

absolute india

VOL. 5, ISSUE 159, NEW DELHI | WEDNESDAY, APRIL 20, 2022 | ₹5 | PAGE 08

PUBLISHED SIMULTANEOUSLY FROM NEW DELHI, MUMBAI AND BHOPAL

NATION > 02

Modi lays foundation stone of WHO Global Centre for...



HOLLYWOOD > 06

Celine Dion's movie 'It's All Coming Back to Me' is to release ...



SPORTS > 07

Ashleigh Barty decides to play in global golf event after tennis...



THE INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND CUTS INDIA'S 2022 GROWTH PROSPECTS

ECONOMICAL DAMAGE

"Notable downgrades to the 2022 forecast include Japan (0.9 percentage point) and India (0.8 percentage point)," the IMF said in the World Economic Outlook released on Tuesday. The revision reflects, it added, "in part weaker domestic demand -- as higher oil prices are expected to weigh on private consumption and investment -- and a drag from lower net exports." The fund had earlier projected 9.5 per cent growth for the Indian economy in 2022. It slashed it by 0.5 percentage points in its January report and it has further reduced it now by 0.8 point. The fund has also cut its projection for 2023 by 0.2 point to 6.9 per cent.

- ▶ **INDIA'S 2070 NET-ZERO TARGET AND INTERMEDIATE GOALS THROUGH 2030 PRESENT SIGNIFICANT POLICY IMPLEMENTATION CHALLENGES FOR THE GOVERNMENT, CARVING A MORE CENTRAL ROLE FOR PRIVATE COMPANIES AND INVESTORS TO DRIVE THE TRANSITION, ACCORDING TO A NEW REPORT BY GLOBAL FINANCIAL SERVICES COMPANY MOODY'S INVESTORS.**
- ▶ **THE COUNTRY'S SIGNIFICANT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT NEEDS WILL PRESENT CONSTRAINTS TO THE GOVERNMENT'S ABILITY TO EXTEND SUFFICIENT FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO FUND ITS CARBON TRANSITION.**
- ▶ **MANY OF THE COUNTRY'S LARGE PRIVATE COMPANIES HAVE ANNOUNCED NET-ZERO TARGETS THAT ARE WELL AHEAD OF INDIAN AUTHORITIES' GOALS, WHILE GOVERNMENT-LINKED COMPANIES ARE COMPARATIVELY BEHIND.**
- ▶ **ADDITIONAL POLICY SIGNALS TO ENCOURAGE TRANSITION WOULD DRIVE HIGHER PRIVATE INVESTMENT, THE REPORT SAID.**
- ▶ **FURTHER, THE REPORT GOES ON TO SAY THAT INDIAN BANKS' SIGNIFICANT LOANS TO CARBON-INTENSIVE SECTORS EXPOSE THEM TO TRANSITION RISKS, AND THEY WILL FACE PRESSURE TO DECARBONISE THEIR LOAN BOOKS.**
- ▶ **AT THE SAME TIME, GREEN FINANCING PRESENTS A SIGNIFICANT LENDING OPPORTUNITY GIVEN THE BANKS' DOMINANT ROLE IN CREDIT INTERMEDIATION IN THE COUNTRY, IT SAID.**



Yashwant Raj | Washington

The International Monetary Fund has further slashed India's economic growth prospects for 2022 to 8.2 per cent from its earlier projection of 9 per cent, which in itself was lowered from 9.5 per cent. The global economy will suffer significantly from the war in Ukraine, the fund further projected in its World Economic Outlook released on Tuesday. The World Bank projected 8 per cent growth for the Indian economy in 2022 in a report released last week, which also warned that the war in Ukraine will slow down South Asian countries' recovery from economic devastation caused by the

investment, which had improved, might sour amid elevated input prices and a faster-than-anticipated increase in borrowing costs, the bank said, adding that the travel services balance may improve as India allows international flights to resume, while exports of computer and professional services are expected to remain strong. The fund said in its Tuesday report that the Ukraine war "has triggered a costly humanitarian crisis that demands a peaceful resolution," the IMF report stated, adding, "Economic damage from the conflict will contribute to a significant slowdown in global growth in 2022." Global growth is projected to slow from an estimated 6.1 per cent in 2021 to 3.6 per cent in 2022 and 2023, the fund said. It is 0.8 and 0.2 percentage points lower for 2022 and 2023 than in the January World Economic Outlook Update. Beyond 2023, global growth is fore-cast to decline to about 3.3 per cent over the medium term. "Crucially, this forecast assumes that the conflict remains confined to Ukraine, further sanctions on Russia exempt the energy sector (although the impact of European countries' decisions to wean themselves off Russian energy and embargoes announced through March 31, 2022, are factored into the baseline), and the pandemic's health and economic impacts abate over the course of 2022," the report warned ominously.

that, 632 cases have been reported from Delhi alone, as per the daily health bulletin issued by the Delhi government. However, no Covid related death was reported for the third consecutive day as the city's overall Covid death toll remained static at 26,160. The Covid fatality rate in capital city stood at 1.4 per cent, as per the health bulletin. With 414 patients recovering in the last 24 hours, the total number of recoveries has gone up to 18,41,576 so far. The number of Covid patients being treated in home isolation has also risen to 1,274. The city presently has 1,947 active covid cases. A total of 14,299 tests were conducted in the last 24 hours, taking the overall tally to 3,75,82,533. As many as 34,480 vaccine doses were administered in the national capital in the last 24 hours, including 5,293 first doses, 19,452 second doses and 9,735 precautionary doses.

Covid tally increases by per second in Delhi

The national capital city has been witnessing a sudden spike in the Covid positivity rate. On April 11, the positivity rate stood at 2.70 per cent, which jumped to 3.95 per cent on April 15, 5.33 per cent on April 16, and 7.72 per cent on April 18. On Tuesday, the positivity rate in the national capital stood at 4.42 per cent.



Team Absolute | New Delhi

The national capital adds every second Covid case to the national tally, as per the data released by the Union Health Ministry. Delhi reported 632 fresh Covid infections on Tuesday, which is more than half of the national Covid caseload. According to the Health Ministry data, a total of 1,247 Covid cases were reported from across the nation on Tuesday. Out of

that, 632 cases have been reported from Delhi alone, as per the daily health bulletin issued by the Delhi government. However, no Covid related death was reported for the third consecutive day as the city's overall Covid death toll remained static at 26,160. The Covid fatality rate in capital city stood at 1.4 per cent, as per the health bulletin. With 414 patients recovering in the last 24 hours, the total number of recoveries has gone up to

18,41,576 so far. The number of Covid patients being treated in home isolation has also risen to 1,274. The city presently has 1,947 active covid cases. A total of 14,299 tests were conducted in the last 24 hours, taking the overall tally to 3,75,82,533. As many as 34,480 vaccine doses were administered in the national capital in the last 24 hours, including 5,293 first doses, 19,452 second doses and 9,735 precautionary doses.

Cyber security breach reported in military, high-level probe ordered

Team Absolute | New Delhi

The intelligence agencies have reported a cyber-security breach in the military and a high-level probe has been ordered, sources said here on Tuesday. According to the sources, some military officials involved in this breach are suspected to have links with the enemy countries. The sources also said that the sensitive breaches have been done through the 'WhatsApp Groups' and the military officials are also suspected to be involved in espionage-related activities of a neighbouring country. The sources also confirmed that a high-level inquiry has been ordered into the issue. "Acts of infringement of



existing orders, especially involving counter-intelligence matters by military officials, are dealt with in the strictest possible manner as they are subject to the Official Secrets Act," they added, quoting military officials. "Strictest possible action would be taken against all the officials found guilty in the ongoing investigations,"

the officials assured. Expressing inability to share more information on this suspected espionage case, the officials in the defence set up said, "Due to the sensitive nature of the investigation we want to avoid speculations on the ongoing probe or on those who are involved in this case as that may hamper the ongoing investigation."

TOP 10 GLOBAL TECH CEOs' BONUSES SOARED 400% AMID PANDEMIC

SAN FRANCISCO | Agencies The bonuses of CEOs at the top 10 tech companies soared a massive 400 per cent on average during the pandemic between 2020 and 2021, a new report showed on Tuesday. However, Alphabet and Google CEO Sundar Pichai saw a drop of 14 per cent in his bonuses in 2020 and 2021. Tan Hock Eng from Broadcom was the highest gainer by a whopping 1,586 per cent, from \$3.6 million to \$60.7 million, according to data acquired by financial news portal Finbold. Oracle's Safra Ada Catz

ranked the second-highest, with her compensation growing 999 per cent. "With the tech sector registering significant returns amid the coronavirus pandemic, the industry's executives are also ranking high in compensation," the report said. Intel CEO Pat Gelsinger was third with 713.64 per cent gains -- from \$22 million to \$179 million, followed by Apple's Tim Cook, who recorded a bonus surge of 571.63 per cent -- from \$14.7 million to \$98.7 Billion. Amazon's Andy Jassy finished the top-five category with gains of 491.9 per cent, from \$35.8 million to \$211.9 million.

Lt Gen Manoj Kumar Katiyar to take over as next DGMO of Indian Army

New Delhi: Lt Gen Manoj Kumar Katiyar will be taking over as the next Director General of Military Operations (DGMO) of the Indian Army from May 1. He is currently the General Officer Commanding of 1 Corps, a strike formation responsible for offensive operations against Eastern and Western theatres. During his earlier stint, he was posted as Director of General Staff Duties at Army Headquarters. He has attended the National Defence College, New Delhi, and also graduated from the prestigious National War College in the US. He has been rewarded with Ati Vishisht Seva Medal.

11 OF A FAMILY DIE IN ACCIDENT IN RAJASTHAN

Jaipur: A total of eleven persons of a family, including two women and two teenagers, died in an accident on Tuesday afternoon after their vehicle overturned on the Udaipurwadi-Gudha road in Rajasthan's Jhunjhunu district. Seven others were injured in the mishap, who have shifted to the BDK Hospital in Jhunjhunu. As per the locals, around 18 members of a family had gone to immerse the ashes of an elderly family member who passed away recently when their vehicle overturned. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has announced an ex-gratia of Rs 2 lakh each to the next of kin of the deceased and Rs 50,000 to the injured persons from the Prime Minister's National Relief Fund. "Anguished by the tragic accident in Jhunjhunu. Condolences to the bereaved families. May the injured recover soon. Rs 2 lakh each from PMNRF would be given to the next of kin of the deceased. The injured would be given Rs 50,000," the Prime Minister's Office tweeted quoting Modi. Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot has called a meeting on Wednesday to discuss the rising cases of road accidents in the state.

Russia hit over 1,200 Ukrainian targets with missiles, airstrikes and artillery



London | Agencies

Russia has claimed that it has hit more than 1,200 Ukrainian targets with missiles, airstrikes and artillery, and street battles have broken out as President Vladimir Putin's troops launched their new offensive in the Donbas region in eastern Ukraine, Daily Mail reported. Russian troops managed to take control of the eastern city of Kreminna after hours of relentless bombing, as gunfights between Putin's men and battling Ukrainian forces

continue. Downing Street has been warned that the battle could take 'months', with UK Prime Minister Boris Johnson telling a Cabinet meeting on Tuesday that Ukraine's situation is 'perilous' with Putin intent on victory "regardless of the human cost". Russia's Defence Ministry said on Tuesday that high-precision air-based missiles had struck 13 Ukrainian positions in parts of the Donbas region, including the city of Slavyansk, while airstrikes had hit 60 military targets.

INDIA TO REPLACE CHINA AS 2ND LARGEST SAAS NATION BY 2026

Bengaluru: The Indian software-as-a-service (SaaS) industry is likely to reach \$100 billion in revenue by 2026, superseding China as the second largest SaaS nation in the world, a new report said on Tuesday. The early SaaS companies like Freshworks are attracting unicorn valuations and also successfully listing on the public markets. The industry aims to attract a strong private capital infusion of close to \$6.5 billion in the coming year alone -- a 55 per cent increase over last year's investments of \$4.2 billion, according to the report by Chiratae-Zinnov. As the industry matures, profitability has become a realistic milestone for SaaS companies, and they have cracked the enterprise conundrum with over 40 per cent revenue contribution. "India is a global SaaS leader, and Chiratae Ventures has been fortunate to be at the centre of this surging momentum, with over 35 SaaS companies in our portfolio," said Sudhir Sethi, Founder and Chairman, Chiratae Ventures. The report noted that the next wave of digital talent is expected from tier 2 and 3 cities and an expected pool of three million digitally-skilled workforce will be perfect for SaaS companies to scale up in the coming years.

89% Indians believe govt initiatives can enhance cyber defences

NEARLY 51 PER CENT OF INDIAN RESPONDENTS BELIEVE SUCH MANDATES COULD RESULT IN GOVERNMENT REQUIREMENTS THAT ARE TOO COMPLEX AND ULTIMATELY TOO EXPENSIVE TO IMPLEMENT.

ABOUT 60 PER CENT OF INDIAN RESPONDENTS IDENTIFIED A LACK OF IMPLEMENTATION EXPERTISE AS ONE OF THE BIGGEST BARRIERS TO IMPLEMENTATION.

WHILE 59 PER CENT OF INDIANS BELIEVE THAT THEIR GOVERNMENT COULD PROVIDE MORE FUNDING TO ORGANISATIONS SUCH AS THEIRS TO IMPROVE CYBERSECURITY, 53 PER CENT FAVOUR TIGHTER COOPERATION ON THE INVESTIGATION OF ATTACKS FOLLOWING THEIR DISCOVERY, THE REPORT NOTED.

Team Absolute | New Delhi

Nearly 89 per cent of Indians who surveyed believe that the government-led initiatives can play a critical role in enhancing nations' cyber defences, a new report showed on Monday. While 60 per cent of Indians identified lack of in-house implementation expertise as a barrier to implementation, only 35 per cent of Indians claim to have fully implemented appropriate software supply chain risk management policies and processes,



according to the report by cybersecurity company Trellix. "Global tensions and cyber-warfare incidents in Ukraine sharpen our focus on the cyber readiness of government and critical

infrastructure," said Bryan Palma, CEO of Trellix. "Our report assesses the progress of new technology implementation, like XDR (extended detection and response). It also identifies

areas of opportunity for stronger public-private partnerships, where increased coordination will keep us ahead of our adversaries," he added. Nearly 32 per cent of Indian respondents claim to have fully implemented cloud cybersecurity modernisation. About 59 per cent of Indians support government mandates demanding cybersecurity standards for software. "But respondents from all three countries are concerned there could be drawbacks to such mandates," the report added.



MODI LAYS FOUNDATION STONE OF WHO GLOBAL CENTRE FOR TRADITIONAL MEDICINE

Team Absolute | New Delhi

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday laid the foundation stone of WHO Global Centre for Traditional Medicine (GCTM) in Gujarat's Jamnagar in the presence of Mauritius Prime Minister Pravind Kumar Jugnauth and World Health Organisation Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus.

The GCTM will be the first and only global outpost centre for traditional medicine across the world. The video messages from the Prime Ministers of Bangladesh, Bhutan, Nepal and President of Maldives were played on the occasion.

Tedros Ghebreyesus termed the centre as a truly global project as 107 WHO member countries have their country specific governmental offices which means the world will come to India for its leadership in the traditional medicine.

He said traditional medicines products are around globally and the centre will go a long way in bringing the promise of the traditional medicine to fruition. For many regions of the world traditional medicine is the first line of treatment.

"The New Centre will focus on data, innovation and sustainability and will optimize the use of traditional medicine, he added. The centres five main areas will be research and leadership, evidence and learning, data and analytics, sustainability and equity and inno-



vation and technology," said Tedros Ghebreyesus.

He thanked PM Modi for his leadership in providing all the support for the establishment of WHO Global Centre for Traditional Medicine in Jamnagar. Speaking on the occasion, Prime Minister thanked Dr. Tedros Ghebreyesus for his kind words. The Prime Minister noted Dr. Tedros Ghebreyesus's connect with India and his personal involvement in the project of WHO Global Centre for Traditional Medicine (GCTM) he said that his affection has manifested in the shape of the

WHO Global Centre for Traditional Medicine. Prime Minister also highlighted the three-decade long association with the Prime Minister of Mauritius Pravind Kumar Jugnauth and his family and thanked him for his words and presence. Prime Minister Modi also thanked the leaders whose video messages were played.

"The WHO Global Centre for Traditional Medicine is a recognition of India's contribution and potential in this field. India takes this partnership as a huge responsibility for serving the entire humanity," said Modi.

Jamnagar's contributions towards wellness will get a global identity with WHO's Global Centre for Traditional Medicine, the Prime Minister said, adding that more than five decades ago, the world's first Ayurvedic University was established in Jamnagar.

The city has a quality Ayurvedic institute in Institute of Teaching and Research in Ayurveda.

"India's traditional medicine system is not limited to treatment. It is a holistic science of life. Ayurveda goes beyond just healing and treatment. Apart from healing and treatment; social health, mental health-happiness, environmental health, sympathy, compassion and productivity are included. Ayurveda is taken as the knowledge of life and it has been deemed as fifth Veda," Modi said. Prime Minister laid down five goals for the new Center. First, to create a database of traditional knowledge system using technology; second, GCTM can create international standards for testing and certification of traditional medicines so that confidence in these medicines improves. Third, GCTM should evolve as a platform where global experts of traditional medicines come together and share experiences. He also asked the centre to explore the possibility of an annual traditional medicine festival. Fourth, GCTM should mobilize funding for research in the field of traditional medicines. Finally, GCTM should develop protocols for holistic treatment of specific diseases so that patients could benefit from both traditional and modern medicine.

Congress initiates discussion with Prashant Kishor, meets third time



Team Absolute | New Delhi

Congress leaders on Tuesday discussed with political strategist Prashant Kishor a roadmap to contest 2024 elections and Assembly polls before it. Ambika Soni, A.K Antony, Jairam Ramesh K.C Venugopal and Randeep Surjewala were present along with Sonia Gandhi to discuss strategies and Congress preparations to take on the BJP, said sources.

This is the third meeting since Saturday where the Congress officially met the poll strategist who suggested a roadmap to contest 2024 elections and Assembly Polls as the party has to face about six elections in the run-up to the general elections. On Saturday, Kishor

presented a detailed roadmap for the 2024 elections before interim Congress President Sonia Gandhi and the party's top leaders.

"Prashant Kishor has given a detailed presentation for the 2024 elections and the Congress President has deputed a small group to look into it and report to her within a week. A final decision will be taken after that," Congress General Secretary (Organisation), K.C. Venugopal, said.

According to sources, Kishor said during Saturday's meeting that the Congress must target 370 to 400 seats and work on alliances wherever the party is weak. The sources also said that Kishor is likely to formally join the Congress

Our MLAs cannot attend pujas, functions organised by BJP: Goa Cong prez



Panaji | Agencies

Congress legislators attending pujas or functions organised by the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) will not be entertained in the future, Goa Congress president Amit Patkar said on Tuesday.

Patkar issued the diktat, weeks after his party's first-time MLA Rajesh Phaldesai attended a puja at the state BJP headquarters on the occasion of the political outfit's founding day earlier this month. Phaldesai, Patkar said, had been censured for his actions.

"We have spoken to him and we have told him that next time, not to repeat such mistakes," Patkar told a press conference in Panaji on Tuesday.

Phaldesai's presence at the BJP do had caused a stir, considering the exodus of Congress legislators to the BJP from 2017-2022. Between 2017-2019 In the first two years alone 13 out of the party's 17 MLAs had quit the party to join the BJP.

Patkar claimed that Phaldesai visited the ruling party's office out of a sense of naivete.

"We have spoken to him and you also have to understand. 8 of them are newly elected MLAs and they did not know. He only went for a puja, which is why he went," Patkar said.

Gurugram issues advisory for schools amid spike in Covid cases

Gurugram | Agencies

The health department of Gurugram on Tuesday issued an advisory for schools in view of the recent spike in the number of Covid-19 cases in the district. The advisory urges adherence to physical distancing, wearing of masks and thermal scanning.

"We are again witnessing a surge in Covid cases in April. Daily we are reporting nearly 200 cases. On Monday, the district had reported 198 cases. The positivity rate is also up from 1.62 per cent in March to 5.97% on Monday. Nearly 15 per cent cases are being reported in children on a daily basis. So surveillance in schools is of utmost importance to us," the advisory said. According to the advisory, wearing masks has again been



made mandatory in Gurugram. The staff should be appropriately stationed to ensure thermal scanning, physical distancing and wearing of masks.

"A close circuit camera should be considered to monitor compliance with all the Covid protocols inside the schools," the advisory said.

"No symptomatic child should be allowed to come to the school. Effective disinfection of classrooms must be ensured on a daily basis. If a child tests positive, ensure that he/she is isolated for seven days at home and the close contacts are tested," it added. Meanwhile, the state health department is conducting more than 3,000 tests per day across the district. The department has also installed 8-10 Covid testing camps in different locations of the district.

TELANGANA WOMAN ALLEGEDLY RAPED BY TRS LEADER'S SON

Hyderabad: A 20-year-old woman was allegedly abducted, drugged and raped repeatedly by two men for three days in Telangana's Suryapet district. The victim alleged that the son of a local public representative in Kodad town and his friend abducted her on Friday when she was going to her relative's place. They allegedly forced her to sit in an auto-rickshaw and took her to a house where they made her consume a soft drink laced with sedatives. When she resisted, they assaulted her and later sexually abused her. The victim told the police in her complaint that she was confined to a room for three days. She escaped from there on Sunday after gaining consciousness. After the victim informed her mother about the incident, the family lodged a complaint with the police. Ghouse is the son of a municipal councillor of Telangana Rashtra Samithi (TRS). Kodad Circle Inspector Narsimha Rao said that based on the complaint, a rape case has been registered against the two accused. The victim has been sent for medical examination. The police have detained both the accused for questioning.



Jahangirpuri Violence: Five rioters booked under stringent NSA

Team Absolute | New Delhi

As many as five persons arrested in connection with Saturday's communal clashes in Delhi's Jahangirpuri area have been slapped with the stringent National Security Act (NSA), official sources said on Tuesday. The sources said the accused who have been booked under the NSA include alleged mastermind Ansar Sheikh, Salim Chikna, Imam Sheikh alias Sonu, Dilshad and Aheed.

According to the FIR lodged at the Jahangirpuri police station, the Hanuman Jayanti procession was passing off peacefully through the area on Saturday, but at around 6 pm, when it reached outside a mosque in C-block, Ansar came with his 4-5 associates and started arguing with the participants of the 'Shobha Yatra'. The argument soon turned violent and both the sides started pelting stones at each other. Imam alias Sonu was arrested by the Special Staff of the north-west district police on Monday.



During interrogation, the accused disclosed that he had fired through his pistol near Kushal Chowk during the clashes. A video of Imam wearing a blue kurta opening fire during the riots went viral on social media.

DELHI GOVT LAUNCHES SONG TO TEACH CHILDREN PURPOSE OF EDUCATION

New Delhi: The Delhi government on Tuesday released an educational song intended to teach children studying in schools about communal harmony, patriotism, and women empowerment and the purpose of education. Delhi Deputy Chief Minister and Education Minister, Manish Sisodia said that the song aims to answer critical questions about the purpose of education in nation-building.

Delhi's education department is the first department not only in the country but world to have an education song, he said.

The song is not just a song, but rather a dream about Delhi. The song talks about why and what the education system of Delhi wants to teach students. Sharing the video song on Twitter, Sisodia said: "A person gives important 20 years of his life to education. But what do we want by giving 20 years of long education? What is our intention? What do the child, parents, society and nation want from education? Answering these questions, Delhi Education Geet is being released today."

HARASSMENT BY ONLINE LOAN APP DRIVES ANOTHER MAN TO SUICIDE IN HYD

Hyderabad | Agencies

Harassment by operators of an online loan app drove a youth to suicide in Hyderabad.

Unable to bear the harassment by the app operators, Rajkumar hanged himself at his house in Jiyaguda under the limits of Kulsumpura police station on Monday, the police said on Tuesday.

The family of Rajkumar, a private employee, told the police that he had taken Rs 12,000 through an online loan app and repaid Rs 4,000 through EMIs.

While taking the loan, the youth had given contact numbers of friends as reference. Since he failed to repay the remaining amount, the app organisers sent messages to his friends.

Rajkumar, who felt humiliated, hanged himself from a ceiling fan when no one was at home. On a complaint lodged by her mother, the police have registered a case and taken up the investigation.

The latest incident has come to light even as the police in Greater Hyderabad intensified crackdown on online loan apps in recent times after fresh cases of harassment were



reported. Last year, six persons had committed suicide in Telangana due to harassment by agents hired by instant loan apps.

As many as 50 cases of harassment were reported from Hyderabad, Cyberabad and Rachakonda police commissionerates, which cover Hyderabad and its surroundings. Some of the apps were found linked to Chinese nationals.

In many cases, the agents demanded more money even after the clients had cleared the dues. According to the police, messages sent to references given by clients while taking loans and threats led to the suicides.

Gifting ancestral property out of love doesn't come within scope of pious purpose: SC

Team Absolute | New Delhi

The Supreme Court observed on Tuesday that a Hindu father or any other managing member of a Hindu undivided family (HUF) has the power to make a gift of ancestral property only for a 'pious purpose' and what is understood by the term 'pious purpose' is a gift for charitable or religious purpose.

A bench comprising Justices S. Abdul Nazeer and Krishna Murari said: "It is well settled that a Hindu father or any other managing member of a HUF has the power to make a gift of ancestral property only for a 'pious purpose' and what is understood by the term 'pious purpose' is a gift for charitable and/or religious purpose."

The bench added that a deed of gift with regard to the ancestral property executed 'out of love and affection' does not come within the scope of the term 'pious purpose'.

"It is irrelevant if such a gift or settlement



was made by a donor, i.e., the first defendant, in favour of a donee who was raised by the donor without any relationship, i.e., the second defendant. The gift deed in the instant case is

not for any charitable or religious purpose," the bench noted.

The bench added that it is trite of law that the manager of a joint family property may alienate the property only in three situations, namely, (i) legal necessity (ii) for the benefit of the estate, and (iii) with the consent of all the coparceners of the family.

"In the instant case, the alienation of the joint family property was not with the consent of all the coparceners. It is a settled law that where an alienation is not made with the consent of all the coparceners, it is voidable at the instance of the coparceners whose consent has not been obtained," said the bench.

In the present matter, K.C. Chandrappa Gowda (plaintiff) had filed a suit against his father K.S. Chinne Gowda and a person named K.C. Laxmana for partition and separate possession of his one-third share in the suit schedule property and for a declaration that the gift or settlement executed by Gowda in favour of Laxmana as null and void.



CM DIRECTS OFFICIALS TO MAINTAIN STRICT LAW & ORDER, ENHANCE INTELLIGENCE

CM SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN MET WITH THE TOP POLICE OFFICIALS ON TUESDAY, APRIL 19 TO DELIBERATE ON THE LAW AND ORDER SITUATION IN THE STATE.

Team Absolute | Bhopal

Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan met with the top state police officials on Tuesday, April 19 to deliberate on the law and order situation in the state in light of the communal clashes in the Khargone region.

During the meeting, CM Chouhan asked the ADG Intelligence to carve out a plan to strengthen intelligence inputs in the state to circumvent any further incidents in future. He maintained the government's stern stance on rioters and asked the police authorities to ensure uncompromising action against those who attempt



to stoke communal tensions in the state.

Chouhan had urged state officials to maintain vigilance over the situation and keep an eye out for anti-social elements in order to avoid any unforeseen circumstances. CM Chouhan gave directions to authorities to keep an uncompromising attitude while dealing with rioters.

This comes just hours after Madhya Pradesh CM, affectionately

known as "Mama," assured the people of Madhya Pradesh of maintaining a peaceful social environment and warned goons and mafias to beware of his government. BJP leader also gave a deterrent warning to 'Bahubalis' in the state, saying that the government would raze their properties if found guilty or involved in any criminal activity hampering the law and order situation.

Addressing a public rally in the city,

the BJP leader said, "Many influential goons have illegally encroached lands and properties in Madhya Pradesh. We have decided to run bulldozers over their lands and distribute them among the poor. In Bhopal too, we freed encroached land worth Rs 350 crores. The houses of all Bahubalis will be razed."

Earlier, CM Chouhan had ordered the demolition of illegal buildings of those involved in stone-pelting in Khargone. The administration razed around 16 houses and 29 shops on April 11, in a crackdown on 'corruption and illegal encroachment.'

Providing updates about the situation in Khargone, where communal clashes were witnessed on Ram Navami, Chouhan said, "There is peace in Khargone. At least 10 houses were completely damaged in the riots. Those houses will be rebuilt with government support. In addition, the 70 houses that were partially damaged will also be repaired with the government's help, and the injured will be provided free treatment."

CM Chouhan Vows To Raze Houses Of 'bahubalis' Using Bulldozers

Shivraj Singh Chouhan has vowed to raze the houses of 'Bahubalis' occupying illegal lands in Khargone and promised to distribute them among the poor.

Team Absolute | Bhopal

Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan on Tuesday vowed to raze the houses of 'Bahubalis' occupying illegal lands in Khargone and promised to distribute them among the poor.

Addressing a public rally in the city, Chouhan said, "Many influential goons have illegally encroached lands and properties in Madhya Pradesh. We have decided to run bulldozers over their lands and distribute them

among the poor. In Bhopal too, we freed an encroached land worth Rs 350 crores. The houses of all Bahubalis will be razed."

Earlier, CM Chouhan had ordered the demolition of illegal buildings of those involved in the stone-pelting in Khargone. The administration razed around 16 houses and 29 shops on April 11, in a crackdown on corruption and illegal encroachment.

Providing updates about the situation in Khargone, where communal clashes were witnessed on Ram Navami, Chouhan said, "There is peace in Khargone. At least 10 houses were completely damaged in the riots. Those houses will be rebuilt with government support. In addition, the 70 houses that were partially damaged will also be repaired with the government's help, and the injured will be provided free treatment."

Reprimanding the vio-

lence mongers, he stated that the BJP government will recover the cost from those who have troubled the poor and will hand over it to the victims.

Khargone witnessed unruly violence after the Ram Navami procession was infiltrated with religious clashes. A curfew was instantly imposed in the violence-hit town until Sunday. So far, 44 FIRs have been registered in relation to clashes between members of two communities and 158 individuals are said to be arrested in the matter at hand.

Last month, the CM informed that the state government recovered 21,000 acres of land from anti-social elements and those will be used to provide shelter to the poor citizens.

A number of hoardings were also put up in Bhopal, warning those involved in crimes against women to be ready to face "Mama's bulldozer."

Over Sixty Thousand Patients Benefitted in Health Fairs on 1st Day

Team Absolute | Bhopal

In the series of block development level health fairs started by the Health Department in the Amrit Mahotsav of Azadi, health fairs were organised in 45 development blocks of 48 districts on the first day. In these fairs, 60 thousand 18 persons got registered for their treatment, after which free medicines were distributed following free check-up. On the first day of health fairs, Ayushman cards of 3 thousand 93 eligible people and digital health cards of 4 thousand 91 were also made. Public Health and Family Welfare Minister Prabhuram Choudhary attended the health fair in Sanchi block of Raisen district and took stock of the arrangements.

Commissioner Health SudamKhade informed that all types of tests are also

being done free of cost to the patients coming to the health fairs. On the first day of the health fair, 3 thousand 496 free tests of various types were conducted. The sequence of health fairs will continue till April 30.

Health fairs will be organised in 59 development blocks on Wednesday. Health fair will be held at Nalkheda of Agar Malwa district, Katthiwada of Alirajpur, Jaithari of Anuppur, Chanderi of Ashoknagar, Khairlanji of Balaghat, Pansemal of Barwani, Betul of Betul, Bhind, Gohad of Bhind, Phanda of Bhopal, Burhanpur of Burhanpur, Bakswaha of Chhatrapur, Bichhua and Tamia of Chhindwara, Patharia, Hata of Damoh, Sevndha, Dewas of Dewas, Badnawar of Dhar, Mehdwani of Dindori, Bamori of Guna, Dabra of Gwalior, Khirkiya of Harda,

Hoshangabad of Hoshangabad, Sanwer of Indore, Shahpura of Jabalpur, Petladw of Jhabua, Dhimarkheda of Katni, Harsud of Khandwa, Bhagwanpura of Khargone, Ghogri and Mohgaon of Mandla, Garoth of Mandsaur, Kailaras of Morena, Chanwarpatha of Narsinghpur, Javad of Neemuch, Shahnagar of Panna, Udaipura, Sailana of Ratlam, Mauganj of Rewa, Deori of Sagar, Chitrakoot, MaiharRamnagar and Rampur Baghelan of Satna, Ichhawar of Sehore, Ghansor and Kurai of Seoni, Jaisinagar of Shahdol, Kalapipal of Shajapur, Sheopur of Sheopur, Khaniyadhana of Shivpuri, Majhauri of Sidhi, Chitrangi of Singrauli, Niwari of Niwari, Khachrod and Mahidpur of Ujjain, Manpur of Umaria and Basoda development block of Vidisha.

Communal violence BJP's strategy to divert attention from real issues: Kamal Nath

Former Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Kamal Nath on Monday accused the BJP-led Central and state government of creating communal tensions in an attempt to divert the public attention from issues of inflation and unemployment.



Team Absolute | Bhopal

Former Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Kamal Nath on Monday accused the BJP-led Central and state government of creating communal tensions in an attempt to divert the public attention from issues of inflation and unemployment.

The veteran Congress leader alleged that communal clashes that recently broke out in Madhya Pradesh and other parts of the country, including the national capital is a 'pre-planned strategy'

of the BJP to divert the attention from the real issues.

Interacting with the mediapersons on Madhya Pradesh government's bulldozer drive against illegal encroachment and those involved in crime, Nath, also the head of the state's Congress unit, slammed Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan, saying "he has lost the public support".

"People are no longer with the BJP now. Police-Prashasan-Paisa left with BJP," he said.

The Congress leader also alleged that the state police's

action on communal violence-hit areas in Madhya Pradesh has been biased, saying they (police) took action on the direction of the BJP.

Several houses were demolished in the riot-hit areas, and over 100 people have been arrested so far in connection with the communal violence in the state. Faced with criticism from the opposition parties from across the country, Chief Minister Chouhan has maintained that a demolition drive has been initiated against the illegal encroachment.

CM PLANTED SAPLINGS WITH HELPING HANDS ORGANISATION



Bhopal: Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan planted Harsingar and Karanj saplings along with Praveen Premchandani, Bharti Jain, Komal Premchandani and Kirti Mishra of Helping Hands organisation in Smart City Garden on Tuesday. The organisation is working for environmental protection and cleanliness. Apart from this, works of blood donation camp, distribution of food items, clothes etc. to children are also being done. Even during the Corona period, the organisation did the work of providing food packets, oxygen cylinders, oxygen concentrators, medicines, beds etc in the hospital. Harsingar plant is also called Parijat, which is also a good medicine. Karanj is also used in religious works.

CHOUDHARY DEDICATED NCD BOOTH AT JP HOSPITAL



Bhopal: Public Health and Family Welfare Minister Prabhuram Choudhary has said that with the starting of NCD booth (Non Communicable Disease Centre) in JP Hospital, prompt treatment of hypertension, diabetes etc. will be provided. Patients will benefit from rapid treatment of complications arising in heart, lung and kidney from diabetes and blood pressure. Choudhary was dedicating the NCD booth at JP Hospital on Tuesday. He said that the common citizens should be informed about the NCD booth. He also inspected the booth. MD NHM Priyanka Das, CMHO Dr. Prabhakar Tiwari, Civil Surgeon Dr. Rakesh Kumar Srivastava were present.

Khargone Violence: Madhya Pradesh Government Allots ₹ 1 Crore Aid For Riot-Affected

Since April 14, the local administration has been relaxing the curfew every day for four hours. "The administration had conducted a survey and sent a report to the state government, which has allotted ₹ one crore," Khargone district collector Anugrahasaid.

Team Absolute | Bhopal

The Madhya Pradesh government has allotted ₹ one crore for providing relief to the people affected by the recent communal violence in Madhya Pradesh's Khargone city. The financial assistance will be provided as per a survey conducted by the district administration, an official said today.

Continuing with the practice, the Khargone administration this morning relaxed curfew, which was imposed

in the city on Sunday night following violence during Ram Navami celebrations, for four hours, they said.

Since April 14, the local administration has been relaxing the curfew every day for four hours. "The administration had conducted a survey and sent a report to the state government, which has allotted ₹ one crore," Khargone district collector Anugraha P said.

Based on this survey, financial assistance will be provided immediately to the

affected people and vendors whose houses, shops, vehicles etc. were damaged in the violence. As the curfew was relaxed between 8 am and noon in Khargone city today, people ventured out to buy milk, vegetables, provisions and medicines.

As per the government order, only the stores selling milk, vegetables and medicines are allowed to remain open during the relaxation of curfew. People can purchase essential items from the shops in their neighbourhood.

Mukhya Mantri Teerth Darshan Yojana to start with visit to Kashi Vishwanath

CM CHOUHAN TO BE CHIEF GUEST DURING DEPARTURE OF FIRST TRAIN FROM BHOPAL

CULTURE MINISTER USHA THAKUR WILL ALSO ACCOMPANY THE PILGRIMS IN THE TRAIN TO VARANASI

Team Absolute | Bhopal

The ambitious 'Mukhya Mantri Teerth-Darshan' Yojana, initiated to honour elders of Madhya Pradesh and send them to pilgrimage, is being started again from Tuesday. The first Teerth-Darshan train of this session will leave from Bhopal-Sagar to Kashi (Varanasi) from Rani Kamalapati station in Bhopal. Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan will be the chief guest. Minister of Tourism, Culture, Religious Trust and Endowment Usha Thakur will pre-

side over the programme. Urban Development and Housing Minister and in-charge Bhopal District Shri Bhupendra Singh and Medical Education, Gas Tragedy Relief and Rehabilitation Minister Shri Vishwas Sarang will be special guests.

As many as 974 pilgrims from Bhopal and Sagar divisions are participating in the first pilgrimage. All these pilgrims will also visit Kashi Vishwanath and visit local religious places. In this yatra, arrangements have been made for all the elderly along with special facilities for their food and lodging etc.

Usha Thakur will also accompany the pilgrims in their first yatra. Pilgrims will also be taken to visit the birthplace of Sant Ravidas and Sant Kabir Das along with the darshan of Lord Vishwanath in Varanasi. Along with this, a memento of Lord Vishwanath will be presented while returning from the yatra. The pilgrims will return on April 22. There will also be a bhajan troupe in the train during the pilgrimage.

TEEN COMMITTED SUICIDE AFTER FATHER FAILS TO RECHARGE MOBILE PACK

Jabalpur: A 14-year-boy allegedly committed suicide after his father failed to recharge his mobile phone data pack in Jabalpur district, police said on Tuesday. The boy was found hanging from a ceiling fan in his house on Monday and a preliminary probe has found he took this step as his father, who works as a labourer and was facing financial problems, was unable to recharge the teen's mobile phone data pack for the past couple of days, City Superintendent of Police (CSP) Alok Sharma said. It was found that the teen was addicted to playing games on the mobile phone, the CSP added.

32 Fold Increase in Renewable Energy Generation in 12 Years

Team Absolute | Bhopal

New and Renewable Energy Minister Hardeep Singh Dang informed that Madhya Pradesh has boosted green energy generation 32 times in the last 12 years, Considering public welfare as paramount, New and Renewable Energy Department was set up in the year 2010 for the planned development of renewable energy in the state.

Dang said that compared to the 160 megawatt production capacity in the year 2010, till now we have installed more than 5 thousand 152 megawatt renewable energy in the state. This includes contribution of 2 thousand 444 megawatt wind power, 2 thousand 490 megawatt solar power, 119 megawatt bio-

mass power and 99 megawatt small hydro power project.

Delhi's metro train is gaining momentum with the country's largest 750 megawatt capacity Rewa Ultra Mega Solar Project. This scheme has proved to be a milestone for Madhya Pradesh. With the construction of this scheme, the confidence of national and international investors in Madhya Pradesh has increased.

Dang said that along with the challenges of carbon emissions, climate change, global warming from conventional energy production, there is also a threat of exhaustion of coal reserves. Sun and wind energy are such reserves, which no matter how much they are exploited, will never run out and the energy obtained from them is clean.

WHEAT OF MP EXPORTED TO MANY COUNTRIES: SINGH

Egypt Has Given Approval to Import of Wheat from India
Demand for Wheat from MP Increased In Many Countries

Team Absolute | Bhopal

Food and Civil Supplies and Consumer Protection Minister Bisahul Singh informed that the government procurement organisation of Egypt has approved the import of wheat from India. Singh was reviewing the status of export of wheat from Madhya Pradesh till April in the year 2021-22 and 2022-23. He said that after bumper production of quality wheat in the state, wheat was exported to many countries, which also earned foreign revenue.

Singh informed that in the year 2021-22 and 2022-23 till April 15, 2 lakh 4 thousand 771 metric tonnes of wheat was exported abroad. Wheat was exported from Indore,

Jabalpur, Ujjain, Harda, Chhindwara and Datia to Bangladesh, Indonesia, Sri Lanka, UAE, Vietnam. While there is adequate potential for export of wheat from Bhopal, Guna, Tikamgarh, Morena, Gwalior and other districts to Egypt, Philippines, Zimbabwe and Tanzania. He informed that foreign revenue of about Rs. 460 crore 08 lakh has also been received from the export of wheat. During this period, 97 thousand 887 metric tonnes of maximum wheat was exported from Indore and 3 thousand 370 metric tonnes from other districts.

He said that this wheat was exported through Kandla, Mundra, Nhava Sheva, Visakhapatnam, Bangladesh border ports. Singh informed that 87 wheat rakes were sent from Madhya Pradesh to different 8 places of the country in the last one month. Of these, 17 rakes were sent to Gandhi Dham, 16 to Kandla, 08 to Mundra, 10 to Khari Rohar, 09 to Dhrub, 08 to Shirwa, 09 to Visakhapatnam and 10 to Kakinada, leading to export of 2 lakh 43 thousand 600 metric

tonnes of wheat. Apart from this, 59 lakh 24 thousand 800 metric tonnes of wheat is to be sent from 2,116 rakes.

It is noteworthy that after the decision taken by the Council of Ministers, an online portal has been started for the registration of exporters. The export dashboard will also start in the next three days. Exporters can register their details on the export helpline number 18002333474. Apart from this, cost sheets have also been sent to the organisers of South Africa, Mozambique and Zimbabwe. Singh said that in Rabi procurement, registration was done for 27 lakh 24 thousand 999 metric tonnes of Rabi crops, in which registrations of wheat 19 lakh 81 thousand 506, gram 4 lakh 57 thousand 680, masoor one lakh 14 thousand 876 and one lakh 70 thousand 937 metric tonnes of mustard crop are included. This registration was done at 5017 procurement centres. The Food Minister informed that one lakh 85 thousand 366 farmers of the state have registered for the sale of their crops.



EDITOR'S SPECS

Congress against imposition of Hindi

The Congress is gearing up to oppose any move to implement Hindi in the non-speaking states after a controversy erupted since Union Home Minister Amit Shah said that Hindi should be accepted as an alternative language to English. The Congress said that the BJP is testing the waters by creating an issue and promoting division in the country but the party will oppose any such move when the government enforces it. Congress Leader of Opposition in the Karnataka Legislative Council B K Hariprasad said: "It's not an easy thing as the non-Hindi speaking states will not accept it and we will oppose any such move. However I speak Hindi, but people will not accept this, the government should see the history, see what had happened before on the issue." The BJP too knows the implications and its Tamil Nadu unit has said that there is no move to implement any language forcefully. Congress leader Jairam Ramesh has alleged that this is language imperialism. Amit Shah had emphasised that there is a need to give elementary knowledge of Hindi to students up to Class nine and to pay more attention to Hindi teaching exams. Congress ally DMK too has opposed it vehemently. 'Murasoli', the mouthpiece of the party, said that party patriarch and former Chief Minister, the late M. arunanidhi, had, as a 14-year-old student, marched across the streets of Tirupattur against the then Central government's move to impose Hindi on the people of the state. arunanidhi's son and present Chief Minister, M.K. Stalin has strongly come out against the Union Home Minister's statement, saying that it would destroy national integration.

Ahead of Prime Minister's J&K visit, rise in targeted terror and glimmers of hope

Deepika Bhan

Ahead of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Jammu and Kashmir on April 24, the first after the abrogation of Article 370 in 2019, a contrasting picture has emerged in the union territory.

On one hand is the record number of tourists visiting Kashmir, increasing investment and development activity; on the other is the terror push from Pakistan that seeks to renew fear among the people and derail the normalisation process.

The Prime Minister's visit to the UT is being seen as a message to showcase grassroots democracy in Jammu and Kashmir. Modi will address the rural local bodies across the country on April 24, which is being observed as the Panchayati Raj Diwas, from Palli village in district Samba of the Jammu region. The village will also be showcased as a carbon-free village.

The fact that Modi is visiting a village on his first visit to the UT after the massive change in the status of J&K indicates the Centre's resolve to strengthen the pillar of democracy and to decentralise power.

It was to strengthen grassroots democracy that the Centre amended the J&K Panchayati Raj Act, 1989 for the first time in October 2020 and paved the way for the creation of District Development Councils (DDCs).

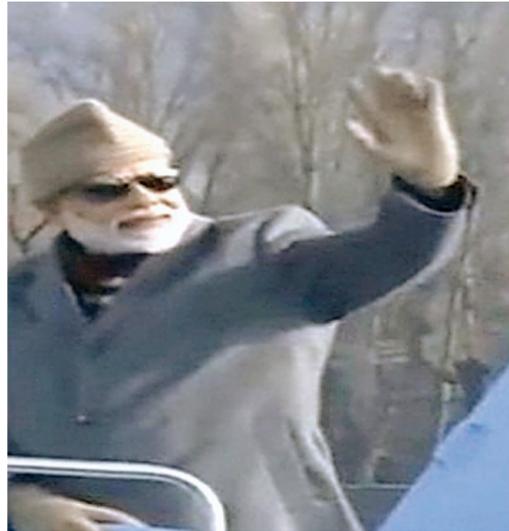
The DDC is a directly-elected local government body with jurisdiction over the entire district, excluding areas designated as a municipality or municipal corporation. The first-ever elections to DDCs were held successfully in 2020.

It was for the first time in the UT that the DDCs, along with the Halqa Panchayats and Block Development Councils (BDCs), set up a three-tier Panchayati Raj system, which was never before attempted by the previous governments.

It is this success that is being sought to be showcased when Modi visits Palli.

The Prime Minister's visit also comes at a time when Kashmir is seeing record tourist arrivals despite terror strikes.

Lt. Governor Manoj Sinha has said: "I think this is the golden period for Jammu and



Kashmir in which all the records of the last 15-20 years have been broken. More than 80 lakh tourists arrived here in the last few months. This has brought prosperity and is helping people establish peace." Almost all of the valley hotels are running at full capacity.

The heavy rush of tourists to the valley has made the Srinagar airport one of the busiest in the country. On April 11, the airport handled a record 102 inbound and outbound flights with a total number of 15,199 passengers. This year, the Amarnath yatra has been given the green signal after remaining suspended during 2020 and 2021 because of the onslaught of Covid-19. Religious tourism is expected to bring a windfall to the UT economy, especially to the valley.

In a boost to the economy, which has been badly hit by terrorism, the Centre is aggressively pushing for investments in the UT. Recently, a 34-member delegation of businessmen from the UAE, other Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries and Hong Kong was on a four-day visit to Jammu and Kashmir to explore investment opportu-

nities. In his address, the Prime Minister is expected to talk about tourism and the investments made, and those on the anvil.

Even as the Prime Minister prepares to visit the UT, terror strikes continue in the valley. Almost every day there are gunfights between the security forces and terrorists, targeted killings of Hindus, non-locals, sarpanches and security personnel.

Recently, the Director General of Police, Dilbag Singh, said the number of militants was fast decreasing, but militancy was alive in Kashmir. Till the first week of March, 20 anti-terror operations were conducted in Kashmir in which 35 terrorists, including three top commanders and nine Pakistani terrorists, were eliminated. The security forces have also managed to arrest 16 active terrorists so far this year.

Despite efforts to neutralise terrorists, targeted killings are being carried out by militant outfits. Four sarpanches have been killed since the beginning of this

year, the latest being on April 14. By attacking sarpanches, political workers, non-local resident and Kashmiri Pandits, the terror outfits are trying to recreate the fear that used to prevail in the 1990s. Resorting to targeted killings, in fact, is being seen as a change of strategy by the terror handlers sitting in Pakistan.

Infiltration from across the Line of Control has been curbed and most of Pakistan's supporters in Kashmir are behind bars, so the terrorists are choosing soft targets.

Several Kashmiri Hindu bodies believe that the situation in the valley is returning to what it was in the 1990s, when threat letters used to be issued against them and targeted killings were the routine. In this backdrop, the Prime Minister's words will be keenly heard, especially because Pakistan's new dispensation has parroted its age-old sinister line on Kashmir.

international

RUSSIA LAUNCHES ASSAULT TO SEIZE DONBAS REGION

Kyiv | Agencies
Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelensky has said Russia has launched an assault to seize the eastern Donbas region, BBC reported.

Moscow bombarded cities with rocket and artillery fire on Monday and in a video address Zelensky said that the battle "for the Donbas has begun".

Ukraine's top security official, Oleksiy Danilov, said that Russia tried to break through Ukrainian front lines in the region. The offensive has been long-expected after Russia failed to seize Kyiv.

Russia initially appeared to want to capture major Ukrainian cities and topple the government. But after facing stiff resistance, Russian defence officials said that its main objectives in the "first stage of the operation" had been "generally accomplished" and its forces were



moved from areas around the capital, BBC reported. They announced plans to redirect the focus of the invasion towards the "liberation" of the Russian speaking Donbas region. Russia's President Vladimir Putin has portrayed the invasion as an attempt to demilitarise and "denazify" Ukraine, something Ukraine and its allies dismiss as a ruse for an unprovoked attack.

Throughout Monday, Russia unleashed a barrage of rocket and artillery fire on a number of eastern areas, with eight civilians killed in the city of Kremenna in Luhansk and in the Donetsk area. Seven people were killed and eleven more were injured in four Russian strikes in western Lviv, a city that has largely been spared the attacks seen elsewhere in Ukraine.

6 KILLED IN MULTIPLE BLASTS AT SCHOOL IN SHIA NEIGHBOURHOOD OF KABUL

Kabul: At least six people were killed and 11 wounded in three blasts that rocked a boys' school in a Shi'ite Hazara neighbourhood of Kabul on Tuesday, police in the Afghan capital said, RFE/RL reported.



Khaled Zadrán, a spokesman for the Kabul Police Command, told RFE/RL that the explosions occurred at the Abdul Rahim Shahid High School, located in the capital's western neighbourhood of Dasht-e-Barchi.

There were children among the casualties, although it was not immediately clear how many. A security official told the German news agency DPA that the blasts were caused by hand grenades. No group has claimed responsibility for the blasts.

The school is located in the capital's western neighbourhood of Dasht-e-Barchi, an area mainly inhabited by the Hazara community and previously targeted by the militant Islamic State group, RFE/RL reported.

Kabul police spokesman Khalid Zadrán said on Twitter that the blasts "caused casualties among our Shi'ite brothers." A Taliban Interior Ministry spokesman said a team of investigators had begun work at the scene. The explosions occurred as students were coming out of their morning classes, a witness said.

In May 2021, bombings near a school in the same area of the Afghan capital killed at least 85 civilians, mainly schoolgirls, and injured dozens of others.

Argentina condemns new British military exercise in South Atlantic

Buenos Aires | Agencies

Argentina has condemned Britain's military exercises in the area of the Malvinas Islands, a territory in the South Atlantic that the South American country claims as its own but is now controlled by Britain.

Britain is once again carrying out military maneuvers in the area of the Malvinas Islands from April 18-29, involving "British forces stationed in the Malvinas Islands from the Duke of Lancaster's Regiment and the illegitimate defense forces of the islands, along with Royal Navy and Royal Air Force troops, as part of the illegal UK occupation of the Malvinas Islands," the Argentine Foreign Ministry said in a statement on Monday, Xinhua news agency reported.

Argentina rejects "in the strongest terms these military maneuvers in the illegiti-



mately occupied Argentine territory, which constitute an unjustified show of force," the statement said.

The exercises also deviates "from the calls of the numerous resolutions of the UN and other international organisations, which urge both Argentina and the UK to resume negotiations to find a peaceful and lasting solution to the sovereignty dispute in the question of the Malvinas Islands," the statement added.

The Argentine government

reaffirmed its "sovereignty over the Malvinas Islands," and reiterated its willingness to resume negotiations to resolve the dispute. A spokesman for the UK Foreign Office was quoted as saying by BBC that the exercises were routine, taking place at least twice a year, and had been carried out for many years. Argentina and Britain battled over the Malvinas Islands, also known to the Britons as the Falklands, from April 2 to June 14, 1982.

West's 'economic blitzkrieg' against Russia fails: Putin

Moscow: Western countries' "economic blitzkrieg" strategy against Russia has failed, President Vladimir Putin has said at a government meeting on economic issues. The main negative factor for the Russian economy in recent years has been Western sanctions, which were aimed at "quickly undermining the financial and economic situation in our country, provoking panic in the markets, destroying the banking system, and causing a large-scale shortage of goods in stores," Putin said on Monday, Xinhua news agency reported. Russia has withstood this "unprecedented pressure" as the ruble's value has returned to the level of the first half of February and the surplus in the current account of the balance of payments reached a record high of more than \$58 billion in the first quarter of this year, he noted. Meanwhile, Putin admitted that over the past month and a half, consumer prices in Russia have increased by 9.4 per cent and inflation surged to 17.5 per cent in annual terms as of April 8. However, the sanctions in turn have hurt the US and European countries by driving up inflation and unemployment, weakening economic dynamics, reducing living standards, and devaluating savings, Putin added.

Moroccan, Jordanian kings discuss Israel's raids on Al-Aqsa Mosque

Rabat | Agencies

Morocco and Jordan have said that the Israeli police's raids on the Al-Aqsa mosque compound in Jerusalem are "likely to foment feelings of rancour, hatred and extremism."

The raids would destroy the chance of reviving the peace process in the region, Morocco's royal cabinet said in a statement on Monday, quoting a phone conversation between Moroccan King



Mohammed VI and Jordanian King Abdullah II, Xinhua news agency reported. During the Muslim



holy month of Ramadan, Israeli police raided the Al-Aqsa Mosque compound in East Jerusalem. At least

200 Palestinians were injured during clashes with the Israeli police. Meanwhile, more than 10 Israelis were killed in a string

of shooting, stabbing, and car-ramming attacks in the last few weeks, some of which were carried out by Arab citizens of Israel.

COVID CASES RISE IN US AMID NEW VIRUS STRAIN

Los Angeles:

Covid-19 cases are rising in more than half of all US states due to the new coronavirus sub-variant, said a report of the US business magazine Forbes. White House Covid advisor Ashish Jha said on Sunday the vaccines are still "holding up" against the virus and the new strain does not cause more severe infection, Xinhua news agency reported citing the Forbes report. Omicron subvariant BA.2 is more transmissible than the original strain, causing infections to tick up, Jha said. The country is averaging about 35,000 new infections daily, up 42 per cent from two weeks prior, according to data of the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.





OMCS MIGHT REQUIRE TO FURTHER RAISE FUEL PRICES: FITCH RATINGS

Further hikes in retail fuel prices may be required for state-run oil marketing companies' marketing margins to reach pre-November levels, Fitch Ratings said on Tuesday.

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Further hikes in retail fuel prices may be required for state-run oil marketing companies' marketing margins to reach pre-November levels, Fitch Ratings said on Tuesday.

Notably, the November 2021-March 2022 was one of the longest retail price freezes in recent years, despite reference crude oil prices increasing by nearly \$27 per barrel (or Rs 13 per litre) during the period.

The freeze may lead to marketing losses for the oil marketing companies (OMCs) in the fourth quarter of the financial year ending March 2022 (FY22).

"Retail fuel prices have subsequently been raised by only around Rs 11, implying that further price hikes may be required for marketing



margins to reach pre-November levels, and early FY23 marketing margins may also be under pressure," the ratings agency said. According to Fitch, OMCs benefitted from strong marketing margins during times of low oil prices (March-June 2020), and endured margin pressure during high oil prices (November 2021-March 2022) as "they tried to keep fuel prices affordable". Besides, Fitch cited that robust core refining margins as well as windfall inventory gains should allow OMCs to mitigate potential marketing losses in the near term. "We believe that robust core refining margins and windfall inventory gains should mit-

igate potential marketing losses in the near term, and the OMCs may see opportunities to recoup some of the losses in periods of falling oil prices, if and when that happens." However, if crude oil prices are sustained beyond Fitch's base-case assumptions, then record-high retail fuel prices may limit the extent to which the changes are passed on, pressuring OMCs' credit metrics. Furthermore, Fitch said that freedom on retail fuel pricing continues to remain a key area requiring clarity before the government's proposed divestment of Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited's can be concluded. "India has traditionally used

its control of the OMCs to carry out its socio-political agenda, affecting the competitiveness of private fuel retailers, which at a 10 per cent market share have limited pricing power and align their retail prices with the OMCs." "We expect private fuel retailers to increase exports at better margins during times when domestic margins are under pressure. India's export of high-speed diesel rose by 12 per cent YoY over January-February 2022." As per the rating agency, gasoline and gasoil retail prices in India, and consequently the marketing margins of the OMCs should remain aligned with the movement in crude oil prices over the long term, notwithstanding sporadic periods of constant retail prices amidst heightened volatility in oil prices. "The correlation of retail fuel prices with the 15-day rolling average of crude oil prices (reference prices) has remained high at 93 per cent since the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic in January 2020." The correlation excludes the impact on retail prices from changes in excise duties, and includes periods when the Indian OMCs did not pass on the movement in oil prices immediately to consumers.

Maha Minister says no chance of communal riots post-Ramzan

Maharashtra Home Minister Dilip Walse-Patil on Tuesday denied that there is any possibility of communal clashes erupting in the state after the ongoing Muslim fasting month of Ramzan.

Team Absolute | Nagpur

Maharashtra Home Minister Dilip Walse-Patil on Tuesday denied that there is any possibility of communal clashes erupting in the state after the ongoing Muslim fasting month of Ramzan. He was responding to a poser whether there could be communal disturbances in the wake of the May 3 ultimatum of Maharashtra Navnirman Sena President Raj Thackeray to remove loudspeakers from all mosques failing which his party activists would blow out 'Hanuman Chalisa'. "Some parties are attempting to create a communal divide in the state... There is no information on such (riots) in the state. However, the police are monitoring the situation closely," Walse-Patil told mediapersons.



Without taking names, he reiterated that the Maha Vikas Aghadi government will not tolerate any bids to foment communal strife and clamp down on such groups with appropriate action. The home minister pointed out that clashes have been reported from some parts of the country, but the Maharashtra government is

fully geared to tackle any such eventuality and urged all not to escalate the matter further. Walse-Patil added that these efforts are directed to divert the peoples' attention from burning problems of inflation, unemployment, border situation and those behind it shall be exposed by the police.

Maharashtra to refurbish centuries-old 8 major temples

The death toll in the Arabian Sea tragedy caused by Cyclone Tauktae earlier this week has shot up to 66, while around 10 persons are still reported missing. A total of 188 persons have been rescued safely so far.

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Reiterating his commitment to Hindutva, Maharashtra Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray on Monday gave green signal to refurbish eight old and functional temples -- a majority of them dating back to several centuries, dotting the state. These are -- Dhutpapeshwar Temple in Ratnagiri, Kopeswar Temple of Kolhapur, Ekviradevi Temple in Pune, Gondeshwar Temple of Nashik, Khandoba Temple in Aurangabad, PurushottamBhagwan Temple of Beed, Anandeshwar Temple in Amravati and Markanda Mahadev Temple of Gadchiroli.

While the Dhutpapeshwar Temple is around 1,000 years old, Kopeswar Temple is 800 years, Ekvira Devi Temple - which is also the family deity of the Thackerays who regularly go to pray there - was built during the



time of the Pandavas, and the Gondeshwar Temple is 900 years aged.

Khandoba Temple revered equally by Muslims is around 9 centuries old, PurushottamBhagwan Temple is some 15 centuries old and the only one of its kind in the state, the Anandeshwar Temple is around 8 centuries old and the Markanda Mahadev Temple dates back to many centuries.

Presiding over a meeting of the Cultural Affairs Department, the Chief Minister directed that the administrative approval for giving a face-lift to these 8 temples would be accorded this week to enable the work start without hindrance.

While the original form and structure of each ancient temple shall be retained, new infrastructure, aesthetics and amenities shall be created to attract more pilgrims and tourists from all over the state and other parts of India, said officials.

PUBLIC CLOUD SPENDING IN INDIA TO TOUCH \$7.5 BN THIS YEAR

MAHARASHTRA CONGRESS MINISTERS TO MEET TO DISCUSS POLITICAL SITUATION AMID LOUDSPEAKER ROW

Team Absolute | Mumbai

In the latest scoop from Maharashtra, it is learnt that the state Minister of Revenue BalasahebThorat and PWD Minister Maharashtra Ashok Chavan have called a meeting of Congress ministers in the state on April 19. According to sources, Congress Ministers will be meeting in Sahyadri at 8 pm in order to discuss the prevailing political situation in the state. The sources informed Republic that the ongoing loudspeaker row and Maharashtra Navnirman Sena (MNS) chief Raj Thackeray's ultimatum will also be a point of discussion in the meeting. This comes in the backdrop of Raj



Thackeray's ultimatum for a loudspeaker ban across mosques in the state. Speaking at a public rally in Mumbai's Shivaji Park, Raj Thackeray had warned that speakers outside mosques would play Hanuman Chalisa at a higher volume, in case a call on the issue was not taken by the state. "Loudspeakers in mosques should

be shut till May 3, otherwise, we will play Hanuman Chalisa in speakers. This is a social issue, not a religious one. I want to tell the state government, we will not go back on this subject, do whatever you want to do," he added. eanwhile, the ruling Shiv Sena party's MP Sanjay Raut, on Saturday, had called the MNS chief a "new Hindu

Owaisi" and his party a "new Hindutva MIM". Additionally, in the recent turn of events, MNS, on Tuesday, has revealed that it now plans to perform Maha Aarti across the state. According to sources, the Maha Aarti will be performed by MNS workers at their local temples on May 3 on the occasion of the Akshaya Tritiya festival. The decision was taken at a party meeting that was chaired by MNS supremo Raj Thackeray. Amid the ongoing row on the use of loudspeakers at religious places, State Home Minister DilipWalse Patil said that the Director-General of police and Mumbai Police Commissioner would formulate guidelines for the use of loudspeakers in public places. "The guidelines will be issued in the next 1-2 days. Strict action will be taken against those who try to disturb the peace in the state", DilipWalse Patil told reporters on Monday. In a 2016 ruling, the Bombay High Court had directed the removal of illegal loudspeakers installed at religious places, including mosques, in Maharashtra. The court had also remarked that religious places should follow noise pollution rules.

Maharashtra Congress Ministers To Meet To Discuss Political Situation Amid Loudspeaker Row

Team Absolute | Mumbai

In the latest scoop from Maharashtra, it is learnt that the state Minister of Revenue BalasahebThorat and PWD Minister Maharashtra Ashok Chavan have called a meeting of Congress ministers in the state on April 19. According to sources, Congress Ministers will be meeting in Sahyadri at 8 pm in order to discuss the prevailing political situation in the state. The sources informed Republic that the ongoing loudspeaker row and

Maharashtra Navnirman Sena (MNS) chief Raj Thackeray's ultimatum will also be a point of discussion in the meeting. This comes in the backdrop of Raj Thackeray's ultimatum for a loudspeaker ban across mosques in the state. Speaking at a public rally in Mumbai's Shivaji Park, Raj Thackeray had warned that speakers outside mosques would play Hanuman Chalisa at a higher volume, in case a call on the issue was not taken by the state. "Loudspeakers in mosques should be shut till May 3, otherwise, we will play Hanuman Chalisa in

speakers. This is a social issue, not a religious one. I want to tell the state government, we will not go back on this subject, do whatever you want to do," he added. Maha Aarti will be performed by MNS workers at their local temples on May 3 on the occasion of the Akshaya Tritiya festival. The decision was taken at a party meeting that was chaired by MNS supremo Raj Thackeray. Amid the ongoing row on the use of loudspeakers at religious places, State Home Minister ilipWalse Patil said that the Director-General of police

and Mumbai Police Commissioner would formulate guidelines for the use of loudspeakers in public places. "The guidelines will be issued in the next 1-2 days. Strict action will be taken against those who try to disturb the peace in the state", DilipWalse Patil told reporters on Monday. In a 2016 ruling, the ombay High Court had directed the removal of illegal loudspeakers installed at religious places, including mosques, in Maharashtra. The court had also remarked that religious places should follow noise pollution rules.

Thackeray uncle-nephew duo plans Ayodhya pilgrimage

Team Absolute | Mumbai

The Tourism Minister in the Maha Vikas Aghadi government in Maharashtra, Aditya Thackeray of the Shiv Sena, and his uncle and Maharashtra Navnirman Sena chief, Raj Thackeray, plan to visit Ayodhya and pray at the upcoming Ram temple there over the next few weeks. While the dates and details of Aditya's trip shall be finalised by the weekend, Raj plans to visit Ayodhya on June 5 along with over 10,000 MNS activists in a dozen special trains being booked to transport them from different parts of

Maharashtra. Sena MP and chief spokesperson Sanjay Raut said that his party is very familiar with Ayodhya since long and doesn't need to make too many preparations, and the party's Nashik unit will make the necessary arrangements. He said 30 years ago, many Shiv Sainiks had sacrificed their lives for Lord Ram, in a reference to the razing of the disputed Ayodhya structure in December 1992, and the party's Hindutva is not taken on 'rent'. Earlier, Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray had celebrated his 100 days in power by praying at the site of the Ram temple in Ayodhya in April 2020,

MNS To Perform Maha Aarti Across Maharashtra On May 3; Will Use Loudspeakers Amid Row

Team Absolute | Mumbai

The Maharashtra Navnirman Sena (MNS) on Tuesday stepped up its ante against the use of loudspeakers and has revealed that it now plans to perform Maha Aarti across the state. According to sources, the Maha Aarti will be performed by MNS workers at their local temples on May 3 on the occasion of the Akshaya Tritiya festival. The decision was taken at a party meeting that was chaired by MNS supremo Raj Thackeray. Moreover, during the Maha Aartis that will be performed across Maharashtra, the MNS is set to use loudspeakers. This comes amid Raj Thackeray's ultimatum to the state government regarding the removal of loudspeakers being used atop mosques. It is pertinent to note that the demand has stirred a massive row and a political tussle in Maharashtra. Earlier on Sunday, MNS General Secretary Shalini Thackeray categorically stated that her party's stand on the demand for a ban on loudspeakers atop

mosques is clear. She added that the MNS demands that the court's ruling should be followed. In a 2016 ruling, the Bombay High Court had directed the removal of illegal loudspeakers installed at religious places, including mosques, in Maharashtra. The court had also remarked that religious places should follow noise pollution rules. "Our stand has been very clear we are saying the court ruling should be followed. We have been saying it for past so many years but since it has not been implemented we had to take a stand," said Shalini Thackeray "I don't understand statements which are coming from the ruling government of Maharashtra because whichever government is ruling has not implemented the court's ruling. Raj Thackeray has taken a stand that loudspeakers have to come out because it is a nuisance to the citizens of Maharashtra. I think it is the repercussions of that, people who are really affected with this particular nuisance from the whole of India are coming in support of Raj Thackeray," she added

Mumbai square named after Ustad Ghulam Mustafa Khan, guru of Rahman, Hariharan, Shaan

Team Absolute | Mumbai

A little over a year after his death, Mumbai will get a square named after the legendary Hindustani classical singer, Ustad Ghulam Mustafa Khan - the 'guru' of stalwarts like A.R. Rahman, Hariharan, Shaan, Salim Merchant, and others.

Tourism Minister Aditya Thackeray will unveil a plaque commemorating the "Padma Vibhushan Ghulam Mustafa Khan Chowk" on Carter Road, Bandra, near the Additional Police Commissioner's office, on Wednesday. Prominent singers from Bollywood, members of the Ustad's family, and his disciples shall witness the momentous occasion to honour the torch-bearer of the formidable 'Sahaswan Rampur Gwalior Gharana' school of music, said a close associate. Born in UP's Badaun, Ustad Ghulam Mustafa Khan was the eldest son in a family of musicians, four brothers and three sisters and learnt basics in Hindustani classical music from his father, UstadWaris Hussain Khan, at a very tender age. Ustad Ghulam



Mustafa Khan sang compositions derived from Natyashastra and BrihatDeshi, written by Matang Rishi and sharing Dev's Sangeet Ratnakar based on JatiGayan, which were rendered for the first time in 700 years. He brought to life this ancient Indian Classical Music from the hoary era with 7 of his records of 30 minutes each preserved at the Sangeet NatakAkademy, New Delhi. "A square for my Ustad-ji is the best thing to happen. He was one of the greatest masters of Indian Classical Music and Khayali Gayaki/Gharana. The amount of work he has done and the brilliant compositions he has ren-

dered are simply amazing." "He will always remain a loving personification of music, dedication and devotion through his voice and persona. I am thrilled by this square in his name which will inspire many more generations towards pure music," he said. Ace composer Merchant said: "Ustad Ghulam Mustafa Khan is always in our hearts and thoughts and now a square only glorifies that furthermore." The Khan family said this is a moment of glory and something "special" for them and expressed gratitude to the Centre and ICCR which recently launched the "Ustad Ghulam Mustafa Khan Fellowship for Music" for foreign musicians and singers. "We feel truly honoured and are thankful to the Government of Maharashtra, BrihanMumbai Municipal Corporation and Municipal Corporator Asif Zakaria for the square in his name," said the Ustadji's wife, Amina G.M. Khan. Emerging among the finest, over the years, the Ustad mentored many top singers like Lata Mangeshkar, Asha Bhosle, Sonu Nigam, besides his own sons Murtuza

Mustafa Khan, Qadir Mustafa Khan, Rabbani Mustafa Khan, Hasan Mustafa Khan, and grandson Faiz Mustafa Khan, besides Rahman, Hariharan, Shaan and Merchant. He was bestowed with honours and accolades including the Padma Shri (1991), Padma Bhushan (2006) and Padma Vibhushan (2018), and the Sangeet NatakAkademi Award (2003). Ustad Ghulam Mustafa Khan's vast repertoire includes significant contributions to Hindi and regional films for which he composed and sang, starting with Mrinal Sen's "BhuvanShome", and also documentaries. He essayed the role of BaijuBawra in a German documentary "Rainmaker" and performed on Coke Studio when A.R. Rahman wanted to present his Guru with his three generations, consisting of his sons Murtuza, Qadir, Rabbani, Hasan, and grandson Faiz. After leaving his indelible mark in the field of music, Ustad Ghulam Mustafa Khan fell silent at 89, in January 2021 at his Bandra home, and now a square in the neighbourhood will celebrate the musical legend and his legacy.



Julia Roberts rejected rom-coms for 20 years because a good script 'didn't exist'

Los Angeles | Agencies

Los Angeles: Actors Julia Roberts and George Clooney-starring 'Ticket to Paradise' opens in theatres later this year, it will mark Roberts' first time leading a romantic comedy in more than 20 years.

The genre made Roberts a global superstar in the 1990s, from her Oscar-nominated performance in 'Pretty Women' to rom-com classics 'My Best Friend's Wedding' and 'Notting Hill', among others. One would have to go all the way back to 2001's 'America's Sweethearts' for the last traditional rom-com led by Roberts.

As the actor recently told The New York Times, she wasn't purposefully avoiding the genre that made her a superstar. Roberts said her extended hiatus from the rom-com genre was not her choice, but a result of the lack of an adequate script or idea, reports 'Variety'.

"People sometimes misconstrue the amount of time that's gone by that I haven't done a romantic comedy as my not wanting to do one," Roberts said.

"If I had read something that I thought was that 'Notting Hill' level of writing or 'My Best Friend's Wedding' level of madcap fun, I would do it. They didn't exist until this movie that I just did that Ol Parker wrote and directed."

The Ol Parker film is 'Ticket to Paradise', which pairs Roberts opposite longtime friend and collaborator Clooney. The movie almost became yet another one of Roberts' rejected rom-coms because she thought it would only work well opposite Clooney.



Cumberbatch on 'Doctor Strange': It's a transformational experience

Los Angeles | Agencies

Hollywood star Benedict Cumberbatch has talked about his upcoming Marvel Studios' film 'Doctor Strange in the Multiverse of Madness', he says it is such a transformational experience to be in something in the live-action vein of filming and then see the finished results on the big screen.

Cumberbatch, who plays Doctor Strange, reveals: "I think already some of the clips people have seen in the trailer spots are just exquisite."

"You've got travels through many

different universes in a couple of sequences, which I think are going to be truly mind-blowing and will be a cause for a revolving-door audience. I think it's really how they're held together with a lot of real-life environment and set build."

He added: "I love how big everyone's imaginations get and how they somehow manage to ally with me as Strange, thinking about something that's 20 stories high actually being that and bearing down on him and throwing a bus at him. It's magic."

"And, on the day, Strange carving that thing in half is just a big old fan

with a load of people with their hair just going all over the place. And you think, 'How is this going to work?' But you just give yourself into the moment, and to see the end product is just such a transformational experience for an actor."

"It's such a transformational experience to be in something in the live-action vein of filming and then see the finished results on the big screen."

'Doctor Strange in The Multiverse of Madness' will release in theatres in English, Hindi, Tamil, Telugu, Kannada and Malayalam on May 6.

'Thor: Love and Thunder' teaser reveals Natalie Portman as the new Thor

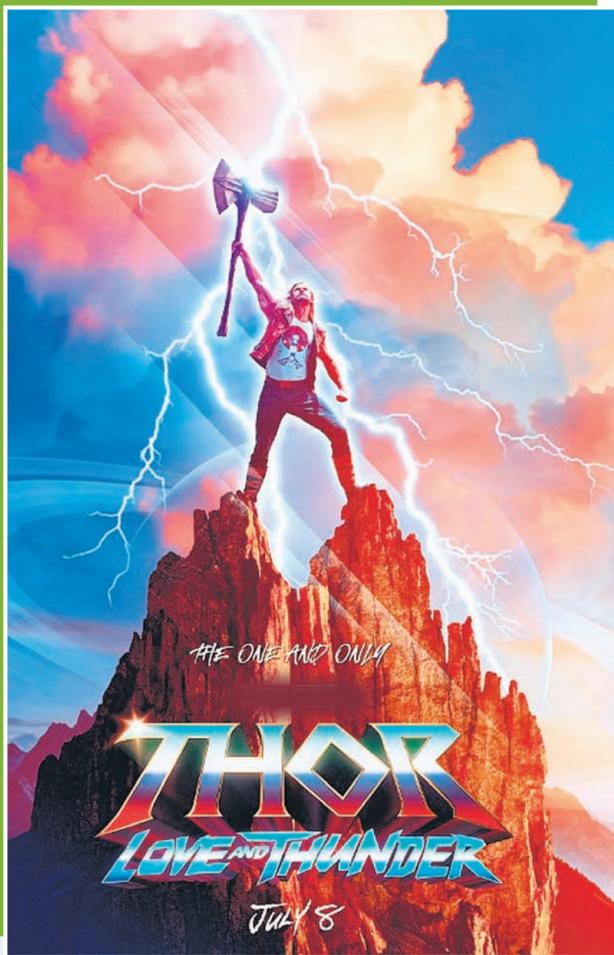
Los Angeles | Agencies

Actress Natalie Portman is back and more powerful than ever in the first teaser for 'Thor: Love and Thunder.'

The fourth film in the 'Thor' series is directed by Taika Waititi, who helmed the well-received 'Thor: Ragnarok'.

The movie follows on the heels of 'Avengers: Endgame', which ended with Thor Odinson (Chris Hemsworth), adrift after the fall of his kingdom Asgard, leaving Earth with the Guardians of the Galaxy, reports 'Variety'.

The teaser begins with him as a member of the group, with Chris Pratt, Pom Klementieff, Dave Bautista, Karen Gillan, Bradley Cooper and Vin Diesel set to reprise their roles.



Previous MCU stars Tessa Thompson and Waititi himself - as the rock gladiator Korg - will also return for the film, but the biggest moment of the teaser comes in the final seconds, when Portman's Jane Foster is revealed as the new Mighty Thor.

Set to Guns 'N' Roses' 'Sweet Child 'O Mine', the trailer begins with Thor on a quest of self-discovery. "These hands were once used for battle, now they're but humble tools for peace," he says as

he puts aside his new hammer Stormbreaker and watches an intergalactic sunset.

"Now I need to figure out exactly who I am."

After a weight-loss training montage and a new outfit, Thor leaves the Guardians of the Galaxy behind to find his own path.

He claims his superhero days are over and sets off with Korg across the galaxy.

Johnny Depp's doctor, nurse recall hunt for his severed fingertip

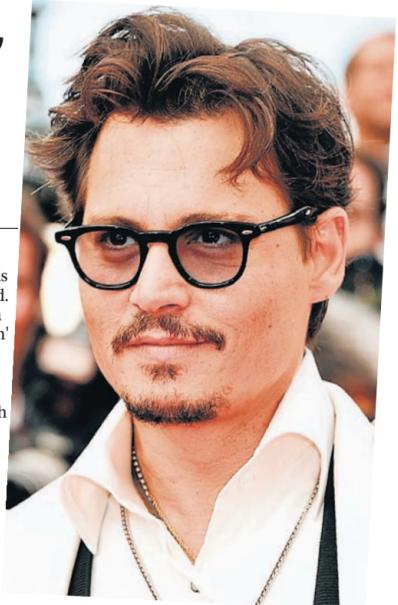
Los Angeles | Agencies

A doctor and a nurse recounted the hunt for Hollywood star Johnny Depp's severed fingertip, as testimony continued in his \$50 million defamation trial against former-wife Amber Heard.

Depp suffered the injury in March 2015, while he was in Australia for the filming of the fifth installment of the 'Pirates of the Caribbean' franchise. Depp has accused Heard of throwing a bottle at him, severing the top of his middle finger, reports 'Variety'.

Heard has said that he likely cut his finger when he smashed a telephone, and her attorneys have pointed to text messages in which Depp admitted to cutting the finger himself.

She has reportedly said that during that fight, Depp beat her, choked her and sexually assaulted her. She has claimed that the assault left cuts on her arms and legs. David Kipper, a concierge doctor, testified that he was called to the residence and cleaned Depp's wound before taking him to the emergency room. He also said that he directed the staff to search the house for the missing fingertip, reports 'Variety'. Testifying via video deposition, Kipper said that Depp's chef found it.



Jason Momoa to star in 'Minecraft' live-action movie



Los Angeles | Agencies

Actor Jason Momoa is all set to enter the video game world of 'Minecraft' for Warner Bros.

The 'Aquaman' star is in talks to join a live-action movie based on the massively popular 'Minecraft' video game, which is the best-selling game of all time with more than 238 million copies sold since its release in 2011, reports 'Variety'.

Jared Hess, known for directing 'Napoleon Dynamite', 'Nacho Libre' and more, will

helm the film. Mary Parent and Roy Lee will produce, and Jill Messick will receive a posthumous credit for working on the film prior to her death in 2018. Jon Berg, Cale Boyter and Jon Spaihts will executive produce. Mojang Studios, the Swedish video game developer behind Minecraft, will produce via Lydia Winters and Vu Bui. 'Minecraft' launched in 2011 and instantly became a worldwide hit. Players can create their own 3D worlds using colorful blocks by mining materials and crafting items.

In 2021, there were nearly 140 million monthly users, and the game has been brought to multiple video game systems, given spinoffs and won many awards over the years. Microsoft acquired Mojang Studios for \$2.5 billion in 2014, which was one of the first major video game developer acquisitions.

A Minecraft movie has been in the works for years, with Shawn Levy, Rob McElhenney and Peter Sollett in talks to direct. At one point, Steve Carell was lined up to star in a movie adaptation.

Los Angeles | Agencies

Romantic drama film 'It's All Coming Back to Me', starring and featuring the music of Celine Dion, will release in theatres on February 10, 2023. It also stars Indian actress Priyanka Chopra Jonas.

Formerly titled 'Text for You', 'It's All Coming Back to Me' is based on the 2016 German film 'SMS fur Dich' by Karoline Herfurth.

The film stars Priyanka as a woman struggling to move on from the death of her fiancé. To cope, she begins sending messages to his old phone number, which has been reassigned to a new man, played by Sam Heughan.

The two meet and develop a connection based on their shared heartbreak, reports 'Variety'.

In addition to Jonas and Heughan, the film also stars Celine Dion as herself, in the role of a mentor figure who will inspire the two main characters to fall in love.

The film is named after Jim Steinman's power ballad 'It's All Coming Back to Me Now', which was made famous from Dion's cover that was recorded for her 1996 album 'Falling Into You'.

The song is one of the celebrated singer's biggest hits and most acclaimed songs, peaking at No. 2 on the Billboard Hot 100.

The movie is written and directed by Jim Strouse. Screen Gems produced the film, which is distributed by Sony Pictures.



CELINE DION'S MOVIE 'IT'S ALL COMING BACK TO ME' IS TO RELEASE



Amanda Cerny



I-LEAGUE 2022

GOKULAM KERALA EQUAL UNBEATEN RECORD, REMAIN TOP GOING INTO PHASE II

Kalyani | Agencies

Gokulam Kerala FC equalled the longest unbeaten streak of 17 games in the I-League to end Phase-1 on top of the table by easing past RoundGlass Punjab FC 3-1, here at the Kalyani Stadium.

In equalling Churchill Brothers' record set 12 years ago, Gokulam Kerala FC had Aminou Boubou's pinpoint header, Luca Majcen's clean finish and an own goal by Joseph Yarny help them swell their points to 30. RoundGlass Punjab had their consolation come off an own goal scored by Aminou to remain in the third position with 23 points after their third loss.

Both teams approached this game on an aggressive note. RoundGlass Punjab did the early running from the left. Travis Major, pushing himself deep, had a timely and bold tackle by Gokulam Kerala defender Mohammed Jasim to clear the ball for a corner kick.

It did not take much time for Gokulam Kerala to make their presence felt with an attempt at the goal. Jithin MS found himself on the top of the box and with a clear look on goal only to have his attempt go over.

RoundGlass Punjab at the other end had Major try from the left to test goal-



keeper Rakshit Dagar with a maximum stretch to keep the ball out at the second post. Punjab opened the second half with two back-to-back attempts by Guthrie. RoundGlass Punjab profited from the corner kick and levelled scores, earning an own goal as Boubou Aminou, missing sight and direction, ended up heading into his own goal off a Kean Lewis corner kick to make it 1-1.

Against the run of play, Gokulam Kerala from a counter-attack took the lead. Jaspreet Singh scored his 13th goal

of the season to make it 2-1 for Gokulam Kerala. Gokulam Kerala doubled the advantage through an own goal to make it 3-1. A free-kick earned on the right, had Boubou, at the second post rise and connect. The attempt was good enough to create confusion in a melee that ensued. What resulted thereafter was defender Joseph Yarny slicing the ball home leaving goalkeeper Jaspreet no chance.

SUDEVA DELHI PIP KENKRE TO FINISH PHASE 1 WITH A WIN

Kolkata: A narrow 1-0 victory for Sudeva Delhi FC against Kenkre FC lifted their spirits on the final match-day of Phase 1 in I-League 2022, here at the Naihati Stadium.

A deflected goal scored by Shubho Paul in the first half was enough to get three crucial points for Sudeva.

The match got off to a fiery start as Kenkre midfielder Kiran Pandhare unintentionally put an arm in the face of Sudeva's Nishchal Chandan, busting his nose open in the process. After the restart, Sudeva were the first to prowl forward with an attack that was put out for a corner by B Nongkhlov.

IPL 2022

Du Plessis, Hazlewood lead RCB to 18-run win over Lucknow

Navi Mumbai | Agencies

A fine knock by Faf du Plessis (96 off 64) followed by a sensational bowling effort by Josh Hazlewood (4/25) led Royal Challengers Bangalore to an 18-run win over Lucknow Super Giants in an IPL 2022 match at the D.Y. Patil Stadium, here on Tuesday.

Leading from the front, skipper Faf du Plessis played a terrific knock (96 off 64) and steered Royal Challengers Bangalore to 181-6 in 20 overs.

Invited to bat first, RCB were off to a terrible start as they lost three wickets -- Anuj Rawat (4), Virat Kohli (0) and Glenn Maxwell (23) inside the powerplay. At 44/3 after 5.2 overs, RCB were in a spot of bother but Faf du Plessis took on the mantle of batting through the innings.

He anchored the innings to perfection by stitching a crucial 70-run stand for the fifth wicket with Shahbaz



Ahmed (26) and a 49-run partnership with Dinesh Karthik (13 not out off 8) for the sixth wicket, helping RCB post a competitive total before getting on the penultimate ball of the final over.

Jason Holder (2/25) and Dushmantha Chameera (2/31) picked two wickets each while Krunal Pandya (1/29) got one wicket for Lucknow. Chasing a competitive total, Lucknow kept los-

ing wickets at regular intervals and gave RCB back-to-back chances to make a comeback in the game.

Krunal Pandya (42 off 28), K.L. Rahul (30 off 24), Marcus Stoinis (24 off 15) and Jason Holder (16 off 8) tried hard but it was not enough as Lucknow were restricted to 163/8 in 20 overs, losing by 18 runs. Apart from Hazlewood, Harshal Patel (47/2), Glenn

Maxwell (1/11), and Mohammed Siraj (1/31) also picked important wickets for RCB.

Brief scores:

Royal Challengers Bangalore 181/6 in 20 overs (Faf du Plessis 96, Shahbaz Ahmed 26; Jason Holder 2/25) beat Lucknow Super Giants 163/8 in 20 overs (Krunal Pandya 42, K.L. Rahul 30; Josh Hazlewood 4/25) by 18 runs

Cadiz stun Barca to leave Real Madrid 15 points clear in La Liga

Madrid | Agencies

FC Barcelona lost 1-0 at home to Cadiz to leave Real Madrid 15 points clear at the top of La Liga with six games left to play.

Barca were poor in the first half against a rival struggling against relegation on Monday night, and in the second half when they finally woke up, they were denied by a series of excellent saves by Cadiz keeper Jeremias Ledesma.

The game kicked off with protests against Barca president Joan Laporta following the presence of around 30,000 Eintracht Frankfurt fans in the stands during the club's UEFA Europa League exit to the German club on Thursday.

The first half offered little, with Cadiz looking very solid in defence and Barca lacking their usual threat with the exception of Ousmane



Dembele, who was constantly probing with his pace and control.

Despite Dembele's efforts, the best chance of the first half fell to Cadiz forward Lucas Perez, who sliced his effort high and wide when he should have at least worked Marc-Andre Ter Stegen.

Big striker Luuk de Jong came on for Barca and was unlucky to see his header from a corner go straight at

Ledesma in the 78th minute, before Ter Stegen produced a reflex save to deny Sobrino.

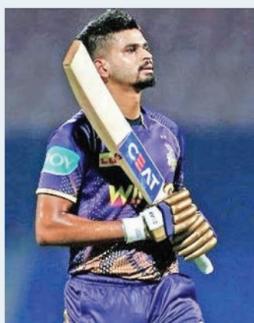
Ledesma saved Eric Garcia's long-range effort with six minutes left of normal time as Barca finally stepped up their game, and the keeper did even better to deny Aubameyang's volley from Jordi Alba's cross, moments after Carlos Akapo's cross hit the outside of the post at the other end.

PEEVED IYER VENTS HIS FRUSTRATION AFTER BATTING COLLAPSE; VIDEO GOES VIRAL

Mumbai |

Kolkata Knight Riders skipper Shreyas Iyer looked visibly upset after his 51-ball 85 against Rajasthan Royals went in vain as his team lost by just seven runs in an Indian Premier League game at Brabourne Stadium on Monday.

Chasing Royals' 217, built on a stunning century from English batter Jos Buttler, KKR lost the match in dramatic manner losing a clutch of wickets in the 17th over to be all out for 210 with two balls remaining. A video has since gone viral where Iyer, apparently unhappy with the way the chase panned out after his dismissal, is seen in an animated argument with head coach Brendon McCullum sitting in the dugout. With the helmet and bat in hand, a disappointed Iyer can be seen walking up to McCullum pointing at something on the field and then making a gesture of helplessness before walking away.



Ashleigh Barty decides to play in global golf event after tennis retirement

New Jersey | Agencies

Three-time tennis major champion Ashleigh Barty will escalate her golf interests after signing for an exhibition tournament alongside the likes of Harry Kane, Pep Guardiola and Michael Phelps.

The event at Liberty National Golf Club in New Jersey on June 30 and July 1 will pit teams representing the USA and the rest of the world against each other in a 10-hole team match-play format.

"I'm excited to be part of the Icons Series and I hope through my participation in the series that we can encourage more women and girls to participate in golf around the world. It's such a unique opportunity to have fun, test yourself and compete against the world's greatest athletes in a sport that we are all so passionate about," Barty was quoted as saying by Sydney Morning Herald. Joining Barty in the rest of the world team



will be England football captain Harry Kane and Manchester City boss Pep Guardiola, while the USA lineup features boxing great Oscar De La Hoya and swimming superstar Michael Phelps.

Almost one month after announcing her tennis retirement at 25, it's been confirmed Barty will be one of the headline names involved in the Icons Series. There, she'll feature on a Rest-of-the-World team captained by golf great Ernie Els as they look to

upset the United States on their own soil. Barty confirmed her departure from tennis in late March after saying she no longer had "the physical drive, the emotional want and everything it takes to challenge yourself at the very top of the level anymore." She won the French Open (2019), Wimbledon (2021) and her native Australian Open (2022) before becoming just the second player to retire as the reigning world No. 1.

Karthik can perform finisher's role for India in T20 World Cup: Gavaskar

Mumbai | Agencies

Legendary cricketer Sunil Gavaskar has praised Dinesh Karthik for the manner in which he has been finishing games for Royal Challengers Bangalore (RCB) in Indian Premier League (IPL). The former India captain Gavaskar backed Karthik, saying the wicketkeeper-batter is capable of changing the complexion of the game in the IPL 2022 with his batting exploits.

He added that the seasoned Indian cricketer can play the same role for the national side during



the T20 World Cup. "Of course, he'll be the RCB player to watch out for in the game against Lucknow. He's just changing the complexion

of the game with his performance. He's doing it for his team. He said he wants to be a part of the Indian Team for the T20 World Cup. So what I am saying is don't look at his age, just look at what he's producing. He's doing the job that you can expect him to do at number 6 or 7 at the World Cup," Gavaskar said on Cricket Live on Star Sports.

Former Australian cricketer Matthew Hayden claimed RCB's senior batting trio of Faf du Plessis, Virat Kohli and Glenn Maxwell will fire against LSG in their upcoming contest.

SAURABH CHAUDHARY WINS THREE GOLD MEDALS IN NATIONAL SHOOTING TRIALS

New Delhi: Former world number one and Tokyo Olympics finalist Saurabh Chaudhary of Uttar Pradesh swept the Men's 50M Pistol trials at Dr. Karni Singh Shooting Range winning three gold medals and a silver across the senior and junior categories.

On Day 5 of the National Selection trials 3 & 4 for pistol events, Saurabh won both the Men's and Junior Men's 50M Pistol T4 trials, after he had won bronze in the Men's T3 event while maintaining gold in the Junior Men's T3 competition. Saurabh shot 562 in the T4 60-shot series to leave behind Kunal Rana of the Indian Navy, who shot 555. The same score in the junior Men's event meant Punjab's Arjun Singh Cheema with a 547 had to settle for silver. Saurabh had come third behind the seasoned Gaurav Rana of the Air Force and Om Prakash Mitherval of Rajasthan in the Men's T3 competition earlier. Gaurav had shot 553 for gold, Om Prakash 553 for silver while Saurabh came third with 552. Late on Sunday evening, Vijayveer Sidhu of Punjab had bagged the Junior Men's Rapid-Fire Pistol T3 trials over the Haryana pair of Anish and Adarsh Singh who came second and third respectively. The T4 Rapid Fire results are expected on Wednesday.



Barcelona Open: Qualifier Taberner upsets Korda in opening round

Barcelona | Agencies

Spanish qualifier Carlos Taberner made good use of home conditions to earn the biggest win of his season at the Barcelona Open on Tuesday, cruising past World No. 37 Sebastian Korda 6-3, 6-0 to earn just his second ATP 500 victory.

The World No. 94, who was making his debut in Barcelona, won 100 percent (8/8) of points behind his second serve in his first-round clash against Korda and saved the one break point he faced to triumph after 67 minutes in front of his home crowd.

The 24-year-old will next face third seed Felix Auger-Aliassime in the second round. The Canadian will be bidding to lift his second trophy of the season this week, after capturing the crown in Rotterdam in February.

South African Lloyd Harris booked his spot in the second round with a 6-4, 7-6(0) victory over Roberto Carballes Baena, according to a report on the ATP Tour website.

The World No. 40 lost in the first round at



the Monte-Carlo Masters last week in his first clay match of the year but responded with a consistent display to set a meeting with Albert Ramos-Vinolas. Marton Fucsovics, who downed Harris in Monte Carlo, eliminated Australian Jordan Thompson 6-4, 6-2, while Emil Ruusuvuori defeated former World No. 12 Feliciano Lopez 6-0, 6-1.

Covid-hit Delhi Capitals to not travel to Pune; will play IPL match at Brabourne

Team Absolute | Mumbai

The Indian Premier League (IPL) game between Delhi Capitals and Punjab Kings scheduled for Wednesday has been shifted from the MCA Stadium in Pune to Brabourne-CCI in Mumbai due to a number of Covid-positive cases in the Delhi franchise's camp.

A statement from the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) honorary secretary Jay Shah on Tuesday said that the change of venue was necessitated to "avoid any further incident due to any undetected (Covid-19) case during a long-distance bus journey in a closed environment."

Delhi Capitals had on Monday cancelled their trip to Pune from Mumbai and the entire team was put under quarantine after two people had tested Covid-positive.

The BCCI statement said on Tuesday that, "The change of venue has been triggered due to five Covid-19 positive cases in the Delhi Capitals contingent."

Among the Delhi Capitals members the BCCI confirmed had tested positive are,



physio Patrick Farhat (tested positive on April 15), sports massage therapist Chetan Kumar (tested positive on April 16), Australian player Mitchell Marsh (tested positive on April 18), team doctor Abhijit Salvi (tested positive on April 18) and social media content team member Akash Mane (tested positive on April 18).

Santosh Trophy SERVICES COME BACK STRONGLY TO BEAT GUJARAT 3-1

Malappuram (Kerala) | Agencies

Despite going a goal down in the initial stages against Gujarat, defending champions Services showed grit and reliance to record their first win in the 75th National Football Championship for Santosh Trophy 2021-22. They beat Gujarat 3-1 in Group B.

Stung by their loss to Manipur in the opener, Services kicked off with clear intentions to be in charge. Gujarat by contrast were happy to play on the counter, defending deep and in numbers.

Services' first real opportunity came off a mishit cross from the left by Arashpreet Singh, looping over towards Gujarat's goal. A firm hand by Ajmal Eranjikkal saw the ball tipped over the bar.



ness continuing from the previous game.

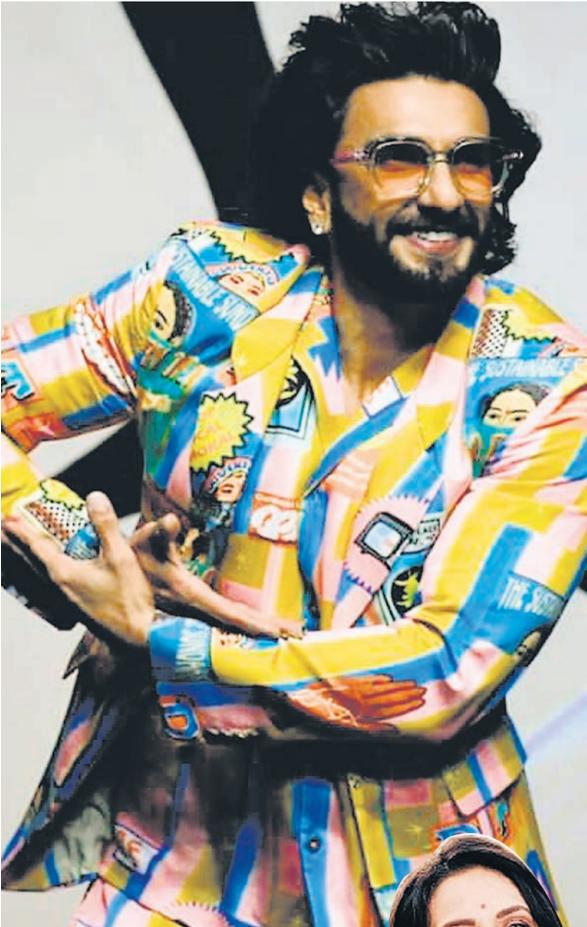
In the 12th minute, Christopher Kamei's shot from distance was saved by Eranjikkal in Gujarat's goal and from the resultant corner the goalkeeper, despite an initial effort managed to gather a weak header on goal. Seven minutes later came the breakthrough, albeit not in the way Services imagined it. Against the run of play, Gujarat pressed forward, winning the ball in midfield before Pranav Kanase danced his way into the box on the right. The winger played a delicate cross in, through the legs of the Services defender in front of him. An onrushing Jay Kanani made no mistake tapping the ball in first time from five yards out to give Gujarat a shock lead. Gujarat would rue that miss. Services

pushed forward in numbers to level the game. Mahata dribbled past three Gujarat defenders to set himself up for a shot from outside the box. His shot hit the upright, and the one from the rebound was offside.

Just as Gujarat thought they would take the lead into halftime came the equaliser. In the second minute of injury time, after some neat wing play, the ball fell to Nikhil Sharma, in the six-yard box. The youngster scored to ensure the teams went even into the break. Services' second-half performance was more measured, and tactically more aware too. Right from the start, they capitalised on Gujarat's inexperienced wingbacks. In the 49th minute, Nikhil danced in past the defenders on the right, setting himself up perfectly for a left-foot curler only to see it deflected off target. The ball, unfortunately for Gujarat, fell in the path of Krishnakanta Singh, who slotted it into an empty net to give Services a deserved lead. In the 85th minute, Services ensured the result. As he wheeled away in celebration Services breathed easy, knowing that they finally had points on the board and a chance to defend their crown.



God's wish to bless us with baby boy or girl: **Ranveer**



Team Absolute | Mumbai

The trailer of actor Ranveer Singh's upcoming much-awaited film Jayeshbhai Jordaar was unveiled today. At the trailer launch event, just like always, Ranveer was high on energy and made a dhama-kedaar entry in a quirky attire. Along with Ranveer, the entire team was also present at the trailer launch event.

Ranveer was seen performing the hookstep with producer Maneesh Sharma, director Divyang Thakker his co-star Shalini Pandey at the event. Ranveer shared that he wept and laughed at the same time after he heard the narration of the film.

He also enacted how director Divyang was meticulous towards his job. He was also seen poking fun at his co-star Arjun Reddy fame Shalini Pandey. While Shalini also revealed that she had fun working with Ranveer Singh even though he troubled her on sets (chuckles).

Talking about her journey, Shalini opened up about her parents being apprehensive of her entering the acting profession because of which she ran away from home.

Talking about the film, it deals with the social stigma of female foeticide in a quirky manner.

At the trailer launch, when Ranveer was asked whether he wants a baby boy or a girl with his wife Deepika Padukone, the actor used a dialogue from the film, and said, "When you go to the temple, they don't ask you na if you want laadu or sheera. Whatever you get, you have it with whole reverence since it is prasad. So the same logic applies here. Whatever God wishes to bless Deepika and me with - be it a boy or girl, it will be a true blessing. So no choice there."

On the work front, Ranveer will be seen next in Rohit Shetty's Cirkus and Karan Johar's Rocky Aur Rani Ki Prem Kahani.



SAMANTHA'S FIRST SALARY WAS JUST RS 500!

Chennai | Agencies

One of the biggest stars of Tamil and Telugu cinema, Samantha has disclosed that her first salary was just Rs 500 and that she received it for working as a hostess for a day during a conference.

Recently, Samantha chose to have a question and answer session with her fans on Instagram.

The actress answered a number of questions posed to her by her fans. During the interaction, Samantha disclosed that her first salary was just Rs 500 and she received it for an eight-hour shift. The actress also said that she was in school when she earned her first salary.

When fans asked her to choose between Khatija (Her character's name in her upcoming film 'Kaathu Vaakula Rendu Kaadhal') or Kanmani (Nayanthara's character in the same film), Samantha sweetly replied, "Kanmani and Khatija. No Kanmani without Khatija and no Khatija without Kanmani."

When asked to comment about her character in 'Kaathuvaakula Rendu Kaadhal', she said, "My favourite genre is romantic comedies. I am so glad that after a while, I am doing something like this. It's really fun and I can't wait for all of you to watch Kaathu Vaakula Rendu Kaadhal."

Her responses about the film were so heart warming that the production house producing the film, Rowdy Pictures, posted her reply clip on their Twitter timeline and thanked her for her "kind words".



URVASHI UPADHYAY LOOKING TO EXPLORE REALITY SHOWS

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Actress Urvashi Upadhyay, who is popularly loved for her role of Sudha in the television show 'Thapki Pyar Ki 2', wants to do reality shows. She says: "As I had earlier played so many negative and grey shaded roles, now I want to connect my audience with my real identity. I want them to see who Urvashi is in real life. And I personally feel reality shows are the best medium that can help me. I'm looking ahead for an opportunity to be able to take up such a show."

Urvashi known for featuring in shows like 'Ishq Subhan Allah', 'Hamari Devrani', 'Dil Se Dil Tak', 'Dil Ki Nazar Se Khoobsurat' and 'Ek Ghar Banaunga' shares about the challenges she has been through in her life.

She continues: "In my life I have seen lots of up and down. And overcome many worst situations. I feel to be very strong and upfront to handle challenging situations and controversial people in such shows. I'm very opinionated person and function according to my own principles. I'm also very creative and hardworking individual. I feel to have all qualities to be part of such shows."



Huma Qureshi to play food legend Tarla Dalal in upcoming biopic

Team Absolute | Mumbai

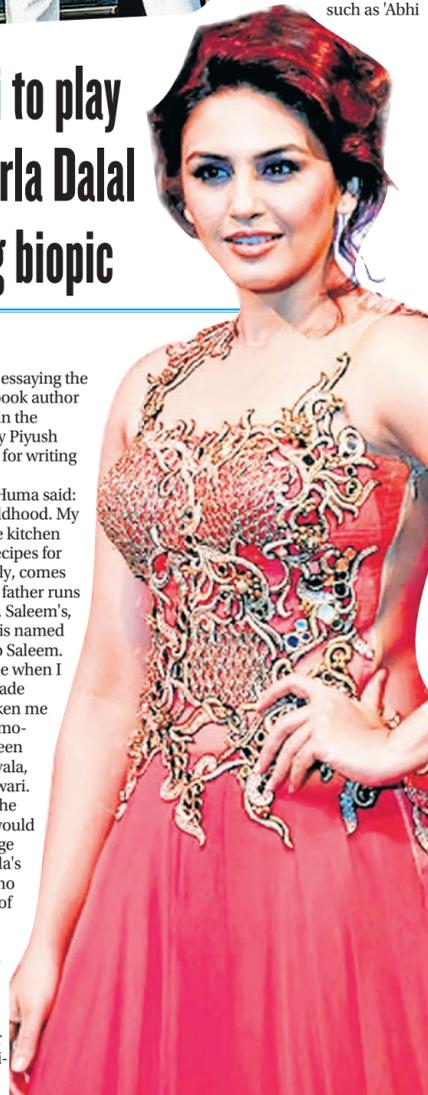
Actress Huma Qureshi will be essaying the role of the best-selling cookbook author and home chef, Tarla Dalal, in the upcoming biopic 'Tarla' directed by Piyush Gupta, who was previously known for writing 'Dangal' and 'Chhichhore'.

Commenting on her character, Huma said: "Tarla Dalal reminds me of my childhood. My mom had a copy of her book in the kitchen and would often try many of her recipes for my school tiffin." Huma, incidentally, comes from a family of restaurateurs. Her father runs the famous Delhi restaurant chain, Saleem's, which is known for its kababs and is named after her brother (and actor), Saqib Saleem.

"I also clearly remember the time when I helped mom make Tarla's homemade mango ice-cream. This role has taken me back to those sweet childhood memories," Huma added. The film has been produced jointly by Ronnie Screwvala, Ashwiny Iyer Tiwari and Nitesh Tiwari.

Explaining the thought behind the film, which its director promised would be "a treat for all food lovers to gorge on," Ashwiny Iyer Tiwari said: "Tarla's story is about a working mother who single-handedly changed the face of vegetarian cooking in the country and also paved the way for home cooks and food startups to achieve their dreams."

Screwvala added: "Tarla Dalal's story is a textbook example of entrepreneurship -- how it is never too late to work towards your ambitions."



Badshah makes his International debut with J Balvin, Tainy

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Popular Indian rapper Badshah has made his debut internationally with 'In da getto' hitmaker J Balvin and Tainy, who is known for the track 'I can't get enough'.

The Indian rapper, who has crooned hits such as 'Abhi

toh party shuru hui hai', 'Jugnu', 'Garmi' and 'Kar gayi chill' has collaborated with Balvin and Tainy for the track 'Voodoo'.

Badshah took to Instagram, where he made the announcement. He shared a photograph of the album cover posing with Balvin and Tainy.

He captioned it: "Namaste

India Colombia Latino gang. We coming this Friday 22nd April 2022! #Voodoo @#jbalvin @tainy legooo

Balvin dropped a comment on the Badshah's picture. He wrote: "India" along with several heart emojis.

'Jalebi baby' hitmaker Tesherr wrote: "Yes!!"



Sanjeeda Sheikh

Saisha Shinde offended as Kaaranvir Bohra mocks her for breast implants

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Kangana Ranaut hosted 'Lock Upp' is grabbing all the eye balls with its never-ending fights and heated arguments among the contestants. In the recent one, Kaaranvir Bohra made fun of transwoman Saisha Shinde for her breast implants and she got offended and later both get into a heated argument. Kaaranvir was doing a mime act in the yard area,

while doing the act he inserted two oranges inside his clothes. Saisha got to know about this fact and she found this very offensive as she thought he was mocking her about her breast implants. They got into an argument, Kaaranvir defended himself, in the meantime Payal Rohtagi intervened and said stop playing woman card. Saisha said: "You cannot make your career in front of me in 14 years. You are nothing in front of me." Later, Payal and Saisha had an ugly fight.

