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Call to take a pledge on Mother's Day to reduce maternal mortality

FOR WOULD BE MOTHERS

Every year on Mother's Day, people spam social media platforms with messages about their mothers and the love and affection they have with them but this year doctors have called for taking a pledge to reduce mortality rate. They say it is important we look at the reasons for the high rate of maternal mortality and means to tackle the problem.

- India is rated among those low and middle-income nations from around the world, which together constitute 90 per cent of the total maternal mortality cases.
- Governments in India have been focusing on initiatives to improve maternal health indicators. Much progress has been made in ending preventable maternal deaths in the past two decades.
- Globally the number of women and girls who die each year due to issues related to pregnancy and childbirth has dropped considerably, from 451,000 in 2000 to 295,000 in 2017, a 38 per cent decrease. But, this number must improve further, and must happen fast.

after delivery is among the major complications that account for nearly two-thirds of all maternal deaths, along with high blood pressure during pregnancy (known as pre-eclampsia and eclampsia), and clot formation and other complications from delivery or unsafe abortions.



the majority among these are preventable or treatable. There are other complications that may exist in women before pregnancy, but get worsened during pregnancy, especially if not managed as part of the woman's care.

"Postnatal depression is one of the emerging causes of harm to mother's physical and mental health across the globe. Mothers can overcome this as there is a lot of help available from the health sector as well as from the government. Talking therapy makes things lighter for them. India is fast overcoming the menace of child marriages which could lead to pregnancies in adolescence. But these marriages and related pregnancies must be brought to zero, which would help reduce pregnancy related deaths to zero," she said.

"Most women die because of complications that develop during pregnancy, and

nancies. It is important expecting mothers are fed with all necessary nutrients, which would have a bearing on the mother and her future child. "Though Governments have been focusing on means to improve maternal health parameters, coverage of life-saving health interventions and practices remains low among certain sections, due to gaps in knowledge, and availability of resources," she said.

"Protecting and promoting the health and rights of women is a responsibility every Indian must take extremely seriously. It is important that each Indian spreads awareness about maternal mortality, reasons for it, and means to tackle the menace in the society around them. This will ensure the entire country realizes the seriousness of the problem and acts accordingly to arrest the problem," said Dr Vinatha Pul, Clinical Director - Obstetrician & Gynaecologist, KIMS Hospitals. "It is important that places where deliveries occur have basic amenities such as running water and electricity, which are needed to ensure a safe and sanitary environment for giving birth. While hospitals do have all facilities, some births in rural India continue to take place outside of a hospital, and this issue must be addressed to achieve zero maternal mortality," she said.

HYDERABAD | Agencies

Healthcare professionals have called for taking a pledge on Mother's Day this year to strive to reduce maternal mortality in India, which is a concern even in the 21st century. According to Dr Sirisha Mulla, Consultant Obstetrician & Gynecologist, SLG Hospitals, severe bleeding during and

No delay in NEET PG 2022 exam, letter being circulated fake: Health Ministry

Team Absolute | New Delhi

The Union Health Ministry on Saturday clarified that the National Eligibility Entrance Test for Postgraduate (NEET PG) 2022 has not been postponed, adding that a letter being circulated in this regard is fake.



21, 2022 is to be postponed," reads the letter being circulated on social media.

The Ministry said that the fake letter is being circulated in the name of National Board of Examinations (NBEMS). "The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Govt of India, has directed that over five thousand interns are ineligible for the exams and due to insufficient time between the counseling of previous NEET PG and exams hence conduct of NEET PG 2022 examination scheduled to be held on May

It also added that the NEET PG 2022 will commence on July 9. In response to the letter, the Ministry said: "It has come to the notice of NBEMS that some unscrupulous elements are circulating false and bogus information using spoofed notices in the name of NBEMS." It said that all stakeholders have been advised not to be misled by any unverified notice and should cross verify any information regarding NBEMS through its website.

36-INCH TALL GROOM WEDS 34-INCH BRIDE

Patna: A marriage in Naugachia block in Bhagalpur district hit the headlines when a groom measuring 36 inches in height tied the knot with a 34 inches tall bride on Tuesday night. This marriage became the centre of attraction as a large number of uninvited people assembled at the venue to take a selfie with the couple. The groom Munna, son of Vindeshwari Mandal, is 26 years old. He is a native of Mashru village in Naugachia block. He married Mamta Kumari (24), daughter of Kishori Mandal alias Gujo Mandal, a native of Abhiya Bazar. Many villagers said that it was a unique experience witnessing such a marriage. It looked like the marriage of a Gudda and Gudiya (Dolls). "Searching for a bride for my son, who is just 36 inches tall, was a difficult task for me. I was lucky that I found a bride having a similar height in the same district. A large number of people assembled there and blessed them," said Vindeshwari Mandal, father of the groom.

2 years post-pandemic, 79,237 Indian Muslims will fly for Haj-2022

Team Absolute | Mumbai

After a gap of two years of the Covid-19 pandemic restrictions, as many as 79,237 Indian Muslims will fly to Saudi Arabia to perform the Haj-2022 pilgrimage which will start from July onwards, officials said here on Saturday.

They include around 50 per cent women with 22,636 going via Haj Group Organisers and the remaining 56,601 through the Haj Committee of India, from among 83,140 applications including 72,170 online, said Union Minister for Minority Affairs Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi.

More than 1,800 Muslim women will go for Haj 2022 without "Mehram" (male companion), and without the lottery system, he added. Naqvi was inaugurating a two-day training camp for 400 aKhadim-ul-Hujjaj' including 12 women, who will assist the Indian Haj pilgrims in Makkah-Madina with processes related to Haj, accommodation, transport, health and safety.

They will be trained by officials from HCL, BrihanMumbai Municipal Corporation, Disaster Management agencies, doctors, airlines, customs and immigration professionals.



The selection process of Haj pilgrims was in accordance with the COVID vaccination protocols and other norms decided by the two governments, he said.

Besides other states and UTs, there will be Haj pilgrims from Maharashtra (4,874), Madhya Pradesh (1,780) and Delhi (835)

Naqvi said the government has arranged 10 flight embarkation points for Haj 2022 pilgrims going through HCL - Ahmedabad, Bengaluru, Cochin, Delhi, Guwahati, Hyderabad, Kolkata, Lucknow, Mumbai and Srinagar.

Mothers Day Exclusive

SHE TAUGHT ME TO FIGHT MY OWN BATTLES: SIMBA NAGPAL

Aakruti Bagla | Mumbai

Simba Nagpal is a well-known actor, reality show star, model, and Instagram influencer. He was last seen in Bigg Boss 15, a reality show hosted by Salman Khan and is winning our hearts once again in Naagin 6.

In an exclusive conversation with Absolute India, the actor opened up about what Mothers' day means to him, his bond with mother and much more. Here are the excerpts from the interview:

What does Mother's day mean to you?

It's a day that I want to spend with my mom, and be with her for entire day. I would love to look for presents for her, take her out and just be with her. It's one of the closest days to my heart.

What according to you is the beauty of your relationship with your mom?

For me, the word 'Beauty' is



defined by my relationship with my mother. Our relationship is truly beautiful; our hearts are connected. There's no boundaries- only love for each other. And what makes it more beautiful is that we don't have to be successful, famous or do something for them to own that love; it's just natural and unconditional. It's God-given love and that's the most beautiful thing in my life.

You are here in Mumbai, and

your mom is in Delhi. How often do you manage to catch up with her?

Yes, she lives in Delhi, and I'm in Mumbai. She has her work there, and I, here. And we manage to give each other calls twice or thrice a day. And we never lose touch. She does keep visiting Mumbai once a month because of which I'm able to keep my sanity alive. For me, it's a little tough to go to Delhi due to my hectic work schedule. But I do try to look for opportunities to visit Delhi as much as I can.

What's your mother's contribution to your successful career?

Everything I am, I owe to my mother. She's my complete package- she's my emotional as well as my mental support; she has always supported me. And today, I am who I am because of her.

Has your dynamics with her changed over the years?

I'm sure the dynamics definitely changed. I love her even more and I respect her even more. And with



time, it will increase even more. Because when you realise what love is, and what a mother means, the love just keeps increasing. It only gets better and more beautiful with time.

A lesson taught by your mother that you'll take to your grave?

There are a lot of lessons that my mother has taught me. In fact, I've learned everything from him. One of the greatest things she taught me is that life is a battle and that we're alone in it, and have to fight our own battle, we need to choose our own battle. She's given me the spirit of a warrior.

Parag Agrawal's wife linked with Musk's \$44 bn Twitter takeover

Team Absolute | New Delhi

Vineeta Agarwala, the wife of Twitter CEO Parag Agrawal, is now making headlines amid Elon Musk's \$44 billion takeover deal.

She was a physician taking care of patients, an operator at healthcare startups and as a venture investor on the Google Ventures life sciences team.

She was an early data scientist at Kyruus, a management consultant for biotech, pharmaceutical, and medical device clients at McKinsey & Co; and a director of product management at Flatiron Health.

She has collaborated with academic researchers at Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, and the Broad Institute, where she did graduate work in computational biology and human genetics.

Vineeta serves on a number of portfolio company boards, including BigHat Biosciences, GC



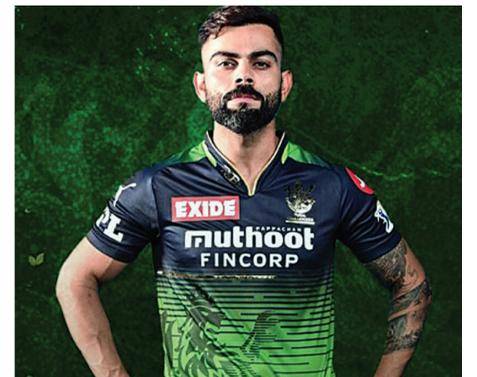
Therapeutics, Memora Health, Thyme Care, Pearl Health, and Waymark. Meanwhile, there are doubts over Parag's future once Musk takes over, as the Tesla CEO himself can become a temporary CEO of the platform. According to

reports, Musk may have also lined up a new Twitter CEO.

Parag is likely to receive nearly \$39 million due to a clause in his contract once he leaves Twitter. His total compensation for 2021 was \$30.4 million, largely in stocks.

IPL 2022: RCB to don green jersey against SRH as part of 'Go Green' Initiative

Royal Challengers Bangalore will don the green jersey in their IPL 2022 match against Sunrisers Hyderabad at the Wankhede Stadium on Sunday as part of their 'Go Green' Initiative. The franchise will follow its annual tradition of wearing the green jersey instead of the regular kit in an effort to spread awareness about environmental protection.



sport the green jersey in the day game at the M. Chinnaswamy Stadium to create awareness around a greener and more sustainable planet Earth. Continuing the go green cause that we truly believe in RCB will be wearing the green match kits on the 8th of May when we take on Sunrisers Hyderabad," said senior batter Virat Kohli in a Bold Diaries video shared by the franchise on social media.

"This Sunday we take on the Sunrisers Hyderabad, we will be dressed in our green jersey in an effort to spread awareness about saving the planet," said skipper Faf du Plessis.

The last time Bangalore met Hyderabad; they were bowled out for just 68 in 16.1 overs and lost by nine wickets. All-rounder Glenn Maxwell also urged citizens to contribute to this 'Go Green' initiative.

Team Absolute | Mumbai

The 'Go Green' sustainability initiative has been a huge part of our RCB culture since 2011. Over the years we have seen RCB



CENTRE DEFENDS SEDITION LAW IN SC, SAYS INDIVIDUAL CASES NO GROUND FOR REPEAL

Team Absolute | New Delhi

The Centre has told the Supreme Court that the 1962 verdict of the top court in the Kedar Nath Singh vs State of Bihar case, which upheld the validity of Section 124A of the IPC on sedition, is binding on a three-judge bench, and it is good in law and needs no reconsideration.

Solicitor General Tushar Mehta said in his written submission: "The judgement in the Kedar Nath Singh vs State of Bihar case is a constitution bench judgement and is binding on a three-judge bench of this court. The said judgment is a good law and needs no reconsideration. It must be treated as a binding precedent requiring no reference."

Mehta added that individual instances of misuse of the provision cannot be a ground for reconsideration. Mehta said the Kedar Nath Singh judgement has stood the test of time and is applied till date in tune with modern constitutional principles.

"Only a bench of co-equal strength as of Kedar Nath Singh can pose any doubts on the judgment," he said.

The Kedar Nath Singh judgment was passed by a five-judge bench. "The five-judge bench read down Section 124A only to bring it in conformity with Articles 14, 19 and 21 of the Constitution. No reference, therefore, would be necessary nor can the three-judge bench once again examine the constitutional validity of the very same provision," added the submissions. Mehta contended that the bench of three judges cannot reconsider the ratio of a judgment of a constitution bench without referring the



matter to a larger bench.

"If none of the above referred arguments are acceptable, this court, in combination of three judges, may not examine the challenge to Section 124A and may refer it to a larger bench for consideration whether Kedar Nath [supra] needs reconsideration," he added.

Mehta said: "Instances of the abuse of provision would never be a justification to reconsider a binding judgment of the constitution bench. The remedy would lie in preventing such abuse on a case-to-case basis rather than doubting a long standing settled law declared by a constitution bench since about six decades." He added that if none of the above referred arguments are acceptable, this court, in combination of three judges, may not examine the challenge to Section 124A and may refer it to a larger bench for consideration whether Kedar Nath needs reconsideration.

A three-judge bench headed by Chief Justice NV.

Ramana has scheduled the matter for hearing on May 10. The bench will hear the arguments on whether the petitions challenging the validity of sedition under Section 124A should be referred to a Constitution bench.

Attorney General K.K. Venugopal said the sedition law is valid, in view of the Kedar Nath Singh case judgement (1962), which balanced freedom of speech and security of state.

Urging the top court to lay down the guidelines to prevent misuse of the law, he said, "Misuse (of the sedition law) is controlled...the question of reference (of Kedar Nath Singh case to a larger bench) does not arise." He defended the constitutional validity of Section 124A and the top court's judgment in the Kedar Nath Singh vs State of Bihar case.

In the last hearing, the three-judge bench had deliberated on whether the matter needs to be referred to a larger bench, since the petitions have sought a direction to overrule the Kedar Nath Singh judgement. "In every writ petition, there is a prayer to strike down the Kedar Nath judgement and strike down 124A... Can we proceed hearing this case without reference to Kedar Nath Singh to a larger bench," the bench had noted. The Supreme Court in the Kedar Nath Singh case clarified that only those acts, which involved incitement to violence or violence, constituted a seditious act under Section 124 A of the IPC. The top court is hearing the petitions filed by Major General S.G. Vombakere (retd) and the Editors Guild of India and others, which challenged the constitutional validity of Section 124A that carries a maximum penalty of life imprisonment.

Last mile citizen should be priority for delivery of health services: Mandaviya

Team Absolute | New Delhi

Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya said on Saturday that the citizen in the last mile should be the priority for delivery of health services.

"Let's resolve and take a pledge to ensure best implementation of health policies for well-being of our citizens to fulfill aim of Antyodaya. The citizen in the last mile should be our priority for delivery of health services," Mandaviya said while addressing the concluding session of 'Swasthya Chintan Shivir' at Kevadia, Gujarat.

Addressing the session, Mandaviya said that 'Siddhi' (accomplishment) is the driving force behind any 'Sankalp' (resolution). Appreciating the participation of around 25 Health and Medical Education Ministers in the Swasthya Chintan Shivir, he said, "We have been enriched by deep insight of knowledge due to presentation of best practices by states. This provided us knowledge regarding effective implementation of government schemes in the



health sector."

"All States have shared one best practice, so now we have more than 25 best practices to learn from and implement across the country. Goals of Centre and States are complementary. It is the goal of state which would define policy making at the central level. States' goals provide us national goals," he said, adding that the Swasthya Chintan Shivir has laid foundation of a healthy family for the country.

Mandaviya also appealed

everyone to join the soon-to-be-launched a 'TB Patient/Village Adoption' scheme where everyone can adopt TB patients and ensure their well-being, people nourishment, timely diagnosis and prompt treatment.

"Chintan Shivir provided us the beneficial collaborative platform of collective brainstorming on various aspects of health sector and quality service delivery," said Bharati Pravin Pawar, MoS Health, who was also the present on the occasion.

COP SHOT AT BY MILITANTS DIES IN SRINAGAR HOSPITAL

Srinagar: A local policeman, who was critically wounded in a militant attack in Srinagar, succumbed to his injuries at a hospital here on Saturday evening. Police sources said that Ghulam Hassan Dar from Danwar Eidgah was shot at by suspected militants at Aiwa Bridge on Ali Jan road in Srinagar when he was on the way to join duty. "Dar was working as a driver at the police control room. He was rushed to SKIMS Soura for treatment where he succumbed to his injuries," the police said.

Rahul should undertake Bharat Yatra: recommendations for 'Chintan Shivir'

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM | Agencies

Senior Congress legislator Ramesh Chennithala, who is part of think tank group (Organisational), on Saturday suggested a Bharat Yatra by Rahul Gandhi to get the party in an upbeat mood ahead of the 2024 Lok Sabha polls.

Chennithala is part of the sub-committee chaired by Mukul Wasnik and according to sources, he has given his ideas which will be taken up during the Chintan Shivir and it includes a Bharat Yatra by Gandhi.

Other suggestions include that the party should dedicate one month in a year to raise funds for the party, jumbo committees should be avoided at all levels, the number of Pradesh Congress Committee members in big states should not exceed 100 and in small states not more than 50.

At the AICC level, there should not be more



than 30 secretaries and the Constitution of the party should clearly specify about the strength of each and every committee of the party at all levels. The 'Chintan Shivir' is being held in Rajasthan from May 13 to 15 and around 400 top leaders from the country are taking part.

Delhi reports 1,407 fresh Covid cases, 2 deaths

Team Absolute | New Delhi

The national capital recorded 1,407 fresh Covid cases in the past 24 hours, marking a decline from the 1,656 new infections reported on Friday, as per the Delhi government's health bulletin.

In the same time period, two Covid deaths were reported, taking Delhi's overall Covid death toll to 26,179.

Meanwhile, the test positivity rate has dipped slightly to 4.72 per cent in the city, while the number of active cases presently stands at 5,955.

With 1,546 patients recovering in the last 24 hours, the total number of



recoveries has gone up to 18,60,698. The number of patients being treated in home isolation stands at 4,365.

The new Covid cases reported in the past 24 hours took the national capital's overall Covid tally to 18,92,832.

The city presently has 1,630 Covid containment zones.

A total of 29,821 new tests -- 20,171 RT-PCR and 9,650 Rapid Antigen - were conducted in the last 24 hours, taking the total to 3,80,25,188, while 25,334 vaccines were administered on Saturday, including 2,619 first doses, 11,477 second doses, and 11,238 precautionary doses.

'Autonomy' of state police should stop at state borders: Chidambaram

Former Union Home Minister P. Chidambaram on Saturday attacked both the BJP and the Aam Aadmi Party for misusing the police force.

Team Absolute | New Delhi

Chidambaram's comments came in the wake of the arrest and release of BJP leader Tejinder Bagga in which the police of three states were involved.

Chidambaram said, "This was bound to happen some day. The confrontation between Punjab, Delhi and Haryana police is an example of what lies in store in the future... the police serving their respective political masters will lead to the ultimate breakdown of federalism that is already in peril."

"I had warned when the Assam police arrested Jignesh Mevani, Independent MLA from Gujarat, for a tweet posted in



Gujarat! The 'autonomy' of each state police force must stop at the border of

another state and the police of the first state must take the consent of the other state. Otherwise, federalism will be dead and buried," he added.

Delhi Police on Friday took Bagga's custody from its Punjab counterparts and later released him after legal process. Earlier, Delhi Police had lodged two cases against Punjab Police in connection with Bagga's arrest.

The Punjab Police, while taking Bagga to Mohali from Delhi, was stopped midway by the Haryana Police after Delhi Police registered a kidnapping case on the complaint of Bagga's father.

Haryana Police took Bagga to a police station near Kurukshetra where a team of Delhi Police arrived.

20-YR-OLD LYNCHED IN DELHI, 9 HELD

New Delhi: In a horrifying incident, a 20-year-old youth was beaten to death in South-West Delhi. The police have so far arrested nine persons in connection with the case.

Krishna, a resident of Uttam Nagar, was thrashed on April 24. He succumbed to his injuries on May 5. A senior police officer said that the incident was reported on April 24 from Bindapur. Komal, the sister of the deceased, had called the PCR saying few boys from another colony thrashed her brother before taking him away. After inquiry, the police found that Krishna had a tiff with a youth named Suraj on the day of Holi. To settle the score, Suraj reached Krishna's house along with his friends and thrashed him. The victim was then taken to Bhagwati Vihar. Krishna was admitted to the DDU Hospital from where he was transferred to the Safdarjung Hospital after his condition deteriorated.

Govt asks Indian Women's Press Corps to vacate its premises by July 31

Team Absolute | New Delhi

The government has asked the Indian Women's Press Corps (IWPC) to vacate its premises at Windsor Place in Lutyens' Delhi by July 31.

The Estate Department has issued a notice to the IWPC, which says, "I am directed to convey by the principal approval of the competent authority for retention of government accommodation Bungalow No. 5, Windsor Place, allotted to Indian Women's Press Corps, for a period up to 31 July, 2022."

It's clear from the letter that no alternate accommodation will be provided to the IWPC by the government.

However, Shobhna Jain,



President of IWPC, said, "This is a routine procedural work. For the last 25 years, we have been applying for renewal whenever it is about to expire, and there is nothing to read in between the lines." Replying to a question in the Rajya Sabha in August last year, Union Housing and Urban Affairs Minister, Hardeep Singh Puri, had said that

the space has been allotted to nine NGOs/trusts/memorials/social organisations within the limits of New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC).

The IWPC was allotted the land in May 1994, and the last retention order was issued on January 6, 2018 for a period of three years. An eviction letter was also sent last year.

7 KILLED IN YAMUNA EXPRESSWAY ACCIDENT



New Delhi: At least seven people were killed when a car collided with an unidentified vehicle on the Yamuna Expressway in Uttar Pradesh's Mathura district on Saturday.

The victims, including a child, died on the spot, while two people suffered serious injuries in the accident that occurred in the Naujhil area at Milestone 68.

A police team rescued the injured and shifted them to a hospital. The bodies have been sent for post-mortem and their families informed.

Expressing grief over the incident, Prime Minister Narendra Modi tweeted in Hindi: "The road accident in Uttar Pradesh's Mathura is heart-wrenching. My deepest condolences to those who have lost their loved ones. I wish speedy recovery to the injured."

NHRC notice to UP govt over torture of woman by police in Lalitpur

Team Absolute | New Delhi

The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has issued a notice to the Uttar Pradesh government over the reported stripping and assault of a woman by police personnel in Lalitpur.

Taking suo motu cognisance of the incident, the Commission has issued notices to the Chief Secretary and the Director General of Police calling for a detailed report in the matter within four weeks.

The NHRC has also sought a report on action taken against the responsible police officer and any relief granted to the victim by the authorities. Reportedly, the woman was working as a domestic help at the residence of a police officer and was beaten on the allegations of a theft in the house.

"The Commission has observed that the contents of the media reports if true, raise serious issue of violation of human right to the victim. The Police Officer and his family have not only misused their position but also subjected the victim to physical torture and cruelty", said the commission in a statement.

Reportedly, on May 2, the victim was locked in a room by the wife of the police officer who came along with a lady Inspector and started interrogating her regarding a theft in the house.



"Besides beating her brutally, they also subjected her to water cannon and electric shocks to force her accept the allegations. Later, sensing that the matter may snowball into a controversy, she was called to the

Mehrauli police station where the police personnel tried to project the matter as a dispute with her husband and also initiated action against him for disturbing peace", said NHRC.

Six poachers held in Telangana for killing two deer

HYDERABAD | Agencies

Police in Telangana's Kamareddy district on Saturday arrested a six-member gang of poachers who killed two deer.

The gang tried to flee in a car but police nabbed them after a dramatic chase. Two dead deer, two cars, an air rifle and six mobile phones were seized from them.

A group of poachers from Hyderabad shot dead two deer in the Polkampet forest area of Lingampally late on Friday night.

A police patrol team found the men moving under suspicious circumstances on Saturday morning near Iyalapur village and asked them to identify themselves. The group panicked and tried to flee in a car leaving the other car behind. After covering some distance, the car broke down forcing them to leave the vehicle and escape. One of the poachers was caught by a farmer, who handed him over to police.

The arrested man revealed all the details to police. The



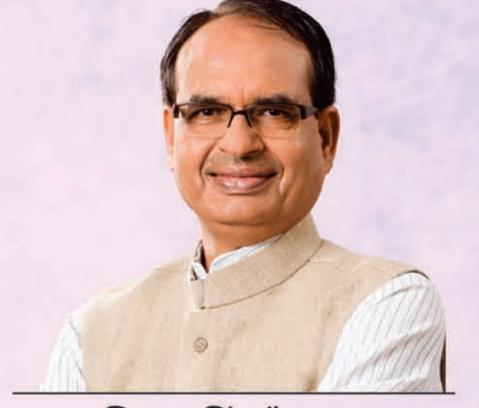
patrol team alerted the control room which informed check posts on district borders. Subsequently, all the accused were arrested.

Those arrested were identified as Hameed Uzaman, said to be a competitive rifle shooter, Ubaid Khan, Mir Mustafa Ali, Farzan Ghulam Hussain, Syed Rashid and Mir Tayeb Ali.

A police officer said the accused had cut the deer into halves from the middle and stuffed them in a car. They had left behind this car while trying to flee in another vehicle. Police are on the lookout for two locals who helped the gang in killing the deer.

बालिका सशक्तिकरण की दिशा में बढ़ते कदम

लाइली लक्ष्मी उत्सव

नरेन्द्र मोदी
प्रधानमंत्रीशिवराज सिंह चौहान
मुख्यमंत्री

लाइली लक्ष्मी योजना 2.0 का शुभारंभ

42 लाख से अधिक लाइलियों का पंजीकरण

* गतिविधियां *

- बालिकाओं के पोषण, माहवारी स्वास्थ्य, स्वच्छता प्रशिक्षण, सुरक्षा एवं शिक्षा से संबंधित कार्यक्रम।
- मार्च एवं अप्रैल 2022 में जन्मी बालिकाओं का जन्मोत्सव।
- शिक्षा अथवा अन्य किसी क्षेत्र में उत्कृष्ट उपलब्धि प्राप्त करने वाली लाइली बालिकाओं का सम्मान।
- बेहतर शिशु लिंगानुपात वाली ग्राम पंचायत को पुरस्कार।
- "माँ तुझे प्रणाम" कार्यक्रम के अंतर्गत चयनित लाइली बालिकाओं को देश की सीमा का भ्रमण।

राज्य स्तरीय कार्यक्रम

मुख्य अतिथि
शिवराज सिंह चौहान
मुख्यमंत्री, मध्यप्रदेश

08 मई 2022, सायं 6:00 बजे
स्थान : लाल परेड ग्राउण्ड, भोपाल

आप सादर आमंत्रित हैं।



राज्य, जिला और ग्राम पंचायत स्तर पर भव्य आयोजन



MAHA 'CONQUERS' OMICRON? NO CASES FOR PAST 60 DAYS

In a relief of sorts, Maharashtra has not recorded a single case of the 'Omicron' variant, for the past two months, though Covid-19 infections are again rising gradually, health officials said.

Team Absolute | Mumbai

In a relief of sorts, Maharashtra has not recorded a single case of the 'Omicron' variant, for the past two months, though Covid-19 infections are again rising gradually, health officials said.

On March 6, the state had reported the last 61 Omicron cases - nearly three months after the first one was confirmed on December 4, 2021, sending shockwaves among the health circles.

The first victim was a 33-year-old marine engineer of Thane, who came to Mumbai on November 23 from South Africa via New Delhi, and tested positive on November 27, while his Omicron positive report came on December 4.

He was admitted to a hospital in Kalyan-Dombivali and discharged after 11 days of treatment for Omicron.

Since then, the state continued to notch regular incidence of Omicron cases with the final tally standing at 5,726, the highest in India.

Not willing to take chances, the state government kept a hawk's eye vigil at the international airports in Mumbai, Pune and Nagpur and other airports for domestic passengers and carried out random checks on lakhs of arrivals to weed out the potential infected ones.

Hospitals in Mumbai, Thane, Pune



and certain other areas from where a large number of Omicron cases were reported were on high-alert and the situation was finally brought under control after three months.

However, on April 6, the state had another scare with a suspected Omicron XE variant infectee - a 50-year-old South African films costume designer - but it was later denied by the Centre.

Subsequently on April 9, the first - and till date only - case of Omicron XE was confirmed in a 67-year-old Mumbaikar who tested positive on a

visit to Vadodara.

Barring the sole case of Omicron XE on April 9, the state has remained Omicron-free for the past two months now.

Meanwhile, Covid-19 cases have again shown an upward trend, crossing the 200-mark during the week for the first time since mid-March.

Till date, the state has notched 78,78,801 total infections and 147,845 deaths since the pandemic started in March 2020, while another 1,161 'active cases' are under treatment.

Active Covid cases rose by over 50% in Maharashtra in past month

At present, of the 36 districts, only 11 rural districts like Satara, Nandurbar, Amravati, Wardha, Gondia and Jalgaon have zero active cases. Nearly 61.39 per cent of the active cases were recorded in Mumbai, which as of May 7 had 784 Covid patients.

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In the last one month, the number of active Covid-19 cases in Maharashtra has surged by 54 per cent. But officials say there is no sudden spike indicating a probable fourth wave.

On May 7, the state reported 253 new Covid-19 cases, taking the total active cases in the state to 1,277. A month earlier on April 7, the state had only 828 active Covid-19 cases.

At present, of the 36 districts, only 11 rural districts like Satara, Nandurbar, Amravati, Wardha, Gondia and Jalgaon have zero active cases. Nearly 61.39 per cent of the active cases were recorded in Mumbai, which as of May 7 had 784 Covid patients.

There are also growing concerns about the XE variant. However, officials said it is a combination of the BA.1 and BA.2 strains of Omicron - which was the dominating variant in the third wave, and its sub-lineage will make no significant difference.

"As the Covid-19 restrictions were revoked on April 1, it was expected that the number of cases would rise. Even if we consider the spread of the XE variant, we haven't noticed any sudden spike," said Dr Pradeep Awate, state surveillance officer.



The hospitalisation rate has been below 1 per cent. For instance on May 6, a total of 117 Covid cases were identified of which only four required hospitalisation. But doctors are urging masking, especially in crowded places. "Patients with severe comorbidities are advised to get booster shots and wear masks both indoors and in crowded places. Masking

doesn't cause any harm but other than Covid-19 infection, it also saves from air pollution, so it is always suggested to wear the masks," said Dr Pradeep Vyas, additional chief secretary.

Last week, Maharashtra health minister Rajesh Tope said if coronavirus cases continue to rise, the mandatory mask rule will return.

MAHARASHTRA REPORTS 253 COVID-19 CASES, 1 DEATH

Mumbai: Maharashtra on Saturday reported 253 Covid-19 cases and one death, taking the tally to 78,79,054 and the toll to 1,47,846, an official said.

So far, 77,29,931 persons have been discharged post recovery, including 136 in the past 24 hours, leaving the state with an active caseload of 1,277, he said.

Mumbai led with 172 cases, while the lone death was in Satara in Pune division, the official informed. State health department data showed the recovery rate was 98.11 per cent and the fatality rate stood at 1.86 per cent.

It also revealed the overall number of tests carried out in the state was 8,03,55,072, including 29,658 in the past 24 hours. Maharashtra's coronavirus figures are as follow: Day's cases 253, Death 1, Tally 78,79,054, Toll 1,47,846, Tests 29,658.

Fire in LIC suburban office, critical IT assets safe, no casualties

A MAJOR FIRE BROKE OUT ON THE SECOND FLOOR OF THE LIFE INSURANCE CORPORATION OF INDIA (LIC)'S SUBURBAN OFFICE IN VILE PARLE WEST AROUND DAWN ON SATURDAY.

Team Absolute | Mumbai

A major fire broke out on the second floor of the Life Insurance

Corporation of India (LIC)'s suburban office in Vile Parle West around dawn on Saturday.

The blaze was noticed around 6.40 a.m. on the upper floor of the ground-plus 2-storied LIC Jeevan Seva building which houses the SSS Divisional Office.

It was closed at that hour due the weekend holiday, and no casualties were reported as the flames were restricted to the second floor only.

The Mumbai Fire Brigade, Mumbai Police and other agencies rushed to spot and are battling the conflagration in the midst of a semi-residential locali-

ty.

"The data center of the LIC, which is housed nearby, is safe and precautionary measures have been taken to protect our IT assets," a spokesperson said later.

He added that all critical IT assets for providing service to customers have adequate Disaster Recovery set up in place and hence there would not be any problem in providing services to customers.

The cause of the blaze - which enveloped the surroundings in a cloud of thick smoke and affected traffic movements on the road adjacent - is not known.

'ALL OVER, PEACE IN MAHARASHTRA NOW!' RAUT ON LOUDSPEAKER ROW

Shiv Sena leader Sanjay Raut alleged that attempts were being made to divide the "Hindu society", adding people of the community are also unhappy since temples have stopped using loudspeakers for 'Aarti' (prayers).

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Shiv Sena leader Sanjay Raut on Saturday said the loudspeaker row in Maharashtra is over, and that there is peace in the western state. He also called upon the central government for a nationwide policy on the use of loudspeakers at religious places.

"There is peace in Maharashtra, some people were trying to spoil the situation in the state but they have been given a befitting reply," he was quoted as saying in what looked like a veiled attack on Maharashtra Navnirman Sena (MNS) chief Raj Thackeray. Raut alleged attempts were being made to divide the "Hindu society", adding that people of the community are also unhappy since temples have stopped using loudspeakers



for 'Aarti' (prayers). The Sena leader's statement comes two days after he lashed out on Thackeray amid the row over use of loudspeakers at religious places. He said that politics is being everywhere about the loudspeaker usage, with "some old videos of Balasaheb's views on loudspeakers in mosques being shared." "Why was this question never raised in 50 years when Vilasrao Deshmukh, Prithviraj Chavan and Devendra Fadnis were chief ministers?" Raut asked on Thursday. He further said that the MNS chief had no problem with loudspeakers then, but he has this issue now "because his brother (estranged cousin and Shiv

Sena supremo Uddhav Thackeray) is the chief minister of Maharashtra".

Raj Thackeray first made the call on removing loudspeakers from mosques in his Gudi Padwa speech last month, saying if those are not removed by May 3, Hanuman Chalisa will be played on loudspeakers outside mosques from May 4 onwards. On May 1, he reiterated the demand at his Aurangabad mega rally for which a case was lodged against him and the organisers of the programme on Tuesday (May 3). Despite the police action, the MNS chief, in a long post on Twitter on Tuesday, urged citizens of Maharashtra to play the Hanuman Chalisa the next day if they heard loudspeakers playing azaan. On May 4, Pune Police detained some MNS workers after they performed Maha Aarti at some places. The party claimed some mosques cooperated and did not play the morning azaan on loudspeakers, but added its workers would keep a lookout for any breach following which the Hanuman Chalisa would be played on loudspeakers. MNS workers played the hymn from a residential building at Mumbai's Charkop at 5am when the azaan was heard from a nearby mosque. Similar reports had emerged Washim and Nerul (Navi Mumbai).

MVA senses breather, BJP an opportunity in OBC quota affair

While the MVA government has appointed a commission for preparing a report, it also got a legislation passed by the Assembly during the winter session in December last year to provide up to 27 per cent reservation to the OBCs in the local bodies.

Team Absolute | Mumbai

The Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA)-led Maharashtra government has taken the view that the Supreme Court's May 4 order asking the State Election Commission (SEC) to notify poll schedule for local bodies within two weeks on the basis of the previous delimitation exercise is not a setback for the government as it believes that these polls may be held in September-October and that the court's direction has rather given it a breathing space to ensure OBC (Other Backward Classes) quota in the local body polls.

Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray, the Shiv Sena president, had on Thursday convened a high-level meeting of the senior ministers, including Deputy CM Ajit Pawar and NCP minister Chhagan Bhujbal, senior bureaucrats and advocate general Ashutosh Kumbhkonni, to deliberate on the issue in light of the apex court's order. It was iterated in the meeting that the OBC quota will be ensured in the coming local body elections, said government sources.

Sources said that Kumbhkonni told the meeting that the apex court's order is "ambiguous" in terms of whether the court has stayed the MVA government's amended law, passed by the Maharashtra Assembly in early March this year, which has stripped the SEC of its powers with regards to the delimitation of the ward boundaries of the poll-bound local bodies. Some ministers also asked questions about the new law's status as to whether it will continue to remain in effect or the ward formation in the local bodies should be done afresh, said

sources.

While hearing petitions over the OBC reservation in the local body polls, the apex court on May 4 ruled that the SEC must proceed with the elections of such local bodies which had become due on expiry of their five-year term, and that the SEC is obliged to notify the election programme within two weeks. The top court also asked the SEC to carry forward the delimitation work done prior to the new law coming into force on March 11.

"The Supreme Court had rejected the interim report of the Maharashtra State Backward Classes Commission which recommended restoring the OBC quota up to 27 per cent in local bodies. And the SEC was also not cooperating with the government and was taking a different stand. Had the new law not been enacted, the elections would have been held without the OBC quota. The MVA would have faced a lot of backlash from the OBC community," said a government source.

The source pointed out that the new law provided for the redrawing of the ward boundaries of the local bodies, thereby deferring their entire election process by a couple of months. So even if the top court has asked the SEC to resume its delimitation work from where it was on March 10, the latter has taken the stand of not holding the local body elections in the monsoon season, said sources.

"The SC asking SEC to carry forward its delimitation work could be a technical setback for the government. But with the SEC taking a stand of not holding elections in monsoon, the local body elections are likely to be held in September-October. In March this year, the

government appointed a dedicated commission to prepare data required for ensuring the OBC quota in local bodies and its report is likely to come in the next one or two months following which the OBC quota can be ensured. So, it is a major relief for the MVA government to hold the elections in September-October with OBC quota," the source explained.

In its order given on March 4, 2021, the apex court, while reading down the provision of the OBC reservation in local bodies, asked the Maharashtra government to comply with triple conditions - setting up a commission for collecting empirical data on the OBC population, specifying the proportion of reservation, and ensuring that the cumulative share of reserved seats do not breach 50 per cent of total seats.

While the MVA government has appointed a commission for preparing a report, it also got a legislation passed by the Assembly during the winter session in December last year to provide up to 27 per cent reservation to the OBCs in the local bodies. With this, the government has fulfilled the two conditions, while hoping that the commission's report would comply with the third condition on empirical OBC data. The OBC reservation in local bodies has emerged as a major political issue in Maharashtra. The principal Opposition BJP believes that the apex court's orders have caused a setback to the MVA coalition government comprising the Shiv Sena, NCP and Congress. The BJP claims that decks have been cleared now for local body elections without the OBC quota, which it is planning to exploit to its electoral advantage.

MVA attacks Raj Thackeray for 'failed agitations', wants BJP's clarification

MAHARASHTRA'S RULING MAHA VIKAS AGHADI ON FRIDAY AGAIN TARGETED MAHARASHTRA NAVNIRMAN SENA PRESIDENT RAJ THACKERAY OVER HIS "FAILED" AGITATIONS AND DEMANDED THE OPPOSITION BHARATIYA JANATA PARTY SHOULD CLARIFY ITS STAND OVER ITS UTTAR PRADESH MP'S THREATS TO HIM.



foot in Ayodhya next month (June 5) until he apologises with folded hands for "humiliating" north Indians in the past.

"On the other hand hand, the state BJP endorsed Raj Thackeray on the loudspeakers issue and the UP BJP government is ready to welcome him with a red carpet in Ayodhya. Leader of Opposition Devendra Fadnis and state BJP chief Chandrakant Patil should clarify their stand on these issues," Londhe demanded.

He also accused BJP of using the MNS chief, independent MP Navneet Kaur-Rana and her MLA husband Ravi Rana as "puppets" and supporting the MNS for removing loudspeakers from mosques. In a sharp attack, Deputy Chief Minister and Nationalist Congress Party leader Ajit Pawar said in Pune that none of Raj Thackeray's agitations in the past have been successful but adversely hit the state and the social fabric.

Without naming Raj Thackeray, he cited the examples of the MNS' past agitation against the north Indian communities and the toll-tax protests on highway, and the latest against mosque loudspeakers and

'azaan' which is countering with Hanuman Chalisa.

Pawar pointed out that those agitations continued for some days and then nothing materialised out of them, but it ended up affecting the state and the society, and north Indians fled the city, hitting various economic sectors badly till they returned.

In 2008, the MNS had gone after the north Indian candidates for various government and railway exams and also hammered street vendors in the name of priority of jobs for locals.

However, 10 years later in 2018 - ahead of the 2019 Parliament and Assembly elections - Raj Thackeray attempted to soothe the ruffled feathers of the north Indians, but the strategy barely impressed them.

In the latest anti-loudspeakers campaign, though a majority of the mosques in Mumbai and others parts of the state have silenced or removed their public address systems, murmurs of protests have started from the other religions as they are unable to use loudspeakers in temples, gurdwaras, Buddh Viharas, Jain Derasars, churches and others even for their routing pooja-aartis and other religious functions.



STANDARD OF CM RISE SCHOOLS SHOULD BE BETTER THAN PRIVATE SCHOOLS: CM

Team Absolute | Bhopal

Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan has said that no stone should be left unturned in ensuring that children studying in CM Rise Schools come in merit list. Efforts should be made to ensure that the quality of CM Rise schools coming up in the state is better than that of private schools. Chouhan said that such schools should be developed under the scheme, that the common man prefers to send his children to CM Rise Schools instead of private schools. Chief Minister Chouhan gave these instructions during the review meeting of CM Rise Schools being built in the state in Mantralaya. Chief Secretary



Iqbal Singh Bains and other senior officers were present. Chouhan said that preparations for starting CM Rise Schools should be completed on time. Staff should be well trained. Quality construction of school buildings should be ensured. He said that the schools that are complete should be started in the coming June after summer vacation. Principal Secretary School Education Rashmi Arun Shami informed that schools will start in the state from June 13. The 25 CM Rise schools that are ready will be started by the end of June. All its preparations will be completed on time.

CM EXPRESSED GRIEF, ANNOUNCES EX-GRATIA

Team Absolute | Bhopal

Bhopal: Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan has expressed grief over the untimely demise of the citizens in the short circuit accident in Indore's Swarn Bagh Colony last night. Chouhan has prayed to God to give place to the departed souls at his lotus feet and strength to the family members to bear this deep sorrow. He wished speedy recovery to the injured in the fire. Chouhan said that Rs. 4 lakh each would be given to the next of kin of the deceased. An inquiry has been ordered into the incident. Strict action will be taken against whoever is found to be negligent in this accident.

Ladli Laxmi Utsav Should Become the Vehicle of Social Revolution : CM

Team Absolute | Bhopal

Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan has said that daughters are not a burden but a boon. In order to bring change in the thinking of the society towards daughters, Ladli Laxmi Utsav is being celebrated in the state on the launch of Ladli Laxmi Yojana-2. Efforts should be made to make this festival a vehicle of social revolution. Chouhan said that the State Government is committed to empower the daughters and give them equal rights. Chief Minister was reviewing the preparations at Mantralaya today for the state level programme of Ladli Laxmi Utsav to be held at Lal Parade Ground in Bhopal on May 8th. Chouhan said that Ladli



Laxmi Utsav is being celebrated in the state from May 2th to May 11th. In this sequence, a state level programme is being organised in Bhopal. This should be given wide publicity through various media so that new thoughts and new direction can be

given towards daughters in the society. The programme will be held from 7 pm, in which efforts should be made to connect maximum number of people. During the programme, Ladli booklets and brochure of Ladli Laxmi Yojana will be released and

Ladli e-Samvad app will be launched. Along with this, there will also be distribution of learning driving license to some ladli Laxmis. All the Ladli Laxmis of the state and their parents will be virtually connected with the programme.

Develop Amrit Sarovars as Scenic Spots : CM Shri Chouhan

Team Absolute | Bhopal

Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan has said that the Amrit Sarovars being constructed in the state should be developed as scenic spots. Such an environment should be created around Amrit Sarovars, where the villagers can go for a walk and enjoy the experience. Chouhan was reviewing the Amrit Sarovars being built in every district of the state on the call of Prime Minister Narendra Modi at Mantralaya

on Saturday. Chief Minister Chouhan said that it is necessary to conserve rain water during Jalabhishek campaign, so that more and more rain water can be stored for future. This is the responsibility of all of us. Chouhan directed that the Amrit Sarovars being built in villages should be good quality, there should be no shortage of any kind, construction of ghats and plantation should also be done around them. He said that photos of ponds should also be

uploaded on the portal of the department. The ponds should be used in a better way. He said that preparations should also be made for the launch of the constructed Sarovars. Principal Secretary Panchayat and Rural Development Umakant Umrao informed that the work of construction of Amrit Sarovars is being done at a fast pace with good quality in all the districts of the state. About 3 thousand ponds will be completed in the state before June 15.

CM PLANTED NEEM AND GULMOHAR SAPLINGS



Bhopal: Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan has said that the works of planting saplings and cleanliness can be more successful only with public cooperation. Every citizen has to cooperate in these works. Chouhan planted saplings with Jawahar Nagar Residents Association and senior journalist Harimohan Modi and his family members at Smart City Park located in Shyamla Hills on Saturday. Along with Chief Minister Chouhan, members of the Resident Association Rajeshwar Singh, Priya Yadav, Gayatri Singh and Dilip Singh also planted saplings. Special attention is given to cleanliness by the resident association in their colony and tree plantation work is also done for environmental protection. Besides, arrangements are also made for free education to poor children in private schools. Senior journalist Harimohan Modi presented a copy of Prerna Vikas Diary-2022 to Chief Minister Chouhan. Information about the telephone numbers of senior officers posted in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh and New Delhi along with public representatives has been given in the diary.

Chief Minister Chouhan will launch Ladli Laxmi Yojana 2.0

Team Absolute | Bhopal

Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan will launch Ladli Laxmi Yojana-2.0 at Ladli Laxmi Utsav on Sunday. A state level programme of Ladli Laxmi Utsav will be held at Lal Parade Ground in Bhopal at 6.30 pm. Around 7,500 Ladli Laxmis will be present in the programme. Along with this, Ladli Laxmis and public representatives will also be connected virtually from all the districts, development blocks, gram panchayats and urban bodies. Chouhan will also dedicate the Ladli e-Samvad app to establish a continuous dialogue with Ladlis. In this Samvad app, all Ladli Laxmis will be linked to the education portal through Samagra ID which will enable continuous tracking of their educational status. Sports and Youth Welfare Minister Yashodhara Raj

Scindia, Tribal Affairs and Scheduled Castes Welfare Minister Meena Singh and Tourism, Culture Minister Usha Thakur will also be present at the state level Ladli Laxmi Utsav. The programme will be telecast live through various media. An innovative initiative has been taken in the Ladli Laxmi Yojana-2.0, to encourage daughters to pursue higher education and make them self-dependent. Decision has also been taken to honor gram panchayats who have done remarkable work for the economic empowerment, skill enhancement, protection of rights along with nutrition, health and education of the daughters and to boost their self-confidence. This will increase the positive attitude towards the girl child in the society. The Gram Panchayats which take best care of the girl child will be declared 'Ladli Friendly'

gram panchayat. The incentive amount to be given to the Ladlis for admission in graduation or vocational course the duration of which will be minimum 2 years after completing Class XII, will be in two equal installments. The tuition fee for Bachelor's degree studies or professional diploma in higher education will be borne by the state government. In Madhya Pradesh, 42 lakh, 4 thousand 650 girls have been registered till April 2022 under Ladli Laxmi Yojana. So far, more than 9 lakh girl students have been paid a scholarship amount of Rs 231 crore. The birth sex ratio in the state has increased from 927 to 956. The implementation of the scheme has changed the attitude of the society towards daughters, due to which there has also been an unprecedented success in ending social evils like child marriage.

CM PAID TRIBUTE TO SHRI RAVINDRANATH TAGORE

Bhopal: Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan on Saturday paid homage to poet Ravindranath Tagore on his anniversary by garlanding his picture in the CM's residence hall. Chouhan also remembered the contribution of Tagore. MLA Hari Singh Sapre was present.



Online Work Management System Implemented In the Construction of Government Buildings

Building Development Corporation is implementing online work management system for the quality of construction of government buildings. Now the concerned departments will be able to do real time monitoring of physical and financial progress of their construction works.

Team Absolute | Bhopal

Building Development Corporation of Public Works will be the first construction agency to provide such facility to government departments. Principal Secretary Public Works Neeraj Mandloi informed that Madhya Pradesh Building Development Corporation has been established by the State Government in February-2022 for the use of modern design and technology in the construction of government buildings. This corporation will take 6 percent of the construction cost as supervision charge in lieu of construction and supervision of big buildings of all government departments of the state.

Mandloi informed that the aim of formation of Building Development Corporation is to get quality modern government buildings constructed in the state. The services of young engineer pass-outs from national institutes like IITs are being taken in the corporation. Also, 21 days training is being given to the newly recruited engineers at National Academy of Construction, Hyderabad. Services of architects and project consultants are also being taken for smooth operation and quality construction of projects.

YOUTH SHOULD BECOME SELF-DEPENDENT: SAKHLECHA

Bhopal: Minister of Micro, Small Medium Enterprises and Science and Technology Omprakash Sakhlecha on Saturday dedicated 9 works of Nagar Panchayat and performed bhoomi-pujan at Nayagaon in Neemuch. Sakhlecha told about the various schemes of the Central and State Governments and also directed the officials to make people aware of the government schemes. He said that 13.50 lakh people have been provided employment opportunities through employment fairs organized so far this year. About the Mukhyamantri Udyami Kranti Yojana, Sakhlecha told that XII pass youth would be able to get loans ranging from Rs 1 lakh to Rs 50 lakhs. For this, the youth will not need to go to any bank or office to take the loan. One can apply online for this. Loan approval and disbursement can be done online. Sakhlecha called upon the youth to become self-reliant by setting up their own unit of cement bricks paver block manufacturing. The minister also dedicated various development works like CC road, drain construction and pond deepening in different wards of Nayagaon and performed bhoomi-pujan.

Micro plans of 5 thousand forest committees will be ready by the end of this year: Forest Minister

Team Absolute | Bhopal

Forest Minister Kunwar Vijay Shah said that forest committees are playing a special role in the restoration and management of forests of the state. By the end of this year, micro plans of 5000 forest committees will be prepared. Shah informed that there are 847 village communities in the state where improvements have been made in the forests. Apart from this, 1.15 lakh hectare degraded forest area in 390 villages has been completely restored. In the last one decade, 4 lakh 31 thousand hectare forest area has been restored in 1152 villages of the state. The state has rich in terms of bamboo. Bamboo is available here in 18 thousand 394 square kilometers,

which is the highest in the country. In this, green stalk bamboo is 3108 million and dry stalk bamboo is 1005 million. The geographical area of the state is 3 lakh 8 thousand 292 square kilometers. Out of this, the tree cover is 8054 square kilometer, which is 2.61 percent of the geographical area. In this way, Madhya Pradesh occupies the third position among the first five states of the country in terms of tree cover. According to the 2021 report released by the Forest Survey of India, the state is ahead of other states in the forest area. Very dense forest area is 6645 square kilometer, medium dense forest is 34 thousand 209 square kilometers and open forest area is 36 thousand 619 square kilometers.

CM GREETES ON WORLD ATHLETICS DAY

Bhopal: Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan has greeted and extended best wishes to the sports persons and sports lovers on World Athletics Day. Chouhan tweeted that - "Sports have an important role in physical and intellectual development." Chouhan said that the budget for sports activities in Madhya Pradesh has been continuously increased. Necessary facilities have been made available in the sports academies established to make the players proficient in various sports. They are prepared for national and international level sports events. Continuous efforts are being made for the players to move ahead in all sports of athletics. Chouhan has called upon the children and youth to take up a career in sports and make it a part of their daily routine. He wished all the players to be healthy and happy.

REAL GUARDIANSHIP OF DAUGHTERS - LADLI LAXMI YOJANA OF MADHYA PRADESH

The birth of a daughter is no longer taken as a burden in Madhya Pradesh, in fact the the birth of a daughter is celebrated joyfully. The state's Ladli Laxmi Yojana has been the mainstay in changing this concept. Ladli Laxmi Yojana was implemented by Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan on April 1, 2007, to fulfill the responsibility of being a real guardian from the birth of the girl child to her marriage.

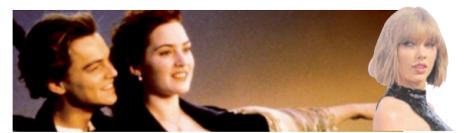
Team Absolute | Bhopal

Chouhan's thinking towards daughters has been one of sensitivity right from the beginning. With this thinking, he implemented this scheme mainly to keep the foundation stone of a good future for girls taking birth in the state, to improve the sex ratio, improving the educational and health status of the girl child and develop positive thinking among the people towards the girl child. A decade after the success of the scheme, the Ladli Laxmi Act 2018 was also made effective in the state to give it a legal form. Today more than 42 lakh girls are included in the Ladli Laxmi Yojana in the state. The successful implementation of the scheme and positive results is an example for the entire country. Many states have not only appreciated this scheme of Madhya Pradesh but have also implemented it in their own state. The intention with which the Chief Minister Chouhan started the scheme has been actually felt and experienced by the beneficiary families of the state. Today there are more

than 39 lakh families in the state, in whose homes all the responsibilities of the girl child are being fulfilled by the state government. Ladli Laxmi Yojana has also sidelined the orthodox traditions adopted towards daughters. Effective implementation of the scheme has also improved the sex ratio in many districts of the state, the biggest example of which has been seen in Bhind district. In the year 2012, the sex ratio in Madhya Pradesh was 927 females per 1000 males, which has increased to 956 today. In order to make the scheme more effective and fruitful, a new form is being given to the scheme by the Chief Minister. Now many provisions are being made to connect Ladli Laxmis with education and employment, to make them strong, capable, skilful and self-dependent. The government is also taking initiatives to connect daughters with higher education, vocational education, employment and self-employment. Now a portal for class wise tracking will be developed for the continuity of education of all the girl students included in the scheme. Ladli Laxmis will be given necessary guidance and encouragement for higher education as well as technical and vocational education. The government

is also going to make arrangements for counselling and coaching for competitive examinations, and provide necessary training and skill upgradation opportunities for linking with employment in startups, small-medium industries and private sector. More than 42 lakh girls are registered under Ladli Laxmi Yojana in the state. In order to make the future bright of the Ladli Laxmis, the beneficiary girl child of the scheme is given a scholarship of Rs. 2 thousand on admission in Class VI, Rs. 4 thousand on admission in Class IX, Rs. 6 thousand on admission in Class XI and Rs. 6 thousand on admission in Class XII. Also, there is a system of payment of Rs one lakh for the girl child to appear in the XII examination, not marry till the age of 18 and on completion of 21 years. Recently, Chief Minister Chouhan has also decided to provide an amount of Rs 25 thousand to the girls registered under the scheme as an incentive for further education or vocational training after completing their studies up to Class XII. The scheme is also being linked with health and nutrition for the all-round development of the girl child. Provision of other necessary health check-ups including immunization of

the beneficiary girl child, anemia and availability of nutritious food is also being ensured. The habit of saving is also being inculcated in Ladli Laxmi's parents by encouraging them to invest in schemes like Sukanya Samridhi for the welfare of the girl child. Chief Minister has also planned to reward Gram Panchayats and Urban Local Bodies for ensuring better sex ratio in the state. Chouhan believes that Ladli Laxmi Yojana should not be confined only to being a scheme that provides financial assistance. It is also necessary to give a positive environment and constant encouragement to the girl child. Girls have to be made to feel that they are of special importance to their parents and society. They have to believe that they can achieve new dimensions and achievements in life. On May 2, 178 Ladli Laxmi girls were taken on an international border Wagah-Husainiwal (Punjab) border tour under the 'Maa Tujhe Pranam' scheme for the first time, which was started again in the state. Tricolor and mementoes have also been sent from Madhya Pradesh side through Ladli Laxmi girls for the brave soldiers posted on Wagah border.



Will Smith's 'Emancipation' shifting to 2023

Los Angeles | Agencies

The release of Oscar-winning actor Will Smith's upcoming project 'Emancipation' is delayed and will be hitting the screens in 2023. According to 'Variety', originally expected to drop on the fall festival circuit later this year, the actor's next film from Apple, and co-produced by his production company Westbrook Studios, is planning to delay the film's release to sometime in 2023. Directed by Antoine Fuqua, the movie would have been the first release for Smith following his assault on comedian Chris Rock during the 94th Oscars. As a result, he

was banned from attending the Oscars and other Academy-related events for 10 years, reports 'Variety'.

Though the studio did not officially date 'Emancipation', it was expected to be the streamer's next potential awards project this year after winning best picture for 'CODA'.

While Apple has not shared an official date, one source familiar with the situation said "it's the unspoken truth" that the action-drama will not hit the platform in 2022.

However, the same source also revealed there have been ongoing internal discussions between Apple executives and the filmmakers on how a release in the fall could move forward, but it seems highly unlikely.

In the weeks leading up to this year's Oscars, the buzz was already growing regarding 'Emancipation'.

Jason Momoa shoots motorcycle stunt on 'Fast And Furious 10' set

Los Angeles | Agencies

Hollywood star Jason Momoa's unofficial first look in 'Fast and Furious 10' has now surfaced online. Leaked on-set photos have captured the 42-year-old actor filming a wild motorcycle stunt in Rome.

In the images, the 'Game of Thrones' alum flaunted his serious arm muscles in a black tight vest paired with black leather trousers and sturdy black boots. He accessorised his look with gold chains and some rings, reports aceshowbiz.com.

The Hawaiian-born star got a massage on his shoulders from an assistant when waiting to film his scene. He sat cross-legged on the stairs while his long locks were swept up in loose bun.

Momoa then put on a snakeskin jacket and black shades as he was ready to film his scene. A man, probably his double wearing the same outfit as his, was seen on the set that day, but the 'Aquaman' star was seen filming his own action scene.

In the scene, Momoa's character rides a motorcycle up stairs while another person in a brown jacket, seemingly a woman, is trailing behind him.

After reaching the top of the stairs, he stops his motorbike and takes off his jacket as he walks down the stairs.

Momoa is confirmed to play a villain in the upcoming movie. It's said that the actor's character could work alongside Charlize Theron's Cipher, who escaped at the end of 'F9'.



one's in for a ride." Olsen made her MCU debut in 2015's 'Avengers: Age of Ultron'.

Elizabeth Olsen

on how Scarlett Johansson taught her to be a superhero

Los Angeles | Agencies

Actress Elizabeth Olsen's character Wanda Maximoff in the 'Doctor Strange in the Multiverse of Madness' is at her most complex, as her relationship with the title character essayed by English star Benedict Cumberbatch, grows more tangled over the course of the film.

However, Olsen, whose portrayal of the mystical Scarlet Witch has made her a consistent MCU fan favourite, says that no matter what Wanda goes through, she'll continue to defend the character, reports 'Variety'. "I remember people saying at the end of 'Wandavision'. 'She has no accountability,'" Olsen told 'Variety' senior entertainment reporter Angelique Jackson on the red carpet at the 'Multiverse of Madness' premiere on Monday. "She's gonna take accountability for herself, she's gonna isolate, she's gonna think about it, and she's gonna grow." Although 'Multiverse of Madness' is a sequel to the 2016 'Doctor Strange' film, it also follows many of the plot threads of the critically acclaimed Disney+ series 'Wandavision', which saw Olsen and Paul Bettany headline as Wanda and the android Vision.

Olsen jumped into filming on 'Doctor Strange 2' right after she wrapped 'Wandavision'.

"Getting to do 'Wandavision' and then coming into this film, my priority was, how do we continue the thread, but how do we also make it different?" Olsen recalled.

"How is there an evolution, how can we keep it exciting for the fans? And how can we ground her and show them something they haven't seen yet? And I'm really looking forward for the fan response after this film. I think every-



FRED SAVAGE FIRED FROM DIRECTING, PRODUCING 'THE WONDER YEARS'

Los Angeles | Agencies

Fred Savage, who serves as a director and executive producer on 'The Wonder Years', has been fired due to the findings of an investigation about his conduct on set.

According to 'Variety', multiple employees complained about Savage's behaviour while working on 'The Wonder Years', a reboot of the '80s-'90s series of the same name that starred Savage as Kevin Arnold.

The nature of the complaints remains unclear. A spokesperson for Disney-owned 20th Television confirmed that allegations were made and that Savage had been terminated, reports 'Variety'.

The statement reads: "Recently, we were made aware of allegations of inappropriate conduct by Fred Savage, and as is policy, an investigation was launched. Upon its completion, the decision was made to terminate his employment as an executive producer and director of 'The Wonder Years'."

This is not Savage's first time in the news for allegations about his behaviour.

In 1993, original 'The Wonder Years' costume designer Monique Long sued the actor for sexual harassment.

Alley Mills, who starred alongside Savage, claimed in 2018 that the original series' cancellation was a result of the suit.

'31 TO COFFIN'

Los Angeles | Agencies

Actress-singer Selena Gomez has given some insight into her qualifications for a romantic partner.

In the now since-deleted TikTok video, Gomez was seen lip-syncing to an audio of Anisha Ramakrishna from Bravo's 'Family Karma', which is about falling for older men, reports aceshowbiz.com.

In the clip, an off-camera voice on the audio asked: "What is your dating range lately?" The 29-year-old lip-synced in response: "31 to coffin."

This wasn't the first time for the singer to poke fun at her love life on the platform.

Just a few days ago, the former Disney darling shared a video featuring a super relatable take on being single.

The video saw Selena facing the camera while sitting on the couch.

SELENA GOMEZ POKES FUN AT HER DATING AGE RANGE

Madonna says wants to 'discuss important matters' with Pope Francis

Los Angeles | Agencies

Singer Madonna, who was criticised for blasphemy by the Vatican following the release of her controversial 1989 video 'Like a Prayer', which featured burning crosses, a black Jesus and statues crying blood, said that she wants to meet him to discuss "important matters". She tweeted: "Hello @Pontifex Francis - I'm a good Catholic. I swear! I mean I don't swear," Madonna tweeted at the Pope. "It's been a few decades since my last confession. Would it be possible to meet up one day to discuss some important matters?" I've been excommunicated 3 times. It doesn't seem fair." The Pope has yet to respond to Madonna, reports femalefirst.co.uk. According to female-

first.co.uk, in 2006, Madonna was also accused of blasphemy following a controversial performance in Rome, when she was "crucified" on stage. At the time, the late Cardinal Ersilio Tonini spoke with the approval of then-Pope Benedict XVI, saying the 'Vogue' hitmaker had gone "too far". He said: "To crucify herself during the concert in the city of Popes and martyrs is an act of open hostility. It is nothing short of a scandal and an attempt to generate publicity," the cardinal said at the time. "The time will come when this woman will realise that Christ died on the cross for her as well, that he spilt his blood for her. I feel pity for her." She previously reached out to the Pope in 2019 because she was keen to talk to him about women's rights.



ABSOLUTE PIC OF THE DAY



Larsa Pippen



INDIAN PREMIER LEAGUE 2022

RAJASTHAN DEFEAT PUNJAB BY 6 WICKETS



Team Absolute | Mumbai

Opener Yashasvi Jaiswal marked his return to Rajasthan Royals' playing eleven with a scintillating 68 while Shimron Hetmyer exhibited his finishing exploits in an unbeaten 31 to help the side defeat Punjab Kings by six wickets at the Wankhede Stadium on Saturday.

After Jonny Bairstow's 58 and Jitesh Sharma's unbeaten 38 took Punjab to 189/5, Jaiswal shined in his comeback match of the tournament. Despite Devdutt Padikkal struggling to get going, Hetmyer ensured that Rajasthan chased down the total to successfully break their two-match losing streak and keep themselves in the hunt for a spot in the playoffs. Jaiswal began by slamming two fours through cuts in the off-side and a glorious picked-up six over deep square

leg. Jos Buttler joined the attacking party in the fourth over, launching Kagiso Rabada for a six over deep midwicket. He followed it up with three fours -- carving one through extra cover, a lapull over short fine leg while in air and smoked through cover. But Rabada had the last laugh, having an over-improvising Buttler caught at short third man.

Sanju Samson took over the attacking mantle after Buttler's fall, finding luck in getting fours through edges twice while nailing other boundaries with sheer timing through point and cover. But his stay at the crease ended when he miscued to long-off off Rishi Dhawan.

Jaiswal, meanwhile, continued with his charge, heaving a four over Sandeep Sharma's head and produced a stunning inside-out lofted six over extra cover off Rahul Chahar. Sharma came under from Jaiswal again when he carted back-to-

back fours -- slapping over long-off and playing a silken late cut through third man. Jaiswal reached his maiden fifty of the tournament in 33 balls. He then followed it up with three fours off Dhawan in the 13th over -- a smack over long-on, scoop flying over short third man and nailing drive past cover. After taking another four through reverse sweep off Chahar, Jaiswal tried to take over Arshdeep Singh but holed out to long-off, breaking the 56-run stand.

With 47 runs needed off the last five overs, Shimron Hetmyer clipped Rabada through fine leg and cracked successive boundaries in the arc between mid-wicket and long-on. Hetmyer and Padikkal took four and six respectively off Rabada to make the equation really easy for Rajasthan.

Arshdeep nailed his yorkers in a top-class 19th over and got Padikkal out with a low full toss chipped to cover. Hetmyer dispatched Chahar for a six over wide long-on and finished off the chase with a single in the same region to seal Rajasthan's first win of the tournament in a chase.

Brief scores

Punjab Kings 189/5 in 20 overs (Jonny Bairstow 56, Jitesh Sharma 38 not out; Yuzvendra Chahal 3/28, Ravichandran Ashwin 1/32) lost to Rajasthan Royals 190/4 in 19.4 overs (Yashasvi Jaiswal 68, Shimron Hetmyer 31 not out; Arshdeep Singh 2/29, Rishi Dhawan 1/25)

Lucknow Super Giants hammer Kolkata Knight Riders by 75 runs



Team Absolute | Pune

A clinical all-round performance helped Lucknow Super Giants thrash Kolkata Knight Riders by 75 runs in the 53rd match of the IPL 2022 at Maharashtra Cricket Association Stadium, here on Saturday.

A quickfire fifty from Quinton de Kock (50 off 29) and a vital knock by Deepak Hooda (41 off 27) guided Lucknow Super Giants to 176-7 in 20 overs, after being invited to bat first.

Both De Kock and Hooda steadied Lucknow with a 71-run stand for the second wicket. Apart from them, the likes of Krunal Pandya (25 off 27), and Marcus Stoinis (28 off 14) also made some valuable contributions with the bat for LSG.

On the other hand, Andre Russell (2/22) was the most successful bowler for KKR, while Sunil Narine (1/20), Tim Southee and Shivam Mavi (1/50) also chipped in with one wicket each. In reply, Andre Russell played an

attacking knock (45 off 19) but he didn't get the required support from the other KKR batters. After Russell, Sunil Narine (22 off 12) was the second-highest scorer for KKR. In the end, Kolkata were bowled out for 101-10 in 14.3 overs, losing by a huge margin of 75 runs.

Avesh Khan (3/19) and Jason Holder (3/31) were the star-performers for LSG with the ball. The likes of Ravi Bishnoi (1/31), Dushmantha Chameera (1/14), and Mohsin Khan (1/6) also picked one wicket each.

Brief scores:

Lucknow Super Giants: 176-7 in 20 overs (Quinton de Kock 50, Deepak Hood 41; Andre Russell 2/22) beat Kolkata Knight Riders (Andre Russell 45, Sunil Narine 22; Avesh Khan 3/19, Jason Holder 3/31) by 75 runs

Inter keep Serie A hopes alive with win over Empoli

Team Absolute | Rome

Inter Milan kept their Serie A hope alive as they registered a 4-2 comeback win over Empoli, while Juventus left Luigi Ferraris Stadium with empty hands.

Inter Milan entered San Siro with two points behind leader AC Milan and needed a win to keep pressure on their city rivals on Friday night. The away side stunned the Nerazzurri as they raced into a 2-0 lead within 30 minutes, thanks to Inter loanee Andrea Pinamonti's opener and Kristjan Asllani's low strike. The defending champion woke up later to get back on level terms before the interval by virtue of Simone Romagnoli's own goal and Lautaro Martinez's volley, Xinhua reports. Lautaro's brace in the 63rd minute led his side to turn the game around, before Alexis Sanchez came off the bench to seal the win in the closing stage. The win, temporarily sent Inter Milan to the top place with 78 points, one point ahead of AC Milan who visit Hellas



Verona on Sunday.

Elsewhere, Genoa earned a precious victory as the relegation battler came from behind to beat Juventus 2-1 on home turf.

With a goalless first half, the Bianconeri went ahead straight after the break, when Paulo Dybala curled in with his weak foot out of the box. Genoa scored the leveler in the 86th minute when Nadiem Amiri's pass sliced Juve defense apart. Albert Gudmundsson beat Wojciech Szczesny one-on-one. The home side punished Juve in the dying minutes as veteran Domenico Criscito converted a last-gasp penalty.

AVINASH SABLE BREAKS 30-YEAR-OLD NATIONAL RECORD IN 5000M

Mumbai: India's Avinash Sable, the national record holder in 3000m steeplechase, made his mark in the 5000m too, breaking the 30-year-old national record during a meet in the United States.

Olympian Sable clocked 13 minutes 25.65 seconds at the Sound Running Track Meet in San Jun Capistrano, the USA on Friday evening to break the long-standing Indian record of 13:29.70 set by Bahadur Prasad in 1992, according to information reaching here on Saturday. Interestingly, Sable, who specializes in 3000 metres steeplechase and has broken the national record eight times, the latest timing of 8:16:21 sec set at the Indian Grand Prix 2 in March 2022, has recently started participating in 5000m races, adding it as a new event in his repertoire. Norway's Jakob Ingebrigtsen, the 1500m champion at Tokyo Olympics, won the gold in 13:02.03. Uganda's Joshua Cheptegei holds the men's 5000m world record, courtesy of a 12:35.36 finish in Monaco in 2020.

HITTING 117M SIX WAS OBVIOUSLY FUN: LIVINGSTONE

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Punjab Kings all-rounder Liam Livingstone said for him, hitting a 117m six off Mohammed Shami in his side's win over Gujarat Titans in IPL 2022 was fun. At the same time, Livingstone pointed out that it was different from the 122m six hit by him off Haris Rauf in England's T20I match against Pakistan last year.

In the 16th over, with Punjab needing 27 runs to win, Livingstone slammed Shami for a monstrous 117m six over deep square leg, which led to commentators on-air say with delight, "It's out the stadium! Have never seen a six as big as that one." Livingstone would then hit two more sixes and as many fours to complete the chase of 144 with four overs to spare. "The one at Leeds (122m)



and this (117m) was different, but it feels great to hit it as big as you can as we are in the entertainment business and it is great for the fans.

Unfortunately, it gives us only six and not more," said Livingstone in a pre-match chat with broadcasters Star Sports.

TOP SEED SWIATEK, RADUCANU HEADLINE FIELD FOR ITALIAN OPEN

Rome | Agencies

Defending champion, Poland's Iga Swiatek, will be keen to maintain her undefeated record at the Italian Open when the event commences here on May 9, with 19 of the top-20 players set to compete in the WTA 1000 tournament.

The draw, which was released late on Friday, had world No. 1 Swiatek headlining the field. Swiatek could meet 16th seed Victoria Azarenka of Belarus, while 10th seed Emma Raducanu of Great Britain could clash with fifth seed Anett Kontaveit of Estonia.

Another Belarusian, No. 3 Aryna Sabalenka could face 13th seed Jessica Pegula of the US, while 12th seed Belinda Bencic of Switzerland could take on No. 7 Danielle Collins



of the US if things go according to script. The other key potential

Round-of-16 clashes include, eighth seed Garbine Muguruza against Ons

Jabeur of Tunisia, while American Coco Gauff could come up against fourth seed Maria Sakkari of Greece. No.2 seed Paula Badosa of Spain could face Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova of Russia. The player who comes out of this section could meet No.5 seed Anett Kontaveit in the Round of 16.

No.3 seed Aryna Sabalenka is scheduled to face Madrid finalist Jessica Pegula of the US in the Round of 16, if seedings hold. Pegula will face big-hitting Liudmila Samsonova in the first round.

2020 Rome champion Simona Halep, who has won nine singles titles on clay, will face Alize Cornet of France in the first round in a 2022 Australian Open rematch. Cornet knocked out Halep in Melbourne this year to make her first Grand Slam quarterfinal.

London | Agencies

Newly-appointed England Test captain Ben Stokes slammed a record-breaking century for Durham against

Worcestershire on Day 2 of the LV=Insurance County Championship match, with the charismatic all-rounder striking 17 sixes.

Thanks to Stokes' brutal hitting, Durham declared their innings on 580/6, with Stokes contributing 161 runs (88 balls) to the total. In reply, Worcestershire were 169/6 at close.

Stokes' number of maximums was a record for a Championship innings, beating the 16 achieved by Australia's Andrew Symonds (1995) and England's Graham Napier (2011) for Gloucestershire and Essex respectively. Stokes took 34 runs off an over from Josh Baker on way to his 161. Among those who witnessed the performance was legendary cricketer and Durham Chair, Ian Botham.

With England set to begin their long summer schedule with the first Test against New



Zealand on June 2 at Lord's, Stokes destructive form would be music to the ears of England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB). England have won just one of the 17 Tests they have played.

This was Stokes' first knock since England's 10-wicket loss against the West Indies in the third Test in Grenada.

DEAFLYMPICS: ABHINAV DESHWAL SHOOTS GOLD IN MEN'S 10M AIR PISTOL

New Delhi: Abhinav

Deshwal, a 15-year-old from Roorkee, gave India their second gold in shooting after he won the men's 10M Air Pistol competition on Day five of the ongoing 24th Deaflympics 2021 in Cascias do Sul, Brazil.

The teenager was tied with silver-winning Ukrainian Oleksii Lazebnyk at 234.2 points apiece at the end of the 24-shot final, before winning in a shoot-off where he shot a 10.3 to the Ukrainian's 9.7. Chinese Taipei's Hsu Ming-Jui won bronze. Abhinav made the top eight final round after finishing second in the 60-shot qualification round with a score of 575 out of 600. He was tied on points here too with Kim Kihyeon, but the Korean topped on account of more inner 10s.



WOMEN'S HOCKEY NATIONALS: M.P., HARYANA, PUNJAB, AND MAHARASHTRA SCORE EASY WINS

Team Absolute | Bhopal

Hockey Madhya Pradesh, Hockey Haryana, Hockey Punjab and Hockey Maharashtra registered wins in their respective pool matches on the second day of the 12th Hockey India Senior Women's National Championship 2022 here on Saturday.

The host Hockey Madhya Pradesh began the day two proceedings with a remarkable 4-0 win over Hockey Bihar in the Pool A match. Prashu Singh Parihar (23', 51') netted twice, while Jyoti Pal (1') and Seema Verma (21') scored a goal each for Hockey Madhya Pradesh. In Pool B, Hockey Haryana registered a massive 18-0 win over Hockey Bengal. Amandeep Kaur (41', 44', 49', 51', 59') scored as



many as five goals, while Soni (7', 19', 34') and Bharti Saroha (14', 21', 24') each bagged a hat-trick while Tannu (17', 32') and Ekta Kaushik (27', 40') each netted twice for Hockey Haryana. Sonia (2'), Balwinder Verma (5') and Simranjeet Kaur (30') also contributed a goal each for the winning team.

In Pool C, Hockey Punjab beat Tripura Hockey 9-0. Navjot Kaur (2', 30', 57') started with a hat-trick, while Captain Navpreet Kaur (15'), Kirandeep Kaur (16'), Jotika Kalsi (32'), Sarabdeep Kaur (37'), Chandanpreet Kaur (53') and Mahima (60') scored a goal each for Hockey Punjab.

In Pool D, Hockey Maharashtra registered a clinical 2-0 win against Hockey Uttarakhand. Akansha Singh (8') and Chaitrali Gawde (48') were the goal scorers for the winning team.



On the occasion of Mothers Day, in an exclusive conversation with Absolute India News, Shafaq Naaz reminisced her mother, who she lovingly called 'Ammi'.



MOTHERS DAY EXCLUSIVE

Mother's Day can be celebrated everyday: Shafaq Naaz

Aakruti Bagla | Mumbai
Shafaq Naaz is one of the most popular actresses of the television industry. She is best known in the industry for her portrayal of Kunti in Mahabharat, and Mayuri in Chidiya Ghar. Talking about what this day signifies to her, Shafaq said, "I feel, one can celebrate Mother's Day everyday. I feel, if you want to shower love and show your appreciation and affection, you need not wait for that one specific day. It is just that, this one

day, you can do a bit extra and make it special". The actress has been vocal about her aloof relationship with her biological mother. She was raised by her maternal grandparents. During the interaction, Shafaq shared that her 'Nani' is only her mother and she lovingly called her 'Ammi'. Defining their bond, Shafaq quipped, "I lived with Ammi since my birth. The first time I said the word 'Maa', it was for Ammi. I believe that, if someone really loved me in this world- it was my 'ammi'. That feeling cannot be described in words as it is the most purest form of love. It's

all about emotions and it comes naturally." Shafaq also recalled how difficult it was for her to cope with her death. She averred, "It's been 7-8 years since she passed away. I was in a state of shock after her death as it was the worst time of my life. It is still difficult for me to process the fact that she is no more. I still get emotional, thinking that I cannot hold her hands anymore or see her around me. The intensity of that pain can still be felt. But, to be practical, life goes on and you have to move forward". Shafaq shared the qualities she imbibed from her and

remembered a happy moment with her. "Patience and Compassion and two qualities of her I wish to imbibe. I have seen her being selfless and putting others ahead of herself. That is something about her I cannot forget." She further said, "When I think about the love she heaped on me, it brings a smile to my face. I remember during Eid when I fasted, there were times I got agitated because of hunger. But Ammi knew how to distract me. She used to tell me to prepare Iftaari. These gestures of her are something I always cherish".

MADHURI DIXIT RELEASES THE TEASER AND POSTER FOR HER UPCOMING SECOND SINGLE



2022. The new track's teaser and poster were unveiled on

Saturday. The song is her way of expressing her gratitude to all of her supporters. 'Tu Hai Mera' is Madhuri's special thank you to her fans for all the love and support she's received and continues to get. It is a synthesis of classical Indian folk music with western pop lyrics and beats, bringing the East and the West together and resulting in a globally recognised sound and vibe. The talented actor used social media to debut the new song teaser and poster. Dive into the first look of #TuHaiMera with me, Madhuri captioned the post.

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Following the phenomenal success of her debut single, "Candle," which was released during the lockdown and dedicated to all those fighting on the frontlines, the diva is gearing up to release her second single, "Tu Hai Mera," on her birthday, May 15,



Why Sobhita Dhulipala won't attend trailer launch of her film!

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Actress Sobhita Dhulipala won't attend the trailer launch of her upcoming film 'Major' as she is currently busy shooting for another film. 'Major' is based on the life of Major Sandeep Unnikrishnan, the decorated NSG Commando who perished while saving dozens during the 26/11 Mumbai attacks. The unveiling of the trailer is scheduled for May 9. Taking to social media, Sobhita said: "Major' is a film we worked hard on and with immense passion! The trailer drops on the 9th and I cannot wait for everyone to watch it. So thrilled! It's a pity I won't be able to make it to the unveiling in Hyderabad because of prior shoot commitments. My heart is going to be split between two places that day!! Irrespective, big hearty hug to the media for showing such love to our trailer in private viewings this week."



Team Absolute | Mumbai

TURNING UP THE HEAT: KATRINA, VICKY ENJOY POOL TIME

Bollywood star couple Katrina Kaif and Vicky Kaushal shared a "me and mine" moment as they enjoyed some pool time together. Katrina shared a romantic picture on Instagram posing with Vicky. In the image, Katrina is seen dressed in a white swimsuit tightly hugging her husband Vicky as they posed for the camera in the pool. She captioned the image: "Me and Mine". On the work front, Katrina will star alongside Siddhant Chaturvedi and Ishaan Khatter in the horror comedy 'Phone Booth'. She will also be seen alongside Salman Khan in the third installment of the 'Tiger' franchise. Vicky will next be seen 'Govinda Naam Mera' and 'The Great Indian Family'.

BRAHMA KUMARIS' HONOUR SHEHNAAZ GILL AT GIRL EMPOWERMENT CAMPAIGN

Team Absolute | Mumbai

After the death of her close friend Sidharth Shukla, Shehnaaz Gill became involved with the Brahma Kumaris. She just signed up to be an ambassador for a spiritual organization's initiative to empower girls. She attended an event on May 6 where she was honoured by Brahma Kumaris. On social media, there are several photographs and videos from the event. Shehnaaz is shown in photos and videos giving a heartfelt speech in which she declares her desire to work harder for the sake of society. In a few others, she can be seen dancing on stage with the Brahma Kumaris' sisters.

Fans are delighted to witness this side of Shehnaaz through these images and videos, which have gone viral. Furthermore, fans are swooning over her performance at the event and showering her with love and respect. As admirers show their support for Shehnaaz, the hashtag 'Keep Shining Shehnaaz' has trended on Twitter.

A fan tweeted beside a video of Shehnaaz receiving a warm welcome at the event. "Hamare sab ke dil ki dhakkan @ishehnaaz_gill looking so beautiful and warm welcomed by Brahm Kumaris KEEP SHINING SHEHNAAZ #ShehnaazGill" Another fan gave a glimpse of Shehnaaz's speech and wrote, "My baby @ishehnaaz_gill I don't have enough words to write She always exceed our expectations!! Proud moment KEEP SHINING SHEHNAAZ #ShehnaazGill". Shehnaaz Gill was introduced to the Brahma Kumaris by late actor Sidharth Shukla, with whom she shared a deep bond. She remained involved with the organisation after his demise. Shehnaaz Gill left early the morning of May 6 for the Brahma Kumaris' function. She was seen in a stunning outfit at the airport.

FARHAN AKHTAR TO MAKE A CAMEO APPEARANCE IN MARVEL UNIVERSE'S SERIES

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Farhan Akhtar, actor, director, screenwriter, singer, and producer, joins the Marvel family with the upcoming Disney Plus series 'Ms Marvel'. The multi-hyphenate will star Aramis Knight, Saagar Shaikh, Rish Shah, Zenobia Shroff, Mohan Kapur, Matt Lintz, Yasmeen Fletcher, Laith Nakli, Azhar Usman, Travina Springer, and Nimra Bucha. Which will mark the debut of Iman Vellani.

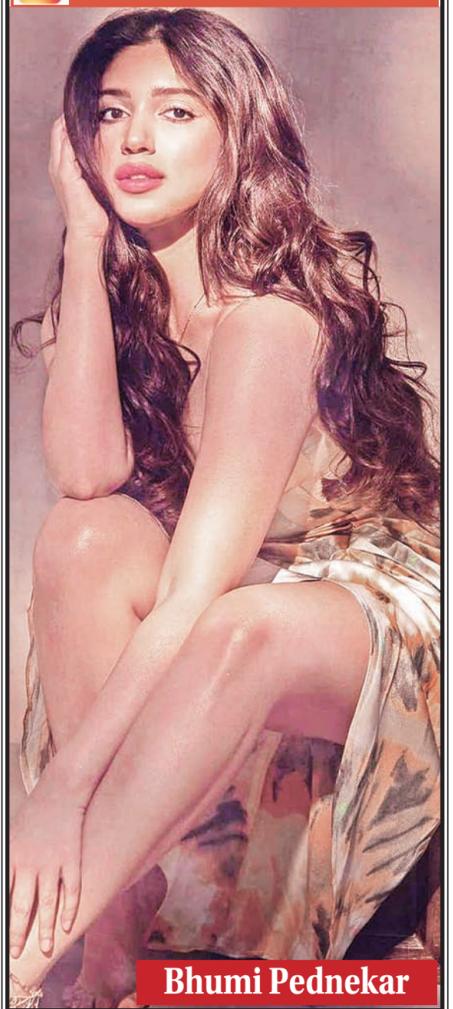
While details about Farhan's position on the show are currently unknown, it is expected that the actor will make cameo appearances on the show that will be equally as memorable.

Ms Marvel, which premieres on June 8, stars Iman Vellani as Kamala Khan, a Muslim American teen growing up in Jersey City. Kamala is a superhero mega-fan with an enlarged imagination, especially when it comes to Captain Marvel. She is an enthusiastic gamer and a compulsive fan-fiction scribe.

Farhan Akhtar is directing Jee Le Zarea in India, which stars Priyanka Chopra, Katrina Kaif, and Alia Bhatt. Not only that, but his production company, Excel Entertainment, which he co-founded with Ritesh Sidhwani, has a multi-year deal with an OTT platform.



INSTAGRAM PIC OF THE DAY



Bhumi Pednekar