof, shall be punished with imprisonment of either description for a term which

may extend to six months, or with fine which may extend to one thousand rupees, or with both.

The four-storey building which was around 50 to 60 years old and was not declared dangerous, collapsed in the Sabzi Mandi area of the national capital on Monday.

LJP MP Prince Raj booked for rape

Team Absolute | New Delhi

Lok Janshakti Party MP from Bihar's Samastipur, Prince Raj, was booked by the Delhi Police for raping a party office-bearer and destroying a related evidence, the police said.

"An FIR was lodged at the Connaught Place Police Station against Raj on the direction of a Delhi Court on September 9," a police official said.

The complainant, in her FIR, also accused LJP chief Chirag Paswan of hatching a conspiracy to hide the evidence. According to sources, the victim was a frequent visitor at the LJP party office, where she started meeting MP Raj. In her complaint, she alleged that the incident happened in 2020 at the same party office after she was sedated by Prince Raj.



The LJP MP made an obscene video of the act and blackmailed the victim for "physical relationship".

The victim claimed that she apprised the LJP chief about the incident who pressured her not to file a case

against Raj. The woman then filed a complaint with the Delhi Police in May and moved a Delhi Court in July which has now directed the police to book LJP MP Prince Raj and his cousin Chirag Paswan.

Army chief meets pvt defence manufacturers during Mumbai visit

Team Absolute | New Delhi

Indian Army Chief General Manoj Naravane visited important Army and Naval installations at Mumbai for two days and reviewed the operational preparedness. He also met Indian private players engaged in defence manufacturing.

General Naravane interacted with business heads of Mahindra Defence, Adani Group, Larsen and Toubro and Tata Group. He complimented the business houses for stellar contributions towards Aatmanirbhar Bharat (Self Reliant India) and capability enhancement of the Army.

On September 13, 2021, the Army Chief visited Headquarters of Western Naval Command where he reviewed a ceremonial guard of honour and interacted with Vice Admiral R. Hari Kumar, Flag Officer Commanding in Chief of Western Naval Command.



He also visited 'INS Teg', a Missile Frigate affiliated with the 'Sikh Light Infantry Regiment'. In the evening, the General Naravane called on Bhagat Singh Koshiyari, the Governor of Maharashtra, and discussed issues of mutual interest including welfare and resettlement of Veterans in the State.

On September 14, 2021, he visited the Headquarters of Maharashtra, Gujarat and Goa Area and different administrative echelons located in Mumbai. Lt Gen S.K. Prashar, GOC briefed him on the functioning of the Area HQ and their contributions in various humanitarian assistance during Covid-19 and flood

relief operations this year. The Army Chief appreciated the various welfare initiatives and projects undertaken to improve the quality of life of troops, their families and veterans by the Area HQ. Last week, General Naravane visited Headquarters of Western Command at Chandimandir and reviewed operational preparedness. The Army Chief was updated on various operational and training related issues by Lieutenant General R.P. Singh, Army Commander, Western Command. Since Independence, Western Command was instrumental in effectively blunting the Pakistan aggression in 1947, 1965 and 1971, and subsequently carrying the battle into enemy territory. General Naravane addressed officers of the Western Command during which he exhorted them to serve with pride and in doing so uphold the military ethos and the rich culture of the Indian Army.



Straight out of a movie! CM suspends 'corrupt officials' during live public address

CM Shivraj Singh Chouhan said that not only are they being suspended, but the allegations will be probed by the Economic Offences Wing of the Central Bureau of Investigation.

Team Absolute | Bhopal

In a show of rare action in full public view by a Chief Minister, Madhya Pradesh CM Shivraj Singh Chouhan on Tuesday suspended two government officials after people levelled corruption allegations against them. Taking cognisance of the complaints, CM Singh said that the officers are being suspended with immediate effect.

"I am on a public visit to listen to the problems of the people of the state. Today, I was informed about corruption in the implementation of PM Awas Yojana in Jeron village. I have suspended the CMO with immediate effect and have also ordered an inquiry by

Economic Offences Wing of the Central Bureau of Investigation into the role of concerned officers," said Chouhan while sharing a video of the incident.

In the video, the CM was heard saying, "Some Umashankar was CMO and other was some Abhishek Rajput. They are being suspended with immediate effect." As soon as the CM made the announcement, the crowd burst into a loud roar cheering him.

The CM added that not only are they being suspended, but the allegations will be probed by the Economic Offences Wing of the Central Bureau of Investigation. The CM added that he will ensure that the guilty are sent to jail.

"We send money for public and they usurp that money," said Chouhan and asked the Commissioner to initiate the probe within two days.

Chouhan today paid a visit to Tikamgarh, Niwari, and Mohangarh as part of his 'jandarshan' programme.

During his tour, he made several announcements which included the construction of Nishadraj Bhawan in Mohangarh and Sant Ravidas Temple as well as a community centre in Hatheri village. The CM also shared that while farmers get Rs 6,000 from the Centre under PM Kisan Samman Nidhi, his government gives additional Rs 4,000 giving a farmer Rs 10,000 every year for their welfare.

MP Will Soon Start Recruiting For 1 Lakh Posts: CM

"Employment is on the top priority of the state government. The state government is starting the process of recruitment to one lakh posts in a few days," Shivraj Singh Chouhan said.

Team Absolute | Bhopal

Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan on Tuesday announced that the state government will soon start recruiting for 1 lakh posts, informed the state Directorate of Public Relations. According to the CM, there is a 48 per cent hike in the number of industrial units and a 38 per cent hike in employment generation despite the ongoing pandemic.

"There are immense possibilities of employment in the private sector along with government sector," said the chief minister.

"Employment is on the top priority of the state government. The state government is starting the process of recruitment to one lakh posts in a few days," he added.

Chouhan addressed the "Bhoomi



Pujan" programme of readymade garments unit of Gokuldas Exports Limited in Bhopal's Acharpura industrial area on Monday.

He also inaugurated water supply project in Textile Park, Acharpura and Special Education Zone and Industrial Area, Acharpura.

"This unit proposed by Gokuldas Exports will be built on 10 acres. A capital investment of Rs 110 crore will be made by the company, in which employment will be available to more than 4,000 local people," said Chouhan.

"Also, more than three-fourths of the employees in the plant will be women. About 10,000 people will get employment from this unit itself," he added. Speaking about the

sufficient water supply to industries, the CM said that Narmada Water Supply Pipeline Scheme has been launched at a cost of Rs 16.81 crore to supply water to industries in Acharpura industrial area.

"With this, three MLD water can be supplied per day to about 300 units. Adequate availability of water to industries will be ensured," said the CM.

"The land available in Patalpur near Berasia has been identified for agro-based industries. Our aim is to provide better employment opportunities to the local youth and women," he added.

Chouhan also said that the state has taken a long leap in ease of doing business. The state now ranks fourth in the country in business opportuni-

ties. "Steps like 'Start Your Business in Thirty Days,' have been taken to encourage the establishment of industries in the state. All the activities related to the establishment of industries are being conducted from a single window," he said.

Chouhan said the state is working fast towards making business easy. Under the "Ek Zila - Ek Utpad" scheme, 64 specific products of all the districts have been selected.

"Industrial corridors will be developed on both sides of 'Atal Progress-Way' and 'Narmada Expressway'. Both these corridors will give new pace and direction to the construction of Atmanirbhar Madhya Pradesh," said the CM.

Chouhan announced that the cluster-based expansion of micro, small and medium industries is being encouraged in the state.

Under this, 13 clusters will be developed in the state in different sectors like furniture, toys, textile, food processing, agriculture, electrical, mechanical, namkeen and engineering. Chouhan said that a huge land bank is available for industries, in which 30,000 acres of developed land and 33,664 acres of underdeveloped land is also available for industrial areas.

Hindi connects the whole world-Pawan Jain

Team Absolute | Bhopal

Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Manav Sangrahalaya (IGRMS) is organizing Official Language Hindi Fortnight 2021 from 14th September, 2021 with the objective of progressive development of official language Hindi and to maintain continual enthusiasm in Hindi works of staff. The Hindi Pakhwada-2021 was inaugurated by eminent litterateur and Director General, Home Guards Pawan Kumar Jain (IPS) today on 14th September 2021 at 5:00 PM at Rock Art Centre.

On the occasion, he said that Hindi is the language of the heart and it connects the whole world. We have to connect Hindi with the language of employment and reach Hindi from village to village through computer and by educating everyone in the mother tongue, it will be necessary to save the coming generations from the mental



slavery of English along with this, Hindi will have to be included in the local language. On this occasion, he recited a touching poem dedicated to police personnel and doctors and all the people associated with them over the Corona period. Praveen Kumar Mishra, Director while delivering the welcome address said that development of Hindi language by Acharya Rahul Bhadra of Nalanda, leaving the ancient language Pali, worked in Lokmagadhi which takes the form of Hindi. Hindi will prosper only if we try to write the collo-

quial language in Hindi. In the beginning of the program, Ravindra Kumar Gupta read out the message of Hon'ble Home Minister, Government of India, Amit Shah and the introduction of chief guest was given by Sudhir Srivastava. At the end of the program vote of thanks was given by Rakesh Bhatt.

In the fortnight long celebrations of official language Hindi various competitions like Essay writing, Slogan writing on Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, Photography Competition, Quiz, Prize Distribution and closing ceremony.

CM PLANTED MUNGA SAPLING



Bhopal: Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan planted a Munga sapling at the Chief Minister's residence today as part of his resolve to plant saplings every day. Sahjan or drumstick, known by the names of senjan, munga or sahjan, is full of medicinal properties. Its different parts have properties to prevent various diseases. It is rich in a variety of multivitamins, antioxidants, pain relievers and amino acids. Drumstick is rich in Vitamin C. Its raw-green beans are used the most.

Drenched in rain



Heavy rain lashes the capital city on Tuesday late evening. The massive downpour was so intense that it flooded the roads and low line areas in a minimum time. During rains visibility remained very low. It continued almost for two hours, than downpour turned slow. The Indian Meteorological Department (IMD), on Monday, had issued an alert of heavy to very heavy rainfall in the state.

College will be opened in Orchha: CM

Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan had darshan of Shri Ram Raja Sarkar

Team Absolute | Bhopal

Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan said that a college would be opened in Orchha, the city of Shri Ram Raja, from the coming academic session. Chouhan reached Orchha on Tuesday for jan darshan programme in Niwari and Tikamgarh districts. He had darshan of Shri Ram Raja Sarkar here.

Chouhan said that today we are starting jan darshan on the day of Radhashtami after having a darshan of Ram Raja Sarkar. He said that earlier also after having darshan of Ram Raja, he had prayed to him that the people of Madhya Pradesh should

be happy, wished for everyone's good, everyone should thrive, everyone should be healthy. He said that he had also prayed that the epidemic like corona should end completely and then we can make the self-reliant Madhya Pradesh by taking the state rapidly ahead on the path of development.

Public Works, Cottage and Village Industries and Niwari District In-charge Minister Gopal Bhargava, Cooperatives Minister Arvind Bhadauria, Niwari MLA Anil Jain, Shri Akhilesh Ayachi, public representative, Sagar Commissioner Mukesh Shukla, IG Anil Sharma present along with concerned officials.

GOVERNOR PRESENTED WITH STICKERS ON FLAG DAY



Bhopal: On the occasion of Flag Day, stickers were presented to Governor Mangubhai Patel by the office bearers of Association for the Blind, Bhopal and Blind Welfare Association at Raj Bhavan. Secretary, National Association for the Blind Bhopal Uday Hatwale and Blind Welfare Association Secretary Shiv Singh Chouhan presented flag stickers to Governor Patel. Patel presented an assistance cheque to both the institutions for rehabilitation work of disabled. Officials of the organizations were also present.

Temple priest beaten to death in Dhar district

While the attack took place at Gyanpura village, about 7 km from the district headquarters, late on Sunday night, the priest Baba Arundas succumbed to his injuries on Monday.

Team Absolute | Dhar

A 58-year-old priest of a temple was allegedly beaten to death by some unidentified persons who were loitering outside the premises in Dhar district, police said on Tuesday.

While the attack took place at Gyanpura village, about 7 km from the district headquarters, late on Sunday night, the priest Baba Arundas succumbed to his injuries on Monday, an official said.

According to the watchman of the Hanuman temple, who is the complainant in the case, a group of three to four people were standing and wandering outside the premises around 8.30 pm on Sunday, deputy superintendent of police (DSP) Monika Singh said.

She said that Arundas, who was sleeping inside the temple with the watchman, asked the accused why they were wandering outside the temple. Angered by the victim's question, the accused started abusing him and later allegedly hit him with sticks and stones, the offi-

cial said, adding that the watchman was also beaten up when he intervened.

The watchman subsequently sought help from some villagers, who rushed the priest to a hospital, where he later succumbed to his injuries, Singh said. A case has been registered at Tirla police station under relevant sections of the IPC against unidentified persons, and the accused will be nabbed soon, she said. Meanwhile, condemning the attack, state Congress chief Kamal Nath said the law-and-order situation in the state under the BJP government was pathetic as criminals had no fear.

"Baba Arundas, a priest at the Hanuman temple in Gyanpura village of Dhar district, was brutally beaten to death by goons. Even the priest of a temple is also not safe now," he said.

4 Labourers Find 8.22 Carat Diamond Worth Around Rs 40 Lakh

Local experts say the diamond may fetch up to Rs 40 lakh and as per officials, the proceeds from the auction of such raw diamonds would be given to the respective miners after the deduction of government royalty and taxes.

Team Absolute | Panna

After a wait of 15 years, a labourer and his three partners had a shower of good luck when they found an 8.22 carat diamond in a mine in Madhya Pradesh's Panna district, an official said. Local experts say the diamond may fetch up to ? 40 lakh and as per officials, the proceeds from the auction of such raw diamonds would be given to the respective miners after the deduction of government royalty and taxes.

Ratanlal Prajapati and his partners unearthed the 8.22 carat diamond from a leased land in Hirapur Tapariyan area of the district and deposited it at the diamond office on Monday, Panna Collector Sanjay Kumar Mishra told reporters.

The diamond will be put up for auction on September 21 along with other gems, he said.

After depositing the precious stone at the government office, Raghuvir Prajapati, one of the partners of Ratanlal Prajapati, told reporters that they had spent the last 15

years quarrying in various mines in their quest to find diamonds, but fortune smiled on them for the first time on Monday.

"We leased small mines in different areas for the past 15 years, but did not find any diamond. This year, we have been mining on a leased land at Hirapur Tapariyan for the past six months and were pleasantly surprised to find a diamond weighing 8.22 carat," he said.

The miner said he and his partners will use the money received from the auction of the diamond for providing a better life and

education to their children.

According to officials, the proceeds from the auction of the raw diamonds would be given to the respective miners after deduction of government royalty and taxes.

Panna district, located over 380 km from the state capital Bhopal, has reserves estimated to be containing diamonds totalling 12 lakh carats, officials said.

The auction of the latest precious stone found by the labourers and 139 other diamonds will start from September 21, they added.

MP Govt to Offer Medical Courses in Hindi

The Madhya Pradesh government would offer the option of studying medicine in Hindi "in the near future", state medical education minister Vishwas Sarang said on Tuesday.

Team Absolute | Bhopal

The Madhya Pradesh government would offer the option of studying medicine in Hindi "in the near future", state medical education minister Vishwas Sarang said on Tuesday. We are going to form a committee at the earliest to ensure that medical education courses (material) are prepared in Hindi as well. "In the near future, we will start medical studies in Hindi too," he said on the occasion of Hindi Day.

Earlier this month, Sarang had announced that

lectures on RSS founder K B Hedgewar, Jana Sangh leader Deendayal Upadhyaya, Swami Vivekananda and B R Ambedkar will be part of the first-year foundation course of MBBS. The decision is aimed at instilling social and medical ethics in students, he had said.

On Monday, MP Higher Education Minister Mohan Yadav had announced that first-year students of graduation courses will be offered the 'Ramcharitmanas' as an elective subject under the philosophy discipline in the art stream.



EDITOR'S SPECS

Cong to renovate party in UP

Ahead of the Assembly polls in Uttar Pradesh next year, the Congress is contemplating a change in the state unit to tap in the upper caste community, the current chief is from the backward community. The consideration for the change is purely political as the Congress leadership is happy with the work of the state president, but the party has of late realised that it is not in the 'game of the OBC community' as the BJP and Samajwadi Party have occupied that space. The consideration is to woo the Brahmins as the community is said to be unhappy with the BJP in the state and all the parties, including the ruling party are trying to get their support. Though the Congress has not many Brahmin leaders apart from Pramod Tiwari, Rajesh Mishra and Acharya Pramod Krishnam. The Congress has been boosting its image for giving the highest number of Brahmin chief ministers to the state, the last was the late N.D. Tiwari. The congress lost 1989 elections and from that year has been out of power in the state. While other non Brahmin names are also being considered, including Rajaram Pal and P.L. Punia. Pal is a former MP while Punia is Chhattisgarh in-charge of the party. Priyanka Gandhi Vadra on Monday returned after a three-day visit to the state where she interacted with all the office-bearers and district presidents. Earlier, the party decided to take out a 'Congress Pratigya Yatra' with the tagline -- 'Hum Vachan Nibhayenge', ahead of the Assembly elections. Priyanka Gandhi Vadra had said that the yatra would cover a distance of 12,000 kilometres and will pass through all major villages and towns. The date of the yatra is yet undecided though sources said that it was likely to begin from Gandhi Jayanti on October 2.

RADHA SUPREME ENERGY OF LORD KRISHNA

Radhanath Swami Maharaj

The name "R?dh?" is derived from the root word "r?dhana, which means "worship." The personality who excels all in worshipping Krishna may therefore be called R?dhik?, the greatest servitor therefore R?dh? is paramadevat?, the supreme goddess, and she is worshipable for everyone. She is the protector of all, and she is the mother of the entire universe.

R?dh? is the original source of all the goddesses of fortune "sarvalak?m?". The word "sarva-k?nti" indicates that all beauty and luster rest in her body. All the lak?m?s derive their beauty from her. "sarvalak?m?" indicates that she fully represents the six opulences of Krishna.

"K?nti" may also mean "all the desires of Lord Krishna." All the desires of Lord Krishna rest in "r?mat? R?dh?r??" she fulfills all the desires of Lord Krishna. This is the meaning of "sarva-k?nti." Lord Krishna enchants the world, but R?dh? enchants even him. Therefore She is the supreme goddess of all.

The beloved consorts of Lord Krishna are of three kinds: the goddesses of fortune, the queens, and the milkmaids of Vraja, who are the foremost of all. These consorts all proceed from R?dha. Just as the fountainhead, Lord Krishna, is the cause of all incarnations, so "r? R?dh?" is the cause of all these consorts. The goddesses of fortune are partial manifestations of "r?mat? R?dha, and the queens are reflections of her image. The goddesses of fortune are her plenary portions, and they display the forms of vaibhava-vil?sa. The queens are of the nature of her vaibhava-prak?a. The Vraja-dev?s have diverse bodily features. They are her expansions and are the instruments for expanding rasa. Without many consorts, there is not such exultation in rasa. Therefore there are many manifestations of "r?mat? R?dh?r??" to assist in the Lord's pastimes. Among them are various groups of consorts in Vraja who have varieties of sentiments and mellows. They help Lord Krishna taste all the sweetness of the r?sa dance and other pastimes.

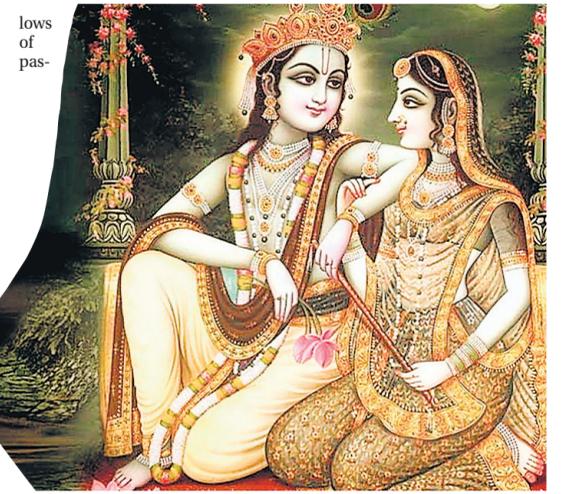
R?dh? is the one who gives pleasure to Govinda, and she is also the enchantress of Govinda. She is the be-all and end-all of Govinda, and the crest jewel of all his consorts. "The transcendental goddesses of fortune, the queens, and the milkmaids of Vraja, who are the foremost of all. These consorts all proceed from R?dha. Just as the fountainhead, Lord Krishna, is the cause of all incarnations, so "r? R?dh?" is the cause of all these consorts. The goddesses of fortune are partial manifestations of "r?mat? R?dha, and the queens are reflections of her image. The goddesses of fortune are her plenary portions, and they display the forms of vaibhava-vil?sa. The queens are of the nature of her vaibhava-prak?a. The Vraja-dev?s have diverse bodily features. They are her expansions and are the instruments for expanding rasa. Without many consorts, there is not such exultation in rasa. Therefore there are many manifestations of "r?mat? R?dh?r??" to assist in the Lord's pastimes. Among them are various groups of consorts in Vraja who have varieties of sentiments and mellows. They help Lord Krishna taste all the sweetness of the r?sa dance and other pastimes.

"r?mat? R?dh?r??" is the direct counterpart of Lord "r? Krishna. She is the central figure for all the goddesses of fortune. She possesses all the attractiveness to attract the all-attractive Personality of Godhead. She is the primeval internal potency of the Lord."

Her worship ["r?dhana] consists of fulfilling the desires of Lord Krishna. Therefore the Pur??as call Her R?dhik?.

"Krishna-may?" means "one whose within and without are Lord Krishna." She sees Lord Krishna wherever she casts her glance. Also "krishna-may?" means that he is identical with Lord Krishna, for she embodies the mellows of love. The energy of Lord Krishna is identical with him. Since Krishna's personality is full of love, His loving potency, R?dh?r??", being non different from him, is called krishna-may?.

"r? R?dh?" is the full power, and Lord Krishna is the possessor of full power. The two are not different, as evidenced by the revealed scriptures. They are indeed the same, just as musk and its scent are inseparable, or as fire and its heat are non-different. Thus R?dh? and Lord Krishna are one, yet they have taken two forms to enjoy the mellows of pas-



. Radha is the supreme energy of Lord Krishna and accompanies Krishna in all his incarnations. This year on 14th Sept we will be celebrating Radha Ashtami the most blessed and auspicious celebration of the supreme pleasure potency, Srimati Radha Rani appearing within this material existence.

To understand the nature of Srimati Radha Rani is a great philosophical journey into the depths of the essence of all absolute knowledge.

(The author is the Spiritual Guru of International Society for Krishna Consciousness)

Severe Covid can increase self-attacking antibodies

Hospitalised Covid-19 patients are substantially more likely to harbour autoantibodies -- antibodies directed at their own tissues or at substances their immune cells secrete into the blood -- than people without Covid-19, according to a new study emphasising the need for vaccination.

Autoantibodies can be early harbingers of full-blown autoimmune disease.

"If you get sick enough from Covid-19 to end up in the hospital, you may not be out of the woods even after you recover," said PJ Utz, professor of immunology and rheumatology at the Stanford University in the US.

In the study published in the journal 'Nature Communications', the team looked for autoantibodies in blood samples drawn during March and April of 2020 from nearly 200 Covid-19 patients. Blood samples drawn from other donors prior to the Covid-19 pandemic were used as controls.



The researchers identified and measured levels of antibodies targeting the virus; autoantibodies; and antibodies directed against cytokines, proteins that immune cells secrete to communicate with one another and coordinate their overall strategy.

More than 60 per cent of all hospitalised Covid-19 patients, compared to about 15 per cent of healthy controls, carried anti-cytokine antibodies, the scientists found. This could be the result of immune-system overdrive triggered by a virulent, lingering infection. In the fog of war, the abundance of cytokines may trip off the erroneous production of antibodies targeting them, Utz said.

If any of these antibodies block a cytokine's ability to bind to its appropriate receptor, the intended recipient immune cell may not get activated. That, in turn, may buy the virus more time to replicate and lead to a much worse outcome, the team explained.

The finding bolsters the argument for vaccination, he added. Vaccines for Covid-19 contain only a single protein --

SARS-CoV-2's so-called spike protein -- or the genetic instructions for producing it. With vaccination, the immune system is never exposed to -- and potentially confused by -- the numerous other novel viral proteins generated during infection. In addition, vaccination is less intensely inflammatory than an actual infection, Utz said, so there's less likelihood that the immune system would be confused into generating antibodies to its own signaling proteins or to the body's own tissues.

"Patients who, in response to vaccination, quickly mount appropriate antibody responses to the viral spike protein should be less likely to develop autoantibodies," he said.

international

'US CENTRAL COMMAND STILL ASSESSING DEADLY DRONE STRIKE IN KABUL'

Washington | Agencies

The US Central Command is "still assessing" the results of the deadly August 29 drone strike in Kabul which was alleged to have killed multiple Afghan civilians, the Pentagon said.

"I would say that the assessment by the Central Command is ongoing, and I'm not going to get ahead of that," Xinhua news agency reported on Tuesday citing Pentagon Press Secretary John Kirby as saying to reporters here.

Kirby's remarks were in response to a question over media investigations that suggested the US military might have mistaken an aid worker for a suicide bomber in the drone strike during its military withdrawal from Afghanistan.

Kirby defended the assault, saying that it was "taken to prevent an imminent attack".

He added that Central Command has so far had no plans to put investigators on the ground, but promised that the Pentagon will be "as transparent about the outcomes as we can".

The US Central Command said on



August 29 that it launched a drone strike on a vehicle in Kabul, which it claimed had eliminated an "imminent" threat, posed by IS-K, an Afghanistan-based offshoot of the Islamic State terror group, to the Hamad Karzai International Airport, where evacuations of US service members and personnel were underway. "We are confident we successfully hit the target," the Central Command had said in a statement following the drone strike.

"Significant secondary explosions

from the vehicle indicated the presence of a substantial amount of explosive material."

Mark Milley, chairman of the US Joint Chiefs of Staff, had called it a "righteous strike" with procedures correctly followed.

But separate investigations by The New York Times and The Washington Post have identified the vehicle driver as Zemarai Ahmadi, a 43-year-old electrical engineer working for Nutrition and Education International, a US aid group based in

Pasadena, California.

Their analyses have also called into question the Central Command's allegation of "secondary explosions" from the vehicle.

An examination of the scene of the strike "found no evidence of a second, more powerful explosion", with experts pointing to the lack of collapsed walls or destroyed vegetation, according to the Times.

While the US military has so far acknowledged that there might have been three civilian casualties, Ahmadi's relatives said 10 members of their family, including seven children, were killed in the drone strike.

The Central Command announced on August 30 that it had completed the pullout of US troops from Afghanistan, ending 20 years of military presence in the country, after botched evacuations that drew fierce criticism from both home and abroad.

The US had announced its "War on Terror" and invaded Afghanistan in 2001, soon after militants associated with the Al Qaeda hijacked passenger planes and carried out suicide attacks against America, killing almost 3,000 people.

'IRAN HOLDING INTERNAL CONSULTATIONS ON HOW TO CONTINUE N-TALKS'

Tehran | Agencies

Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein Amir Abdollahian said that the new administration is holding "internal consultations" on how to continue negotiations concerning the 2015 nuclear agreement.

"Despite internal consultations at the beginning of its tenure on how to continue Vienna talks, the Iranian government has made clear that it will welcome negotiations that have tangible results and serve the rights and interests of the people," Abdollahian said during a telephone conversation with his British counterpart Dominic Raab on Monday.

The Iranian government expects "all illegal sanctions" against Iran to be cancelled, he said.

According to the official Iranian readout of the conversation, the British Foreign Secretary, for his part, greeted Abdollahian over his appointment and expressed hope that under the new



Iranian administration, bilateral relations would develop on the basis of mutual understanding.

Raab took to Twitter later and wrote he had called on Iran "to release all arbitrarily detained British nationals" and to return to the Vienna talks to revive the 2015 nuclear agreement.

The two sides agreed to continue their talks on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly meeting later this month in New York, IRNA reported.

Former US President Donald Trump withdrew

from the 2015 agreement in May 2018 and unilaterally re-imposed sanctions on Iran.

In response, Iran has gradually ceased to perform parts of its commitments under the deal since May 2019, invoking provisions within the text of the accord.

After six rounds of talks in Vienna since April, the parties said serious differences remain between Iran and the US for the revitalisation of the agreement.

The sixth round of talks ended on June 20, two days after Iran's June 18 presidential election.

US REMAINS PREPARED TO ENGAGE WITH N KOREA AFTER MISSILE TESTS

Washington: The White House has said that the US remains prepared to engage with North Korea, after Pyongyang tested a new type of long-range cruise missiles over the weekend.

"Our position has not changed when it comes to North Korea," White House Principal Deputy Press Secretary Karine Jean-Pierre told reporters aboard Air Force One.

"We remain prepared to engage in diplomacy with the North Korea toward our objective of a complete denuclearisation of the Korean Peninsula," Xinhua news agency quoted her as saying. She reaffirmed the Joe Biden administration's "calibrated, practical approach" in dealing with Pyongyang, which is open to exploring diplomacy to make practical progress that increases the security of the US and its allies. "Our offer remains to meet anywhere, anytime without preconditions," Jean-Pierre added.

North Korea successfully test-fired a new type of long-range cruise missiles on Saturday and Sunday, the Korean Central News Agency (KCNA) reported on Monday.

The launched long-range cruise missiles traveled for 7,580 seconds along oval and pattern-8 flight orbits in the air above the territorial land and waters of the DPRK and hit targets 1,500 km away, the report said.

Egyptian Prez, Israeli PM discuss bilateral ties, Palestine

Cairo | Agencies

Egyptian President Abdel-Fattah el-Sisi and visiting Israeli Prime Minister Naftali Bennett discussed the developments of bilateral relations in various fields, as well as the Palestinian issue, according to authorities in Cairo.

The visit marked the first by an Israeli Prime Minister to Egypt in a decade.

During their meeting on Monday in the Red Sea resort city of Sharm El-Sheikh, Sisi and Bennett also discussed the recent developments on the regional and international arenas, Xinhua news agency quoted Bassam Rady, spokesperson of the Egyptian presidency, as saying. Meanwhile, Sisi affirmed Egypt's support for all efforts to achieve comprehensive peace in the Middle East, based on the two-state solution



and the international legitimacy resolutions. He also stressed the importance of the international community's support for Egypt's efforts to rebuild the Palestinian territories, in addition to the need to maintain calm between the Palestinian and Israeli sides amid Cairo's continuous moves to ease tension in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

According to a statement released by Bennett's office after the talks, the Prime Minister said that he and Sisi "created a foundation for deep ties in the future".

"We discussed a series of issues in the diplomatic, security and economic spheres, as well as ways to deepen ties and strengthen the interests of our countries," he was quoted as saying in the statement.

Bennett was invited by Sisi on August 21 during the visit of Chief of Egypt's General Intelligence Service Abbas Kamel to Palestine and Israel to discuss the ceasefire deal between the Jewish state and Hamas.

The last time an Israeli Prime Minister visited Cairo was in 2011, when Benjamin Netanyahu, the country's longest serving premier, met former Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak just over a month before the latter was ousted by a popular uprising.

Egypt became the first Arab country to sign a peace treaty with Israel in 1979.

GLOBAL COVID-19 CASELOAD TOPS 225.2 MN

Washington: The global coronavirus caseload has topped 225.2 million, while the deaths have surged to more than 4.63 million and vaccinations soared to over 5.71 billion, according to the Johns Hopkins University.

In its latest update on Tuesday morning, the University's Center for Systems Science and Engineering (CSSE) revealed that the current global caseload, death toll and vaccination tally stood at 225,213,795, 4,638,244 and 5,718,110,459, respectively. The US continues to be the worst-hit country with the world's highest number of cases and deaths at 41,209,851 and 661,537, respectively, according to the CSSE.

In terms of infections, India follows in the second place with 33,264,175 cases. The other worst countries with over 3 million cases are Brazil (21,006,424), the UK (7,290,046), Russia (7,055,296), France (6,992,980), Turkey (6,682,834), Iran (5,318,327), Argentina (5,226,831), Colombia (4,931,563), Spain (4,915,265), Italy (4,609,205), Indonesia (4,170,088), Germany (4,093,412) and Mexico (3,511,882), the CSSE figures showed. In terms of deaths, Brazil comes second with 587,066 fatalities. Nations with a death toll of over 100,000 are India (442,874), Mexico (267,748), Peru (198,764), Russia (190,031), Indonesia (139,165), the UK (134,586), Italy (129,955), Colombia (125,687), France (116,245), Iran (114,759) and Argentina (113,640).



11 MISSING AS OVERLOADED BOAT CAPSIZES IN WARDHA RIVER

Team Absolute | Amravati

In a major tragedy, at least 11 persons are missing and feared drowned after an overloaded boat with 30 persons aboard suddenly capsized in the Wardha River in Maharashtra's Amravati district on Tuesday morning, police said. The incident occurred around 10 am when the boat was sailing to the opposite bank of the river near Shrikrishna Jhunj, falling under the jurisdiction of Benoda Shaheed Police Station of Amravati. Hearing the cries for help, several villagers jumped into the river to save the victims and also alerted the local police.



for the missing who are feared drowned over four hours after the incident.

A majority of the victims are said to be from a single clan who had gone to Gadegaon to attend the post-funeral rituals of a deceased relative.

Later they went to the Mahadev Temple in Varud area when the tragedy engulfed them.

The bodies of Narayan Matare, 45, Kiran Khandare, 28, and two-year old Vanshika Shivankar have been recovered so far.

Search continues downstream for the others - Nisha Matare, Piyush Matare, Aditi Khandare, Mohini Khandare, Ashwini Khandare, Vrishali Waghmare, Atul Waghmare, and Poonam Shivankar.

Locals said that the Wardha River has been swollen since the past one week due to heavy rains in Wardha, Amravati, Chandrapur, and Gadchiroli districts of eastern Maharashtra.

Though the exact cause of the accident is not clear, villagers said that the boat may have sunk as it was packed over its capacity and the victims may have been dragged away by the strong currents.

Prima facie, it appears that the boat was unable to sustain the weight of its occupants, he said, adding that the victims were going in the boat after performing a ritual on the banks of the river. While three bodies have been recovered so far, the search is underway for the others, the official said.

High Court To Take Up Maharashtra Ex-Minister Anil Deshmukh's Plea Against Probe Agency

Ex Maharashtra Minister Anil Deshmukh filed the petition earlier this month, seeking to quash the five summons issued to him by the Enforcement Directorate (ED).



Justice Shinde directed the registry department to place Deshmukh's petition for hearing before the appropriate division bench.

Team Absolute | Mumbai

The Bombay High Court on Tuesday said its division bench (comprising two judges), instead of a single-judge bench, would hear the petition filed by Maharashtra's former home minister Anil Deshmukh against the summons issued to him by the Enforcement Directorate in a money laundering case.

A single bench of Justice SK Shinde said the objection raised by the High Court registry department that the issues raised in the plea ought to be heard by a division bench is "correct."

Deshmukh filed the petition earlier this month, seeking to quash the five summons issued to him by the Enforcement Directorate (ED). Last week, when the plea came up for hearing before Justice Shinde, Solicitor General of India Tushar Mehta, appearing for the Enforcement Directorate, brought to the High Court's attention a note addressed by the registry department saying the plea has to be heard by a division bench.

Senior counsel Vikram Chaudhri and advocate Aniket Nikam, appearing for Anil Deshmukh, said the sin-

gle bench had the jurisdiction to hear the plea. The court had then said it would consider the issue and pass orders.

The Enforcement Directorate had initiated a probe against Anil Deshmukh and his associates after the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) filed its case against the Nationalist Congress Party leader on April 21 on charges of corruption and misuse of official position. Deshmukh in his plea claimed the Enforcement Directorate's action was a result of political vendetta.

The petition also said the agency's whole case was based on "malicious statements" made by dismissed police officer Sachin Waze, who is presently in jail in connection the case of an explosives-laden vehicle found near the residence of industrialist Mukesh Ambani in February this year and the subsequent killing of businessman Mansukh Hiran.

Health dept asks all collectorates to conduct more Covid tests

Officials said there is a need to ramp testing so that the department is not caught unaware if and when a third wave comes.

Team Absolute | Mumbai

The state health department on Monday directed all collectorates to increase the number of Covid-19 tests being conducted in their areas keeping in mind the possibility of a third wave.

A senior official said that the number of tests being conducted have fallen to 1 lakh each in the weekend as against 2.5 lakh on every weekday.

Additional Chief Secretary (Health) Dr Pradeep Vyas said, "I have told the director of health services to ask all collectors to increase the number of tests." Dr Pradeep Awate, state

surveillance officer, added: "Testing has gone down because the number of cases has gone down. Testing increases when the number of positive cases increase. However, we have asked all collectors to ramp up testing." Officials said there is a need to ramp testing so that the department is not caught unaware if and when a third wave comes.

BMC Additional Commissioner Suresh Kakani said the number of tests have also come down due to the prevailing Ganesh festival. "The BMC will test people as they start returning to Mumbai from their hometowns after the festival," he added.

ED seeks CBI's help to trace Deshmukh

The ED wants to question the former home minister over a money-laundering case filed with it

Team Absolute | Mumbai

The Enforcement Directorate has sought the CBI's help to trace former Maharashtra home minister Anil Deshmukh. The ED had last week issued a lookout notice against Mr Deshmukh after he failed to appear before the agency even after five summonses were issued to him.

The ED wants to question the former home minister over a money-laundering case filed with it. Mr Deshmukh is, however, untraceable and he has not only skipped the summonses issued by the agency but also stated that he will not appear before it until he exhausts all the remedies available in the law.

Deshmukh challenged the summons issued by the Supreme Court, but the court had dismissed his plea and had directed him to approach the appropriate forum. Following this, Mr Deshmukh approached the Bombay high court under the CrPC. Through his lawyer, Mr Deshmukh had also informed the ED that he would not appear before the agency as his plea was pending before the court.

Meanwhile, the BJP has asked the NCP to disclose Mr Deshmukh's whereabouts. "Deshmukh is one of the top leaders of the NCP, which controls the state home department. Maharashtra home minister Dilip Walse-Patil and Mumbai police commissioner Hemant

Nagrle must be aware of Mr Deshmukh's whereabouts. They must tell the agencies about it," BJP leader Pravin Darekar said.

The ED has filed the case on the basis of an FIR registered by the CBI. The CBI registered a case of corruption against Mr Deshmukh after the Bombay high court had directed it to conduct a preliminary inquiry against Mr Deshmukh on the basis of allegations levelled against him by former Mumbai police commissioner Param Bir Singh. Mr Singh had alleged that Mr Deshmukh had directed now dismissed API Sachin Waze to collect Rs. 100 crores every month from hotels and bars in Mumbai. The CBI has claimed it was revealed during the probe

that Waze had collected more than Rs. 4 crores t the behest of Mr Deshmukh. While Mr Deshmukh is untraceable, the CBI last week arrested his lawyer Anand Daga and CBI inspector Abhishek Tiwari. Tiwari was arrested for his alleged role in the "manipulation" of the preliminary inquiry against Mr Deshmukh in connection with the extortion case. The CBI had told the court that the two were arrested after a conversation ensued and evidence was found.

Tiwari was also accused of leaking the investigation report against Anil Deshmukh. On the basis of that leaked report, the news of Anil Deshmukh's innocence was widely spread.

BJP ALLEGES GRAFT BY NCP MINISTER, DEMANDS MULTI-AGENCY PROBE

Mumbai: The opposition BJP in Maharashtra on Monday targeted another Maha Vikas Aghadi minister for alleged corruption and money-laundering scam of over Rs 100 crore and demanded a multi-agency probe into the matter.

Ex-BJP MP Kirit Somaiya accused Nationalist Congress Party's (NCP) Rural Development Minister Hasan Mustrif of bribery of crores of rupees, money-laundering, and owning benami properties through family members and shell companies. NCP's national spokesperson and Minority Affairs Minister Nawab Malik hit back and charged Somaiya with political motives for regularly making baseless attacks at the leaders of the ruling coalition.

Bhima-Koregaon Violence:

Maharashtra govt not to reply in pleas challenging transfer of probe to NIA

Team Absolute | Mumbai

In a significant development, the Maharashtra government on Tuesday told the Bombay High Court, it won't file any reply to the petition filed by Surendra Gadling, who has challenged the transfer of the probe in the Bhima-Koregaon violence case from state police to the National Investigations Agency (NIA).

The bench of Justices Sambhaji Shinde and Nijamuddin Jamadar

was hearing a plea filed by Gadling, one of the prime accused in the case, challenging the transfer of probe to the NIA in January 2020.

Public Prosecutor Aruna Pai for the state told the bench that since NIA is the prosecuting agency now, it should file the reply.

"I have informed the court that the state of Maharashtra won't be filing any say in the matter since now NIA is prosecuting the case," Pai told FPJ.

Accordingly, the bench has adjourned the case for hearing final arguments till September 27.

Notably, Gadling and other accused Sudhir Dhawale in the case have questioned the decision of the Union government to "suddenly" transfer the case from Pune Police to the NIA. They have stated that there were no compelling grounds to transfer of the case to the NIA, two years after the FIR was filed by the Pune Police.

In their plea, the accused have pointed out that there weren't any provision which allowed the Union government to transfer the probe even after the investigations are completed. They alleged malafide behind the decision to transfer the probe and that it was done for settling political scores with the ruling coalition of Shiv Sena, Congress and NCP.

In response to this plea, the NIA had said that this petition was only to "thwart" the probe.

Maharashtra state service main examination will be held from December 4 to 6, the state public service commission, MPSC has said on Monday, September 13. The exam will be held at Amravati, Aurangabad, Mumbai, Nagpur, Nashik and Pune districts.

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Maharashtra state service main examination will be held from December 4 to 6, the state public service commission, MPSC has said on Monday, September 13. The exam will be held at Amravati, Aurangabad, Mumbai, Nagpur, Nashik and Pune districts.

The admit cards of the candidates who are eligible for this exam will be released a week before the commencement of the exam. Candidates have to download the same from the official website of the Commission.

The preliminary phase of this exam was earlier scheduled on April 11 and was later postponed. The decision was taken following record spike in Covid cases in the state. While many students and unions had welcomed the postponement of exams considering the safety of students, some students had criticised the move.

Meanwhile, the Maharashtra government had announced, last month, to train 2,000 OBC students for the Maharashtra Public Service Commission (MPSC) exams and 1,000 for the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) exams.

Maharashtra cumulative vaccination tally crosses 6.83 crore

In the ongoing vaccination drive, Maharashtra on September 13 has vaccinated 4,80,209 people through 2745 sessions.

Team Absolute | Mumbai

According to data released by the government, Maharashtra, as of 7 am on September 14, inoculated 6,83,71,367 people.

As per the state government data, 2,39,62,115 individuals aged between 18 and 44 years received their first vaccine dose and 35,38,576 received their second dose since the inoculation drive for this age group began on May 1.

So far, 12,93,044 health care workers have been administered the first dose of the vaccine, while 10,34,750 of them have got their second dose.

Similarly, 21,42,306 frontline workers in the state have till now received their first vaccine dose and of them, 16,16,923 got their second dose.

Meanwhile, the cumulative coronavirus tally in Maharashtra crossed the 65-lakh mark on Monday with the addition of 2,740 new cases, the lowest since February 9, while 27 patients succumbed to the infection, a daily toll not seen since March 8, a health department official said.

The official said with these additions, the tally of COVID-19 cases climbed to 65,00,617, while the death toll increased to 1,38,169.

The number of daily cases and fatalities witnessed a significant dip as compared to Sunday, when the state had reported 3,623 COVID-19 cases and 46 deaths.



On February 9, Maharashtra had reported 2,515 new COVID-19 cases, while 22 deaths were registered on March 8.

The count of recovered patients outnumbered the new infections.

As many as 3,233 patients were discharged from hospitals in the last 24 hours, pushing the number of recovered cases to 63,09,021 and leaving the state with 49,880 active cases, the official said.

The state has 2,99,192 people in home quarantine and another 1,883 in institutional quarantine, he

said.

The official said Maharashtra's COVID-19 recovery rate stands at 97.05 per cent, while the fatality rate is 2.12 per cent.

The cumulative number of tests conducted in the state rose to 5,60,88,114, of which 108,216 tests, the lowest in recent times, were done in the last 24 hours, the official said.

In Maharashtra, as many as 11 districts - Dhule, Nandurbar, Parbhani, Nanded, Akola, Amravati, Nagpur, Wardha, Bhandara, Gondia and

Chandrapur (rural areas) and seven municipal corporations - Malegaon, Dhule, Parbhani, Nanded, Akola, Amravati and Chandrapur (urban areas) did not report any fresh COVID-19 cases, he said.

The official said Ahmednagar district reported the highest 569 new infections, followed by Mumbai district at 345, while Satara district reported the highest nine fatalities in the state in the last 24 hours.

Among the eight regions of Maharashtra, the Pune region reported the highest 967 new COVID-19 cases, followed by 681 in the Nashik region.

Among other regions, the Mumbai region reported 663 new cases, Kolhapur 282, Latur 90, Aurangabad 34, Nagpur 16 and the Akola region seven infections.

According to the official, among the 27 fresh fatalities from eight regions, the highest 11 were reported from Mumbai region, followed by 10 from the Pune region.

Significantly, Aurangabad, Akola and Nagpur region did not report any fresh fatalities, while the Kolhapur region reported three deaths, the Nashik region two and the Latur region one.

He said Mumbai witnessed 345 new COVID-19 cases and six deaths, while Pune city reported 130 cases, but no fresh fatality.

Among 49,880 active cases in the state, Pune district has the highest at 13,102, according to the official. He said among the 63,09,021 recovered patients across the state so far, the highest - 10,97,740 - were from Pune district.

Coronavirus figures for Maharashtra are as follows: Total cases 65,00,617; new cases 2,740; total deaths 1,38,169; total recoveries 63,09,021; active cases 49,880; total tests 5,60,88,114.

BUSINESSMAN BOOKED AFTER HIS CAR ENTERS CM'S CONVOY

Mumbai: A case of rash driving was registered against him and he was subsequently released, said police. A 49-year-old businessman from south Mumbai has been booked for rash driving after his car reportedly entered Maharashtra Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray's convoy on Monday. The police said that the incident took place at around 7 pm when Thackeray was returning to Varsha Bungalow after attending a meeting at the office of the Director General of Police.

Suryakant Bangar, who is a senior inspector at the Malabar Hill police station, said, "The incident took place when the convoy was going from Girgaon chowpatty to the Teen Batti area in Malabar Hill. The businessman did not understand that the CM's convoy was on the move. It was his duty to stop his car and wait till the convoy passed."

After the businessman drove into the convoy, cops posted near Teen Batti area stopped him and took him to the police station. A case of rash driving was registered against him and he was subsequently released, said police.

CYNTHIA ERIVO, ANDY SERKIS JOIN 'LUTHER' MOVIE FOR NETFLIX

Los Angeles | Agencies

Actors Cynthia Erivo and Andy Serkis will star alongside Idris Elba in the Netflix feature film instalment of 'Luther', continuing the story of the acclaimed crime series.

Netflix is making the feature in association with the BBC, reports hollywoodreporter.com.

Neil Cross, who created and wrote the series, penned the script. Jamie Payne, who directed the last season that consisted of four episodes is helming the feature that begins shooting in November.

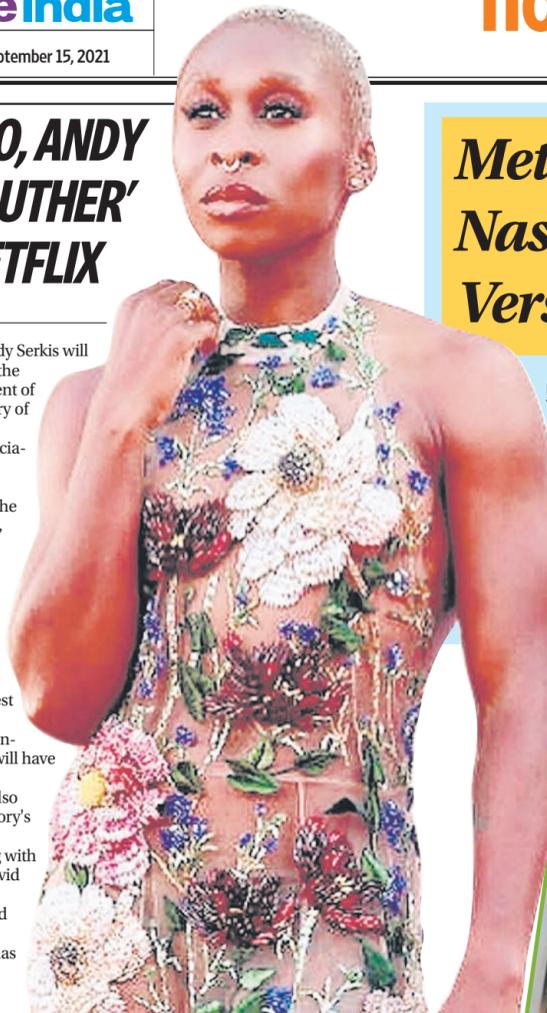
'Luther' centres on Detective Chief Inspector John Luther, a brilliant London officer so obsessed with his work that he is willing to go down the darkest of paths and break the strictest of rules.

In the movie's story, which is the continuation of the 'Luther' saga, Luther will have to contend with a double threat.

Erivo is playing a detective who is also Luther's nemesis while Serkis is the story's criminal villain.

Cross and Elba are producing along with Peter Chernin, Jenno Topping and David Ready of Chernin Entertainment.

The latter has a deal with Netflix and the streamer released Chernin's 'Fear Street' Trilogy this summer and next has the big-budget Jason Momoa fantasy, 'Slumberland'.



Met Gala 2021: Lil Nas X dons three Versace looks in one

New York | Agencies

Lil Nas X was all glitters and gold at the 2021 Met Gala, as the rapper donned three looks in one on Monday evening.

LNx, 22, wore three separate but coherent

looks designed by Versace. He first donned a regal golden velvet robe that later unveiled a golden armour suit underneath. Last but not least, LNx walked up the steps of the Met wearing a gold embellished black bodysuit that showed off his incredible figure following his pregnancy announcement.

"It was royalty at first, right? And then we copped down to the armour, right? And then we got to sexy, you

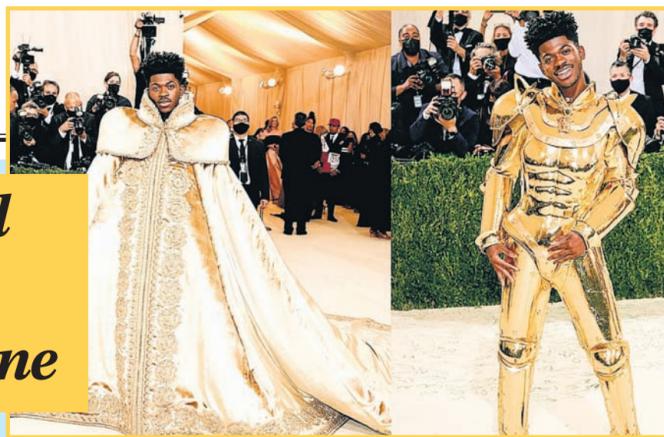
know, we got real sexy slutty," he told Keke Palmer about his trinity of outfits, later sharing how he has the freedom to express his vision in his art whether it's in music or fashion.

"I feel like COVID let me get a lot of time to think and learn to block people's thoughts about what I have to do, no matter who they are, how close I am to them, and just realise we only get one chance to do this," said LNx, who will deliver his debut

album 'Montero' on Friday.

The annual fashion event was postponed indefinitely in 2020, due to the ongoing coronavirus pandemic, but the gala is back this year with the theme of 'In America: A Lexicon of Fashion'.

Rihanna will host the event's official afterparty, teaming with hospitality giant Richie Akiva to throw the Met Ball's private post-gala bash, according to Billboard.com.



DRAKE BREAKS MJ, BEATLES' RECORD, MAKES HISTORY

Drake has claimed a record nine of the Hot 100's top 10, with 'Way 2 Sexy' new at No. 1.

New York | Agencies

The Canadian rapper makes history with one of the most dominant weeks on the Hot 100 ever, as he becomes the first artist to claim nine of the top 10 positions on a single chart frame, led by 'Way 2 Sexy' at No. 1.

Drake logs an explosive week on the Billboard Hot 100 chart, as all 21 songs from his new album 'Certified Lover Boy' debut in the top 40. 'Certified Lover Boy' launched at No. 1 on the Billboard 200 with 613,000 equivalent album units, according to MRC Data, marking the biggest weekly sum for an album in over a year. He becomes the eighth artist with 10 or more number ones in the chart's history, according to Billboard.com. In the 63-year history of the Hot 100, this is just the second instance of an artist infusing 21 songs in the top 40 simultaneously, with both frames belonging to Drake.

He first charted 21 titles on the Hot 100 dated July 14, 2018, concurrent with the chart arrival of his LP 'Scorpion' (with 20 of the 21 entries that week from that set). The latest debuts extend Drake's record for the most top 40 Hot 100 hits to 143.

Drake's nine top 10 debuts also extend his record for the most total top 10s to 54. Madonna is next with 38, followed by The Beatles (34), Rihanna (31) and Michael Jackson (30).



Kacey Musgraves had 'guided magic mushrooms' trip to deal with divorce

Los Angeles | Agencies

Singer Kacey Musgraves went on a seven-hour guided magic mushrooms trip to help process the end of her marriage and find a positive way to use her "trauma and pain".

The 'Rainbow' singer was keen to process the fallout of her divorce from Ruston Kelly and

to "transform (her) trauma and pain into something else" so she embarked on "plant therapy", which involved taking the hallucinogens under supervision.

She said: "I did it with a doctor friend here and her husband. It's called plant therapy."

"It's been looked at in a lot of areas for help with depression, anxiety, addiction, so many things."

"Basically, some neuroscientists (from Baltimore's Johns Hopkins

University) have created a playlist that's music from all over the world, put together to guide you, in that state of mind, through different emotions, feeling memories, whatever."

She added: "We have these neural pathways that we have worn into our brain, kind of like trails in the forest, and what these plants do is basically dump six feet of snow on those pathways and allow you to form new neural connections, to change your brain, change your habits." Through the

experience, I was blindfolded, and on a comfortable couch with a soft blanket, this music was playing and all the things I was seeing were in my mind's eye. The music was painting this whole story, pulling from childhood memories, experiences, thoughts."

Musgraves was feeling every pluck of a string in her body.

She said the experience was a "big part" of creating her new album, 'Star-Crossed', reports femalefirst.co.uk.



CAMILA CABELLO WILL NEVER SACRIFICE MENTAL HEALTH FOR CAREER

Los Angeles | Agencies

Singer Camila Cabello, who started her pop career as a member of girl group Fifth Harmony which was put together on the American version of Simon Cowell's pop star search show 'The X Factor' in 2012, has learned to prioritise her mental health and put herself first.

Speaking about her work, Cabello said: "If it's affecting my mental health in a negative way, I'll say no and do it another way." Cabello, who made her acting debut as the titular character in Kay Cannon's new interpretation of the 'Cinderella' fairy tale, has also spoken out about the love she receives from her fans, saying that she feels so supported by them on social media whenever she is body shamed or criticised, reports femalefirst.co.uk. In an interview with the new issue of HUNGER magazine, she said: "Next time there are pictures of me where my belly is out, there's gonna be a community of women who have heard me talk about the way that makes me feel and who support me. And that is honestly so liberating."

Dwayne Johnson: 'Jungle Cruise' ride is all about wish fulfillment

Los Angeles | Agencies

Actor Dwayne Johnson, who will soon be seen in the adventure film 'Jungle Cruise', says that the actual ride from Disneyland has a 'wish fulfillment' factor attached to it.

Disney's 'Jungle Cruise' also stars Emily Blunt in the leading role. It is based on the popular Disneyland ride of the same name, where the skippers of the Jungle Cruise ride lead a humorously irreverent expedition, carrying passengers along four rivers: the Nile in Africa, the Amazon in South America, the Irrawaddy in Southeast Asia and the Ganges of India.

Speaking on why he finds the Jungle Cruise fascinating, Dwayne 'The Rock'

Johnson says: "People love the Jungle Cruise attraction because of its rich history and tradition. There's a unique quality to Jungle Cruise that still feels as if it were fifty or sixty years ago. But that's the charm of it. When you go around the world to some of these other parks, you see their iterations of Jungle Cruise that are just spectacular. I feel there's a wish fulfillment factor for the audience that happens with the Jungle Cruise ride. That wish fulfillment, I believe, is the idea that you are being transported, and you are truly going on the adventure and ride of a lifetime."

The actor says that the team ensured that the charm of the actual Jungle Cruise ride was part of the film.



ABSOLUTE PIC OF THE DAY



Kendall Jenner



Durand Cup

FC BENGALURU UNITED BEAT MOHAMMEDAN SC 2-0, TOP GROUP

Kalyani | Agencies

FC Bengaluru United defeated home side Mohammedan SC 2-0 on Tuesday as they topped Group A and claimed bragging rights in the 130th Durand Cup football competition at the Kalyani Municipality Stadium.

The game was goalless at half-time and owing to the rain-hit conditions, the deadlock was turning to be hard to break. The breakthrough came in the 64th minute when Thokchom James Singh scored a goal.

With only one goal separating the two sides in the business end, the game was headed towards a nerve-racking finish in the final few minutes.

All doubts were cast aside, however, when Mohammedan conceded a penalty in the fifth minute of stoppage time. Slovenian forward Luka Majcen stepped up and made no mistake in converting the spot-kick



and rubber stamping Bengaluru United's status as Group A leaders. Meanwhile, the quarter-the Group A fixture between Indian Air Force

(IAF) and CRPF, which was scheduled to take place at the Mohun Bagan Athletic Club Ground, had to be called off due to unplayable condi-

tions caused by heavy rain and water-logging. Both sides have been awarded one point each.

Auction for two new IPL teams 'most likely' on October 17

Team Absolute | New Delhi

The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) will "most likely" hold the auction for the two new Indian Premier League (IPL) teams on October 17, sources told reporter.

"Yeah, the auction will be held, most likely, on October 17 and clarifications on the same can be sought up to September 21, the ITT (Invitation To Tender) document will also be available for purchase till October 5," said a BCCI official. "However, the confirmed date and venue will be intimated to the bidders later."

A bidder can bid for two to six cities, and currently, Ahmedabad, Lucknow, Indore, Cuttack, Guwahati and Dharamsala are available for bidding. The BCCI had already made it clear that each bidder would have a net worth of Rs 2500 crore and the company has to have a turnover of Rs 3000 crore.

According to reports, few parties are believed to have



bought the ITT document. One of them is Sanjiv Goenka of the RPSG Group who previously owned the Pune franchise for two years. Goenka is tipped to buy the Lucknow team. Currently, the cash-rich

tournament has eight teams and each team plays seven home and as many away games. However, in the revised scenario, there could be nine home and nine away games.

Lasith Malinga announces retirement from all formats

Team Absolute | New Delhi

Legendary Sri Lankan pacer Lasith Malinga on Tuesday announced his retirement from all forms of cricket, ending a decorated 16-year international career that began in 2004.

In a video posted on social media, one of the greatest death-over bowlers in the history of the game, Malinga said, "Today is a very special day for me because I want to thank each and everyone who has supported me and blessed me throughout my T20 career. Today I decided, I want to give a hundred per cent rest for my T20 bowling shoes."

"I want to thank the Sri Lanka cricket board and my team members. I want to thank the Mumbai Indians cricket team and team members, especially the owners and the officials, Melbourne Stars, Kent Cricket Club, Rangpur Riders, Guyana Warriors, Maratha Arabians, and Montreal Tigers.

"When I played with you all, I got plenty of experience. I want to share my experience in the future with young cricketers," he added.

Malinga had earlier announced his retirement from franchise cricket as the veteran pacer was released by Mumbai Indians (MI) ahead of the Indian Premier League (IPL)



Malinga had bid farewell to Test cricket in 2011. The former speedster of the Islanders had bowed out from the 50-over format by recording his final One Day International (ODI) appearance for the 1996 world champions in 2019 against Bangladesh at the R Premadasa Stadium.

Across all formats, he claimed 546 wickets, including a memorable spell of four wickets in four balls against South Africa at the ICC Cricket World Cup 2007.

Lizelle Lee guides South Africa to big win over West Indies in ODI series

Antigua | Agencies

An unbeaten 78 from Lizelle Lee after a clinical performance from South Africa's attack sealed an unassailable 3-0 lead for the tourists in their five-match women's ODI series against West Indies at the Coolidge Cricket Ground here on Tuesday (IST).

Electing to field first, South Africa bowled West Indies out for 157, with Rashada Williams (37) and Deandra Dottin (71) the only batters to reach double digits. A 122-run stand between Lee and Laura Wolvaardt (53) then put to rest any hopes of a West Indies victory as South Africa ran away as eight-wicket victors with 13.2 overs to spare.

Needing less than three-and-a-half an over to win from there, South Africa's openers reached the target with ease. Wolvaardt played the more aggressive hand of the duo, making 53 off 68 before falling to Joesph (2/24) with South Africa just 36 runs



away from victory. Joseph struck against to remove Luus (2) but in the company of captain Dane van Niekerk (18 not out), Lee took South

Africa home, finishing unbeaten on 78 off 120. The two teams next meet on September 16.

Brief scores

West Indies Women 157 in 48.4 overs (R Williams 37, D Dottin 71; S Ismail 3/31) lost to South Africa 158/2 in 36.4 overs (L Lee 78 not out, L Wolvaardt 53) by 8 wickets.

LIZELLE JOINS MITHALI IN WOMEN'S ODI RANKINGS

Dubai: South

African opener Lizelle Lee's unbeaten 91 in the opening match of their series against the West Indies has helped her take joint-first position alongside India's Mithali Raj among batters in the ICC Women's ODI Player Rankings released on Tuesday.

Lee, who first seized the top position in June 2018 and again reached the summit in March this year, scored 18 runs in the second match, which also counted towards this week's rankings update. She is now tied with India captain Mithali Raj at 762 rating points, with Australia's Alyssa Healy six points behind in third place.



Taylor plays his last knock as Zimbabwe lose

Belfast | Agencies

Zimbabwe batsman Brendan Taylor drew curtains on his 17-year career as he scored seven as opener in his last ODI. He was given a guard of honour as he walked in to bat in his last innings on Monday.

His side lost the third and final ODI against Ireland by seven wickets as the series ended in a 1-1 draw. Zimbabwe had won the first ODI by 38 runs with Taylor scoring 49 off 45 balls. The second ODI was abandoned after Ireland scored 282/8. Ireland had won the T20I series 3-2.

With 6684 runs, Taylor is the second-highest run-getter for Zimbabwe in ODI cricket behind Andy Flower who has 6786 runs. The 35-year-old right-hander has also scored 11 ODI centuries, 2320 Test runs.



the most for Zimbabwe. He has also scored 39 ODIs.

His 433 runs in the 2015 World Cup is the most number of runs by a Zimbabwean in a single edition of a World Cup. He scored two centuries in that World Cup, including one against India. He also has six Test hundreds and 2320 Test runs.

Raducanu sees massive jump of 127 spots in WTA rankings

New York | Agencies

US Open champion Emma Raducanu of Great Britain, who defeated Leylah Fernandez of Canada in the last Grand Slam of the year, has jumped 127 spots in this week's WTA Rankings, moving from No.150 to No.23.

Raducanu started the year at No.345 (as the British No.11), but her ranking has been on a rapid climb in the past three months. The teenager has won 21 of her past 25 matches. After reaching the fourth round at Wimbledon as a wildcard, Raducanu's ranking improved from No.338 to No.179, helping her secure a spot in qualifying at the US Open.

The final Grand Slam of the 2021 season produced the first all-teen final in 22 years, causing a shakeup among this week's rankings. For the first time in six years, Britain has a new top player, while Canada boasts two women in



the top-30 for the first time in 34 years.

By winning the US Open as a qualifier, Raducanu earned 2,040 points. She also overtakes Johanna Konta as the highest-ranked woman from Britain. Konta had held the distinction

for 310 consecutive weeks (since the week of October 5, 2015).

US Open runner-up Leylah Fernandez jumped 45 spots, climbing from No.73 to No.28. Fernandez joins fellow Canadian Bianca Andreescu (No.20) in the top-30, giving Canada two women ranked in that range for the first time in 34 years. The last time it happened was the week of September 14, 1987, with Helen Kelesi at No.29 and Carling Bassett-Seguso at No.30.

While Ashleigh Barty of Australia and Aryna Sabalenka of Belarus remain unchanged atop this week's rankings, quarterfinal runs have pushed Karolina Pliskova of the Czech Republic up one spot to No.3 and Elina Svitolina of Ukraine up one to No.4.

Barbora Krejickova of the Czech Republic and Maria Sakkari of Greece both hit new career highs.

Aim is to keep improving to be world No. 1: Shamsheer

Team Absolute | New Delhi

Indian men's hockey team forward Shamsheer Singh said on Tuesday that the side was confident of becoming world No.1 "if we keep improving match by match" and "keep performing in big tournaments".

Shamsheer, who played a crucial role in India's bronze medal-winning campaign at the Tokyo Olympics recently, said, "We still have a lot of targets to achieve as a team. We have ticked off the target of winning an Olympic medal, but we have been striving to be the best side in the world in the last few years.

"We are going to give everything we have in every match we play in the future, especially in big tournaments such as the FIH Hockey Pro League. We are confident that if we keep improving match by match, then one day we will surely be the world Number 1 team," said Shamsheer. Shamsheer said that he was fortunate to have had the chance of playing in the biggest sporting event during the nascent stage of his career. The national side defeated Germany 5-4 in the Tokyo Olympics bronze-



medal match on August 5 to end a 41-year Olympic medal drought.

"The Tokyo Olympics is always going to hold a special place in my heart. I am so lucky to be part of an Olympic bronze medal-winning team at such an early stage of my career. I also know that this is just the beginning for us as a team. We have the belief that we can do even better in the future and we are going to work towards our goals in the upcoming years," said the forward, who scored a goal against Japan in the Tokyo Games.

Split captaincy is a good idea, Rohit can lead well: Madan Lal

Chetan Sharma | New Delhi

Former Indian cricketer Madan Lal on Tuesday came out in support of split captaincy theory in India, saying it will "ease the pressure on Virat Kohli".

"I guess this could be a nice option. We are in a very good position right now. We are lucky that we have Rohit Sharma in the team and whenever Virat Kohli feels that he wants to concentrate on one or two formats then Rohit can step in, and he has a lot of experience," Madan told correspondent.

"So, in a way, I feel it will benefit India. I read that Virat is likely to step down from captaincy (of ODI and T20) as he wants to concentrate on his batting, which is a good idea I



guess. I don't know whether it is a rumour or what... but the split cap-

3 Maharashtra girls in Indian team for Asia Rugby Sevens

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Three girls from Maharashtra have been included in the 14-member India women's under-18 rugby team that left the country on Tuesday to participate in the Asia Rugby U18 Girls Rugby Sevens Championship 2021 which will be held in Tashkent, Uzbekistan on September 18 and 19.

Vaishnavi Dattatray Patil (Kolhapur), Akanksha Anand Katkade (Nashik), and Lavanya Jagdish Adusumalli (Mumbai Suburban), all three from Maharashtra, have successfully made it in the Indian team based on their exceptional performance in the camp.

The team will be led by Anshika Chauhan of Delhi and includes three players each from Odisha and Delhi



besides two each from West Bengal and Bihar.

A total of 52 girls from 13 States/UTs across India were shortlisted based on their performance at the last Sub-Junior National Championships, National School Games Rugby Championships, and their fitness and skill test results. These shortlisted girls attended the national training and selection camp at the KIIT University campus in Bhubaneswar from August 14-September 13.

CHHORII: An Upcoming Horror Movie

An Amazon Original Movie, Directed by Vishal Furia and Produced by T-Series, Crypt TV, and Abundantia Entertainment, Chhorii is the remake of an acclaimed Marathi film 'Lapachhapi.' Prime members in India and across 240 countries and territories can stream the highly anticipated film in November exclusively on Amazon Prime Video.

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Amazon Prime Video today gave a glimpse into the world of its upcoming Original Horror Movie - Chhorii.

It may not be Halloween yet, but the first glimpse is sure to send shivers down the spine with its nerve-racking, scary sneak peek. If this gave you a hair-raising experience, then you can only wonder what the film has in store for

its viewers. We can't wait to see more of the Amazon Original movie Chhorii that's all set to scare audiences like never before this coming November! Horror film af-

cionados get ready for a thrilling ride and, after this motion poster, we sure are sleeping with the lights on tonight!

Chhorii is an upcoming horror film directed by Vishal Furia and produced by Bhushan Kumar, Krishnan Kumar, Vikram

Malhotra, Jack Davis, and Shikhaa Sharma. A remake of the Marathi film Lapachhapi, the film features Nushratt Bharuccha in the lead role, alongside Mita Vashisht, Rajesh Jais, Saurabh Goyal, and Yaane Bharadwaj.

Chhorii also marks the first collaboration between Abundantia Entertainment's Psych, (a vertical focused on the horror and paranormal genre) and the Los Angeles-based Crypt TV known for showcasing a new brand of scary with shows like - The Look-See, The Birch, Sunny Family Cult, and The Thing in the Apartment.



Kriti Sanon remembers Mimi shoot days with this 'Mandawa Ki Galiyaan'

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Kriti Sanon is still fresh from the success of her highly critically acclaimed film, Mimi. The actress played the solo lead in a female centric film and aced her character, she took the brave choice of playing a mother's role too early in her career and did her part excellently. Having received endless praises for her portrayal in the film, the actress has yet another reason to smile after her film's recent achievement. Taking to her social media handle, Kriti posted a throwback video of herself from the Mimi shoot days. In the video she can be seen riding on the pillion seat of a bike as she parades us through the Gallis of Mandawa. The actress also wrote a message celebrating the return of her film, Mimi in top 10 on an OTT platform. It is notable that the film has completed over 50 days of its release and the Kriti Sanon starrer is still getting lots of love. With this film Kriti has entered the top league of actresses and has established her name as a very talented and reliable performer. Adipurush, 'Ganapath', 'Hum Do Hamare Do', 'Bhediya' and 'Bachchan Pandey' are all part of Kriti's big and bold upcoming projects alongwith a few untitled ones in the fray.

BHOOT POLICE BECOMES THE MOST WATCHED HINDI MOVIE THIS FESTIVE SEASON



Team Absolute | Mumbai

Bhoot Police has emerged as the most-watched movie on Disney+ Hotstar as stated by the Ormax report. The hor-

ror-comedy stars Saif Ali Khan, Arjun Kapoor, Jacqueline Fernandez, and Yami Gautam in the lead roles. Helmed by Pavan Kirpalani, produced by Ramesh Taurani and Akshai Puri, the film was released last week digitally on the 10th of September, and within a few days of release, it's been lauded by the audience and entertainment industry. Bhoot Police has become the most-watched Hindi movie by millions of people as per the

Ormax report. The film has garnered immense love from across the globe and the unique horror-comedy tale is immensely appreciated by the audience.

Bhoot Police stars Saif-Arjun as ghost hunters where Vibhooti (Saif) is a non-believer and Chiranjeevi (Arjun) is a believer of Kali Urja aka Evil spirit. The duo brothers set off on a mission with Maya (Yami Gautam) and Kanika (Jacqueline Fernandez) to ward off a notorious spirit living in a small town in the mountains. The movie is filled with spooky elements, twists, and turns which will keep you hooked from the first scene!

Tips Industries Ltd in association with 12th Street Entertainment presents 'Bhoot Police', directed by Pavan Kirpalani. Produced by Ramesh Taurani, Akshai Puri, and co-produced by Jaya Taurani. The movie is now streaming exclusively on Disney+ Hotstar.

Raavan Leela to now be titled as 'Bhavai'

Team Absolute | Mumbai

The much-awaited Pratik Gandhi starrer Raavan Leela's trailer has received immense appreciation. The trailer has garnered over 10 million views within a span of 3 days, which indeed proves that the audiences are excited about this musical drama and are looking forward to watching their favorite Pratik Gandhi in the movie. The makers have now issued a statement announcing that Raavan Leela will be titled 'Bhavai'. The move comes after receiving audiences' requests and moreover to respect their sentiments.

Director Hardik Gajjar said, "I am happy to honor the wishes of my stakeholders and audience, the love we have received for the film thus far is resonance of the fact that good cinema is the need of the hour. Cinema is a medium meant to entertain people and so is our film. Audiences have showered Pratik with love for his work and we hope that this film will only see it multiply. It's a film that is close to our hearts and we are confident that audiences will love it with all their hearts too".

'Bhavai' stars Pratik Gandhi, Aindrita Ray, Rajendra Gupta, Rajesh Sharma, and Abhimanyu Singh in pivotal roles, the musical drama is all set to enthrall the audience in the month of October.



INSTAGRAM PIC OF THE DAY



Kiara Advani

Sanjay Dutt remembers his first shot for debut film 'Rocky'

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Actor Sanjay Dutt has reminisced about his first shot ever of his career for his debut film 'Rocky' which released in 1981. He said he was nervous and faced a lot of pressure being a newcomer.

On the sets of a reality show, Sanjay was asked about 'Rocky' being his first film and his experience.

"I was nervous. I was a newcomer, think about the kind of pressure that was in me. The shooting was in Kashmir and my first shot was to scream and jump, shouting 'help'. Mr Suresh Bhatt (choreographer) was there and he didn't think I could pull off the stunt in one go."

Sanjay added: "I assured him I can, saying, 'yes Suresh uncle' and he replied saying not to refer to him as 'uncle' here, here he was 'Master Suresh'. I looked at my dad and he told me 'look at him and hear what he is saying'. There were around 50 to 60 people there and I was very nervous." The actor said that the first shot of his life, lights, sound, camera - everything was ready to go.

HIMESH RESHAMMIYA BRINGS ANOTHER CHART BUSTER, O SAIYONI

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Himesh Reshammiya is on a career high like never before.

The one man army has delivered 9 huge hit songs across 4 albums and recorded audio streams, video views in millions over the last few weeks. The latest track called Terre Pyaar Mein from the album Suroor 2021 was trending on YouTube for over 20 days straight. It was also trending on the famous reels and crossed 100 million views in record time. This was quick on the heels of the 2 successful songs Sansenn and O Sajnaa with sawai Bhatt and also humnava humsafar that gave another chart-buster to legends like Kumar Sanu and Alka Yagnik from the album Super Sitaara. Now the musical genius Himesh

hits another bulls eye with his 10th song wherein he brings to you the magic of Indian Idol winner Pawandeep and Arunita. Called O Saiyoni, this song has a folk vibe but is a romantic albeit fun track. Speaking on the same, Himesh says that, "the combination of Pawandeep and Arunita is truly amazing as they have delivered super tracks for me like Tere Bagairr and Teri Umeed, and this one O Saiyoni is yet another sure shot chart buster. It's completely different from what is expected of these two. It is a romantic track but it boasts of a contemporary vibe and yet folksy in nature too." The title track has crossed 71 million views and 42 million audio streams already and I am grateful to the audience for such an amazing response on each track.

