

# absolute india

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**INDIAN-AMERICAN RESEARCHERS DEVELOP DURABLE COATING THAT KILLS COVID VIRUS**

## THE SHIELD

- ▶ The coating, which is clear and can be brushed or sprayed on, gets its durability and germ-killing power by combining tried-and-true ingredients in a novel way.
- ▶ It uses antimicrobial molecules derived from tea tree oil and cinnamon oil, both used for centuries as safe and effective germ killers that work in under two minutes.
- ▶ The coating's durability comes from polyurethane, a tough, varnish-like sealer that's commonly used on surfaces like floors and furniture.
- ▶ The coating proved deadly to SARS-CoV-2 virus, E. coli, MRSA and a variety of other pathogens.
- ▶ It killed 99.9 per cent of microbes even after months of repeated cleaning, abrasion and other punishment on real-world surfaces like keyboards, cell phone screens and chicken-slatheared cutting boards.

**New York** | Agencies

There may soon be a new weapon in the battle against Covid in the form of a durable coating, thanks to Indian-American researchers, that can quickly kill bac-



teria and viruses on surfaces, and keep killing them for six months or longer.

According to the study led by Anish Tuteja, a professor of material science and engineering at University of Michigan, published in the journal Matter, "Disinfectant cleaners can kill germs in only a

minute or two but they dissipate quickly and leave surfaces vulnerable to reinfection. We do have long-lasting antibacterial surfaces based on metals like copper and zinc, but they take hours to kill bacteria. This coating offers the best of both

worlds," said Tuteja. The research team included associate professor of materials science and engineering and biomedical engineering, Geeta Mehta and materials science and engineering PhD students Abhishek Dhyani and Taylor Repetto.

The coating could be a game changer in traditionally germ-laden public spaces like airports and hospitals. "The antimicrobials we tested are classified as 'generally regarded as safe' by the FDA, and some have even been approved as food additives," Tuteja said. "Polyurethane is a safe and very commonly used coating. But we did do toxicity testing just to be sure, and we found that our particular combination of ingredients is even safer than many of today's antimicrobials," he mentioned.

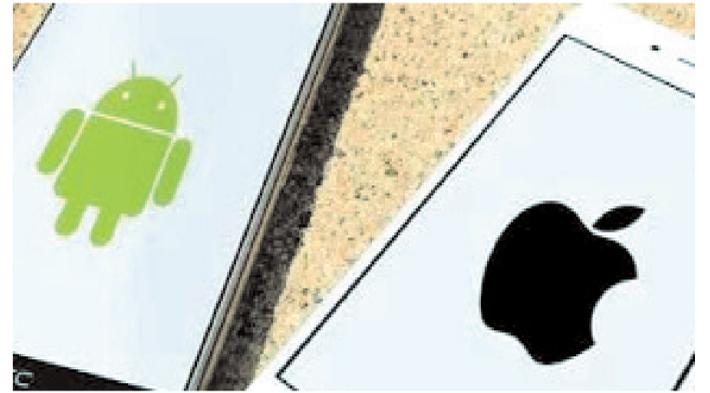
The coating could keep killing germs for six months or longer before its oil begins to evaporate and reduce its disinfectant power.

But even then, said Tuteja, it can be recharged by wiping it with fresh oil; the new oil is reabsorbed by the surface, starting the cycle again.

Tuteja estimates that the technology could be commercially available within a year, as it has been licensed to Hygratek, a spinoff company that Tuteja founded with assistance from Innovation Partnerships at the university.

The University of Michigan has applied for a patent based on this technology.

## SPYWARE FIRM OFFERS SERVICES TO HACK IOS, ANDROID DEVICES FOR RS 64 CR



**Team Absolute** | New Delhi

A little known spyware company, Intellexa, is now competing with Pegasus developer NSO Group, offering its services to hack into Android and iOS devices for a fee of \$8 million (around Rs 64 crore). Malware source code provider Vx-underground found documents representing a proposal from Intellexa, offering services that include Android and iOS device exploits. "Leaked documents online show the purchase (and documentation of) an \$8,000,000 iOS Remote Code Execution zero-day exploit," it tweeted. The offer includes 10 infections for iOS and Android

devices, as well as a "magazine of 100 successful infections". According to Security Week, the documents, "labeled as proprietary and confidential", revealed that the exploits should work on iOS 15.4.1 and the latest Android 12 update. Apple released iOS 15.4.1 in March, which suggests that the offer is recent. "Specifically, the offering is for remote, one-click browser-based exploits that allow users to inject a payload into Android or iOS mobile devices," the report mentioned. Intellexa is based in Europe, with six sites and R&D labs throughout the continent.

"We help law enforcement and intelligence agencies across the world to close the digital gap with multiple and diverse solutions, all integrated with our unique and best-in-class Nebula platform," the company posted on its website. As state-sponsored cyber attacks with government spyware like Pegasus grow, Apple is offering Lockdown Mode this fall with iOS 16, iPadOS 16, and macOS Ventura. This mode offers specialised additional protection to high-profile users who may be at risk of highly targeted attacks from private companies developing state-sponsored mercenary spyware.

## CJI U.U. LALIT BEGINS HIS TENURE 'ROLE OF SC IS TO LAY DOWN LAW WITH CLARITY'

**Team Absolute** | New Delhi

A day before he took oath as the 49th Chief Justice of India (CJI), Justice U.U. Lalit laid down broad contours on his properties as CJI, showing his willingness to accelerate the wheels of justice in the Supreme Court. Though Justice Lalit started on a high note, he will have a herculean task to undertake in a 74-day tenure from appointment of judges to resuming proceedings on cases raising key constitutional questions.



He has century old-legacy, his father and grandfather were lawyers, to draw inspiration from to tackle some of the most far-reaching cases, which challenge constitutional validity of key government decisions -- abrogation of Article 370, amendment to the Citizenship Act, among others.

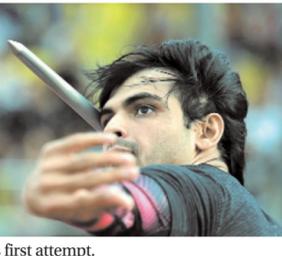
Justice Lalit plans to begin with listing constitutional bench cases after a long hiatus, and also to address daily squabbles between lawyers and registry, as he plans to come out with a regime for free mentioning of urgent cases before concerned benches. At CJI N V Ramana's farewell on Friday, Justice Lalit said, "I have always believed that the role of the Supreme Court is to lay down law with clarity. The best way to do it is having larger benches, so that issues get clarified immediately, so that there is consistency and people are well aware of what are contours of peculiar positions of law."

On August 13, 2014, Justice Lalit was elevated to the apex court directly from the Bar. He will however, have a short tenure as the Chief Justice as he will retire on November 8.

## NEERAJ CHOPRA FINISHES FIRST AT LAUSANNE DIAMOND LEAGUE

**Lausanne** | Agencies

Neeraj Chopra on Friday finished first at the Lausanne Diamond League, becoming the first Indian to clinch the top spot in a Diamond League meet, after registering an 89.08m throw in his first attempt.



The Olympic gold medalist couldn't better his throw in the second attempt, registering a distance of 85.18m. Chopra, who skipped his third throw, had made a foul throw in his fourth attempt.

He threw 80.04m in his final attempt. In the Stockholm Diamond League earlier this year, Chopra had thrown a personal best of 89.94m and had finished second. With his Friday's performance, he has now qualified for the Diamond League final on September 7-8 in Zurich, Switzerland, as well as the the 2023 World Championships, which has a qualification mark of 85.20m.

Chopra is at the fourth spot in the Diamond League points table with seven points. Notably, only the top six with most points at the end of Diamond League qualify for the final.

## World's first hydrogen-powered trains begin passenger service in Germany



- The total cost of the project is around 93 million euros.
- The trains will save 1.6 million liters of diesel and thus reduce CO2 emissions by 4,400 tonnes per year, according to the LNVG.
- The train has a maximum speed of 140 km per hour.

**Berlin** | Agencies

Almost four years after the start of trial operations, the world's first passenger train network powered by hydrogen was launched in the German federal state of Lower Saxony.

The 14 trains with hydrogen fuel cell drive produced by French manufacturer Alstom are to replace diesel trains, Xinhua news agency quoted the local transport authority of Lower Saxony, LNVG, as saying on Wednesday. Five of the new trains are already in

operation, with the others to follow by the end of the year.

During two years of trial operations, two pre-series trains "ran without any problems", the LNVG noted.

The Coradia iLint emission-free hydrogen fuel cell trains have a range of 1,000 km, enabling them to "run all day long on just one tank of hydrogen", Alstom said in a statement.

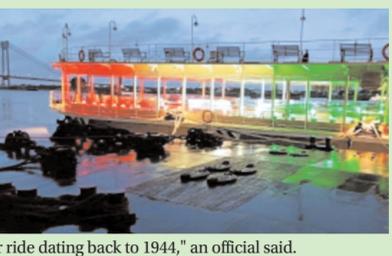
Other older diesel trains in use must be replaced next. The company has yet to decide whether to operate hydrogen or battery-powered trains.

Germany aims to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 65 per cent by 2030 compared to 1990 levels.

Climate neutrality should be reached by 2045, five years earlier than originally planned.

## SUB-CONTINENT'S OLDEST PADDLE STEAMER SET TO SAIL IN HOOGLHY AGAIN

**Kolkata:** A 78-year-old paddle steamer -- the only one in the Indian subcontinent -- will soon start plying the Hooghly as a recreational vessel. PS (paddle steamer) Bhopal has been fitted with modern marine engines now and trials have been conducted to certify its fitness as a vessel to carry passengers. PS Bhopal was built by the Dumbarton Shipyard in the UK in 1944 and sent to Kolkata (then Calcutta) as a ferry boat. It is now a prized possession of SMP. Moored at Berth 22 of the Kidderpore Docks (KPD), it was used as a training vessel till recently. After the lease with the training institution ended in 2019, SMP decided to use it to showcase the vast heritage of the Kolkata port. It was leased out to an operator through an open tendering process. The vessel is planned to be inaugurated sometime in the first week of September. "It will certainly give the guests a feeling of a paddle steamer ride dating back to 1944," an official said.



## On mission to help 100 girls, T'gana woman duo conquer virgin peak in Ladakh

**Team Absolute** | Hyderabad

They went, they saw, and they conquered. In an expedition spanning 12 days, two Telangana women spear-heading Project Shakti have successfully scaled an unconquered mountain peak in Ladakh.

The Project Shakti team have successfully climbed an un-scaled mountain at an altitude of 6,021 metres on August 17.

Project Shakti was founded by Dr. Kavya Manyapu, and Poorna Malavath, to make a difference to 100 underprivileged girls from their state.

Dr. Kavya Manyapu, is a President awardee and space scientist in the US. Poorna Malavath is the youngest female to climb Mt. Everest and youngest to complete Seven summits. To raise awareness and funds, the duo decided to scale hitherto unconquered mountain peaks. This is their first expedition of the mission.

After spending 3 days in Leh for acclimatization, the team headed for base camp on August 11.

After establishing the base camp, route exploration, higher camps and the summit of the mountain, the team completed



the mission on August 17. "Our first expedition to this unclimbed peak is a testament



## United Sikhs to build bomb shelters in Ukraine

**Team Absolute** | New Delhi

The founder director of United Sikhs is touring the war zone in Ukraine to assess the needs of local residents who have been rendered homeless and step up its relief efforts.

He is meeting with local leaders and humanitarian organisations to optimise humanitarian assistance for the people of Ukraine.

Volunteers of United Sikhs, one of the first responders to organise relief with volunteers from Germany, the US, Denmark and the UK, are risking their lives to set up medical relief camps, heated shelters, a community kitchen for daily supply of food for the refugees and the victims in multiple cities, including Kiev.

The immediate need is for safe bombing shelters to save children, women, the old and the sick which United Sikhs shall be setting up soon for more than 300 children, women and men, in the grey zone in the heart of Ukraine, Hardayal Singh said in a statement to the media.

In the wake of this humanitarian crisis and the suffering that every family is going through the resilient Ukrainians are keeping a brave face, he said, which calls for concerted efforts of the people around the globe to join in this campaign to save the children, women, and men shattered by war.

The UN-affiliated United Sikhs had been looking after refugees with medical aid, life-saving relief supplies, sanitation and dental kits, clothing, and food every day.

That every girl has the power to change the world! and this what we want to help every girl realize through Project Shakti," said Kavya on Tuesday.

Project Shakti intends to initially raise an amount of \$1,00,000 for the purpose. The broad plan is to scale similar peaks in other parts of the world in the days ahead.

"This is only the beginning, we want to expand our reach to help empower educate and elevate girls across India," Poorna Malavath told reporter.

Apart from the Telangana duo, the team to Ladakh comprised Divya Thakur from Himachal Pradesh, Rency Thomas from Kerala, a videographer Amit Negi, liaison officer Kimi, and Tsewang Gailston.

The expedition training and logistics are supported by Transcend Adventures, an Indian company engaged in providing training and logistics for mountaineering expedition.

"We had the best team to make this first expedition successful, and this is not just a success for us personally but to all those girls who will be sponsored through Project Shakti and will be helped to realize their dreams," Kavya and Poorna signed off.



## DELHI L-G SLAMS DIRECTORATE OF EDUCATION FOR ACTING AS 'OBSTRUCTIONIST'

Team Absolute | New Delhi

Expressing grave displeasure at 'utter lack of consideration and due diligence by officers', Delhi Lt. Governor V.K. Saxena has slammed Directorate of Education (DoE), and has flagged the 'irresponsible and callous attitude of officers resulting in unnecessary litigation'.

Disposing an appeal in favour of an elementary school whose recognition had been denied by the DoE, despite the school having fulfilled all necessary criteria, the L-G observed that the department which is entrusted with the responsibility of development of school education in Delhi has shown utter lack of consideration and due diligence.

"The Education Department is expected to be a facilitator and not act as an obstructionist," the LG has ruled.

This judicial order will dispose off the appeal filed under Section 4(3) of Delhi Education Act 1973, read with rule 58 of Delhi School Education Rules 1973, that designates the Lt. Governor of Delhi as the Judicial Appellate Authority, against the impugned order dated 16.07.2019, issued by the Deputy Director of Education, District North-West (B), GNCTD.

The said order of the Deputy Director had conveyed the decision of the Director, DoE rejecting the



appellant's request for grant of recognition up to elementary level.

The matter was heard by the L-G on July 27, wherein the counsels of the appellant i.e. Ganga International School, Rohini and the respondents i.e. Directorate of Education, GNCTD and Delhi Development Authority (DDA) were present. The LG heard the counsel of the appellant.

After hearing the submissions made by both the sides, the LG observed that except the perpetual

lease deed wherein the area of land allotted to the society has been shown as 798 sq. m. all other documents issued by DDA mention a land area of 800 sq. m.

Directing the DoE to immediately provide the school with necessary recognition pending unjustifiably since 2009 (13 years) subject to it fulfilling all other norms, the LG observed that the impugned order issued by DoE is cryptic, non-speaking and passed without application of mind.

### AAP WON'T ALLOW BJP TO SHUT A SINGLE SCHOOL IN DELHI: MANISH SISODIA

New Delhi: Deputy Chief Minister of Delhi, Manish Sisodia, said on Saturday said that he will stand like a shield in front of the students to protect their future and won't let the BJP shut a single school in the national capital.

Sisodia's statement came after the Lieutenant Governor of Delhi, V.K. Saxena, sought a report from the Chief Secretary over the delay of two-and-a-half years on the part of the Vigilance Department to act on the Central Vigilance Commission's (CVC) inquiry report on construction of additional classrooms in Delhi government schools on Friday. "The BJP and the Central government are conspiring to shut down Delhi's government schools. The BJP can't tolerate seeing poor children get excellent education in world-class schools. The BJP is scared of the Kejriwal model of education; once the nation understands that schools across India can be transformed like Delhi, there'll be an end to BJP's model of opening private schools everywhere," Sisodia said.

## Punjab Police bust terrorist-gangster nexus with links to Canada-based goon

Chandigarh | Agencies

With the arrest of seven persons, including a man who had planted an improvised explosive device (IED) beneath a sub-inspector's car, Punjab Police have cracked a case of terrorist-gangster nexus with the involvement of Canada-based gangster Lakhbir Singh alias Landa, Director General of Police (DGP), Gaurav Yadav, said here on Saturday.

On August 16, two motorcycle-borne persons had planted an IED under the Bolero SUV of sub-inspector Dilbag Singh, which was parked outside his residence in Amritsar.

The IED weighing about 2.79 kg, carrying about 2.17 kg explosives, was recovered from the spot by the police.

The man arrested for planting the IED has been identified as Deepak (22) from Patti village in Tarn Taran, while six others, who had provided logistic, technical and financial support, have been identified as Harpal Singh, a police constable, Fatehdeep Singh, Rajinder Kumar, Khushalbir Singh, Varinder Singh and Gurpreet Singh.

Varinder and Gurpreet, who were lodged in the Goindwal Jail and are close-aides of Landa, had roped in Khushalbir for the crime.

The police have also recovered a motorcycle used by Deepak for planting the IED and five mobile phones from the accused, besides recovering Rs 2.52 lakh, \$3,614, 220 euro, 170 pound and passports from the possession of Fatehdeep and Harpal.

DGP Yadav said the Amritsar Commissionerate Police got its first break in the case with the arrest of Harpal and Fatehdeep from the Delhi International



Airport a day after the incident, when both were trying to flee to Maldives.

The questioning of the accused revealed the involvement of Rajinder, who fled to Shirdi after he failed to flee from India in the absence of a second Covid vaccination certificate, the DGP said, adding that Rajinder was arrested with the assistance of ATS Mumbai on August 20.

## Cyber fraudsters use police commissioner's photo to scam people

Guwahati | Agencies

Guwahati police commissioner Harmeet Singh has fallen prey to cyber fraud as some unidentified fraudsters were using his photograph and sending messages by impersonating him on WhatsApp.

The imposters used a photo of Singh as a display picture (DP) on WhatsApp while they sent messages to many people.

The police commissioner said that some scammers have copied his photo from the internet and are sending WhatsApp messages.

"I request anyone who gets such a message to press the Report & Block buttons available on WhatsApp. @WhatsApp it's time you woke up to this scam, which is rampant" he wrote on Twitter. A few days ago some fraudsters



used the photo of Dhubri deputy commissioner, Anbamuthan MP, and sent messages to multiple persons demanding money. The fraudsters even sent messages to many of the deputy commissioner's colleagues and asked them to send some gift vouchers.

The police are investigating both the cases but no arrests have been made so far.

## BSF PERSONNEL ARRESTED ON RAPE CHARGES REMANDED TO 7-DAY JUDICIAL CUSTODY

Kolkata: Two Border Security Force (BSF) personnel arrested on charges of rape at Indo-Bangladesh border areas in West Bengal's North 24 Parganas district, were remanded to seven days' police custody by a district court on Saturday afternoon.

Meanwhile, a spokesman for the BSF's Eastern Command office in Kolkata said that both the accused personnel -- assistant sub-inspector S.P. Chero and constable Altaf Hossain, who were arrested on Friday night, were suspended from the forces with immediate effect.

Preliminary investigation has revealed the 23-year-old victim was trying to cross the border along with her child in Bagda when she was chased and nabbed by the accused BSF personnel. However, instead of arresting them and handing them over to the local police, the two accused dragged her to a nearby gourd cultivation field and raped her.

## Jharkhand political turmoil: Ruling coalition MLAs shifted to Latratu

Ranchi | Agencies

Amid the political turmoil in Jharkhand, the ruling coalition MLAs were on Saturday shifted to Latratu, 60 km from here.

Earlier in the day, the JMM-led coalition held a meeting at the Chief Minister's house to decide their strategy and future course of action.

This was the fourth meeting of the coalition in the past three days. The meeting was attended by 42 MLAs including Soren, Rameshwar Oraon, Alamgir Alam, Banna Gupta, Champai Soren, Satyanand Bhokta.

The political crisis in the state started after the Election Commission disqualified the Assembly membership of Jharkhand Chief Minister Hemant Soren in connection with the office of profit case.

After the EC recommendation, Jharkhand Governor Ramesh Bais ordered the disqualification of the assembly membership of Soren. But as per the procedure, an official letter in this regards will be issued by the Election Commission.



It is likely that the Election Commission will issue the letter in this regard on Saturday after which Soren will have to resign.

After resigning, Soren can again stake claim to form the government because as per reports the Governor's order did not ban him from contesting elections.

## POCSO case lodged against prominent Lingayat seer in K'taka

Mysuru, (Karnataka) | Agencies

Karnataka police have lodged a POCSO (Protection of Children from Sexual Offences) case against a prominent Lingayat seer from Chitradurga district, police said on Saturday.

Nazarbad police have begun investigation into the case based on the complaint by Child Welfare Committee (CWC). Odanaadi, NGO from Mysuru had approached CWC with the victims, earlier seeking protection of girl students and legal action against the powerful seer.

According to police, the victim students who stayed at the residential facility at the mutt were sent to the seer's room on some pretext. There, the girls were given food or drink laced with drugs and the seer would sexually exploit them. The victims have explained that there are many more girls at the mutt who are sexually exploited. Considering the clout of the accused seer, the victims have come down to Mysuru and approached Odanaadi NGO for assis-



tance. The police have booked the Lingayat seer as the main accused. The FIR is also against the lady warden who allegedly sent girls to the seer. The case also includes a junior swamiji of the mutt and two other employees for facilitating sexual exploitation of girls. The accused Lingayat seer had met Rahul Gandhi recently during his visit to Karnataka and

the Swamiji performed Linga deeksha to him. The Swamiji also took part in padayatra demanding implementation of Mekedatu project and identified with Congress State President D.D.K. Shivakumar.

The police have taken up the investigation and the case is likely to be transferred to Chitradurga.

## INVITATION TO K'TAKA CONG LEADERS FOR PRO-CHINA EVENT TRIGGERS ROW

Bengaluru: An invitation sent to state Congress leaders, including leader of opposition Siddaramaiah, by the Karnataka chapter of India-China Friendship Association for a seminar on 'US intervention in China' has triggered fresh controversy in the southern state. Taking a dig at the Congress, BJP national general secretary and MLA C.T. Ravi said: "If anyone had doubts that Congress works for China, this will clear them. Why should the Congress side with China if America is interfering in its internal affairs?"

"Is the MoU signed by Rahul Gandhi with the Chinese Communist Party the reason behind this support to China?"

Ravi also shared the invitation of the programme and alleged that a controversial photo of Sonia Gandhi and Rahul Gandhi could be seen along with Chinese President Xi Jinping.

Meanwhile, veteran Congress leader Siddaramaiah clarified that he had declined the invitation from the India-China Friendship Association (ICFA) to participate in the event to be held on Sunday. "It is surprising to see my name on the invitation despite declining it," he said. Siddaramaiah added that he declined the invitation to participate in the event, as his party's and his own position is against the agenda of the programme.

## India reports 9,520 new Covid cases, 41 deaths

Team Absolute | New Delhi

over 88.47 crore.

In the last 24 hours, India reported 9,520 fresh Covid cases and 41 deaths, the Union Health Ministry said on Saturday.

The overall nationwide death toll now stands at 5,27,597.

The active caseload has dipped to 87,311, accounting for 0.20 per cent of the country's total positive cases.

The recovery of 12,875 patients in the last 24 hours took the cumulative tally to 4,37,83,788. Consequently, India's recovery rate stands at 98.62 per cent.

While the daily positivity rate rose to 2.50 per cent, the weekly positivity rate stood at 2.80 per cent. Also in the same period, a total of 3,81,205 tests were conducted across the country, increasing the overall tally to



As of Saturday morning, India's Covid-19 vaccination coverage exceeded 211.39 crore, achieved via 2,81,63,153 sessions

Over 4.02 crore adolescents have been administered with a first dose of Covid-19 jab since the beginning of vaccination drive for this age bracket.

## Villagers setting examples of Hindu-Muslim brotherhood in Bihar

Patna | Agencies

After losing power in Bihar, BJP leaders are using every single opportunity to corner the leaders of the Mahagathbandhan (grand alliance), including the Vishnupad temple controversy in Gaya where Chief Minister Nitish Kumar had recently gone to pray accompanied by a Muslim Cabinet colleague.

Non-Hindu worshippers are not permitted to enter the famed temple in Gaya, and this regulation has been in place for the past 100 years.

The temple priests later even performed a purification ritual after state IT Minister Mohammad Israil Mansuri accompanied the Chief Minister inside the Vishnupad temple.

However, there are also various religious sites spread across the state where Hindus and Muslims respect and protect each other's faith.

The Mazar of Data Anwar Shah Shahid, a famous Sufi saint, is located at Kendui village in Gaya district. Interestingly, there is not a single Muslim family in this village, which is dominated by Rajputs with over 500 families belonging to the caste staying there. Sunil Singh, a resident of Kendui, said: "Data Anwar Shah Shahid was a famous Fakir from this region and our ancestors had great respect for him. This respect has been passed on from one generation to the next, and this practice will continue in the future as well. When there is lack of rain in the region, the villagers pray before Baba Anwar Shah for rain."

Another villager, Rajendra Mohan Singh, said, "The villagers have great respect for this Mazar. People come from Gaya and adjoining districts for 'Mannat', and their



wishes get fulfilled soon after visiting the Mazar.

"We always begin our Holi or Diwali celebrations from this place, and then go to the temple. The villagers also collect funds for the maintenance of this Mazar," Singh

said. Maadhi is another such village in Nalanda district where recorded Namaz is recited five times a day and Azan is played from a 200-year-old mosque by the people from the Hindu community.

Rajiv Swami, a native of Maadhi village, said: "Being Hindu, we do not know how to offer Azan or Namaz. So we have recorded them and play them at the scheduled time every day. "We do not know who built this mosque. As there was no Muslim family staying in this village, the villagers decided to repair the structure and deputed a three-member team for its maintenance," Swami said.

This mosque is now a religious place for the people from the Hindu community. Every time a marriage takes place in the village, the bride and the groom visit the mosque to seek blessings.

Even after the birth of a child, the parents go to the mosque seeking long life of their kid," Swami added. On April 10, people from the Hindu community formed a 7-km long human chain outside the Jama Masjid located on M.G. road in Katihar on the occasion of Ram Navami. The idea was to avoid clashes between the two communities and send across a message that Hindus respect Muslim religious places.

At Budhpur village in Gaya district, Muslims had donated land for the construction of a temple in 2018. Now those belonging to the Hindu community offer Puja at the temple named 'Sadbhavna Mandir'.

The history of this temple is interesting. As per the villagers, Muslims formed the majority of Budhpur's population of over 10,000 people. The village had a number of mosques, but not a single temple before 2018. The financial position of the Hindus staying in the village was not good.

## Cyber crime cases more than double since 2017; cops not adequately trained

- ▶ **GOVERNMENT DATA POINTS TOWARDS THE RISING TREND OF CYBERCRIME AND AS PER THE NCRB DATA, CASES HAVE INCREASED FROM 21,796 IN 2018 TO 50,035 IN 2020.**
- ▶ **THE REPORT ALSO DISCLOSED THE LACK OF ADEQUATE INFRASTRUCTURE IN MANY STATES TO FIGHT THE MENACE OF CYBER CRIME. IT SAID THAT PUNJAB, RAJASTHAN, GOA, ASSAM DO NOT HAVE EVEN A SINGLE CYBERCRIME CELL, WHILE IN ANDHRA PRADESH, KARNATAKA AND UTTAR PRADESH, ONLY ONE OR TWO HAVE BEEN SET UP.**
- ▶ **IT OBSERVED THAT TRADITIONAL TRAINING OF THE POLICE PERSONNEL IS NOT SUFFICIENT TO DEAL WITH CYBER-CRIMES AS THESE CRIMINALS ARE TECH-SAVVY AND ARE FOLLOWING NEW MODUS-OPERANDI ON A REGULAR BASIS.**

Team Absolute | New Delhi

With the advancement of technology, cybercrimes have emerged as a major issue all across the country. These crimes transcend geographical boundaries which makes it tough to track criminals. While the fraudsters keep innovating newer ways to dupe gullible people, it has also become a big challenge for the police. In its recent report, the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Home Affairs observed that it is important for the police to stay updated on new modus-operandi and technology trends adopted by criminals. Taking note of this, the Committee recommended that the Union Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) may advise states to set up cyber cells in all the districts. The states should map the cybercrime hotspots which will help in quick detection of the crimes and take proactive measures to prevent them. The Committee observed that these crimes are mainly related to financial transactions and



criminals not only target the innocent and vulnerable, especially elderly people, and dupe them of their savings, but also well-known persons and celebrities.

## AFTER WINNING IPL TV RIGHTS, DISNEY STAR RETAINS ICC MEDIA RIGHTS IN INDIA TILL 2027

- The ICC said Disney Star emerged as the winner following a single-round sealed bid process on Friday, which has yielded a significant uplift to the rights fee from the previous cycle continuing the impressive growth and reach of cricket.
- Earlier, in June, Disney Star had retained the Indian Premier League (IPL) TV rights for INR 23,575 crore (which comes to INR 57.5 crore per match).
- Disney Star also owns the ICC media rights for the 2015-23 cycle, which is majorly seen in the market as the second-most lucrative rights in cricket after IPL.

Dubai | Agencies

The International Cricket Council (ICC) on Saturday confirmed Disney Star will remain the home of all ICC cricket action in India for the next four years after it won the TV and digital media rights of both men's and women's global events till the end of 2027. It added that the decision followed a robust tender, bidding and evaluation process, which started in June 2022, though the ICC didn't reveal the amount of winning bid made by Disney Star which decided the result in their favour. "We are delighted to continue to partner with Disney Star as the home of ICC cricket for the next four years which has delivered an outstanding result for our Members and will support our ambitious growth plans. They will play a crucial role in the future of our sport and connecting and engaging with more fans than ever before," said ICC Chair Greg Barclay. "Having a broadcast and digital partner for women's events in India is a significant step forward in our ambition to accelerate the growth of the women's game. Disney Star presented impressive plans for the promotion of women's cricket and they clearly share our vision so I'm incredibly excited by the size of the opportunity ahead." "This was an incredibly competitive process, which isn't surprising given the huge audiences that cricket consistently attracts with more than a billion fans



that passionately follow the game globally. I'd like to thank all of the bidders for their interest in and support of cricket," added Barclay. Apart from Disney Star, Sony Sports, Viacom 18 and Zee were in the fray while Amazon pulled out of the race. "We are delighted at being able to continue our association with the International Cricket Council (ICC) and look forward to strengthening our partnership by growing the sport of cricket in the years ahead." "With the acquisition of the ICC Digital and TV broadcast rights, Disney Star has further strengthened its status as the premier destination for marquee cricket events in the country," said K Madhavan, Country Manager & President, Disney Star.

## Ex-bureaucrats write to CJJ against release of Bilkis Bano gang-rape convicts

As many as 134 former civil servants on Saturday wrote an open letter to the Chief Justice of India (CJI) against the premature release of 11 convicts by the Gujarat government, who were serving life-term in the Bilkis Bano gang-rape case.

"We write to you because we are deeply distressed by this decision of the Government of Gujarat and because we believe that it is only the Supreme Court which has the prime jurisdiction, and hence the responsibility, to rectify this horrendously wrong decision," wrote the former bureaucrats.



the convicts from jail, the trauma, suffering and vulnerability to harm for Bilkis Bano will be significantly heightened. It is also shocking that five out of the 10 members of the advisory committee, which sanctioned the early release, belong to the Bharatiya Janata Party, while the remaining are ex-officio members, they wrote.

Team Absolute | New Delhi

Bilkis Bano has reportedly changed homes some 20 times over the years because of threats to her life. With the celebrated release of

of immense courage and persistence. A five-month pregnant, then 19-year-old Bilkis fled, along with her family and others, from their village in Dahod district on February 18, 2002, when around 60 Muslim homes were torched; they hid in the fields outside Chhapparwad village where armed men attacked them. "Bilkis, her mother and three other women were raped and her three-year old daughter's head was smashed. Later, eight persons were found dead and six were missing. Bilkis, naked and unconscious, an old man, and a three-year-old survived; her own daughter did not." It is a remarkable story of courage that this battered and bruised young woman, hiding from her tormentors, managed to seek justice from the courts," the seven-page letter read.

## No pre-poll alliance with any party in assembly polls: Meghalaya Chief Minister

Team Absolute | New Delhi

Meghalaya Chief Minister Conrad K. Sangma on Saturday said his party -- National People's Party (NPP) will not form any pre-poll alliance with any party, including the BJP, for the upcoming assembly elections in the state. "It is not just the BJP, we are not going into the coalition with any of the political party," Sangma said. The assembly elections in Meghalaya are likely to be held early next year. However, on the question of party's relationship with National Democratic Alliance (NDA), Sangma said that the NPP will



continue to remain in the BJP-led NDA and will support on issues basis. The Meghalaya Chief Minister also added that the two political parties -- BJP and NPP are ideologically not on the same page on many issues. He was addressing a media briefing after the National Executive Meet here on Saturday. Sangma also announced that his party will contest the upcoming assembly polls in Odisha and Chhattisgarh.

## SECRETARIAL ASSISTANT, DOMESTIC HELP, CHAUFFEUR FOR LIFETIME FOR CJI POST RETIREMENT

New Delhi: In a fresh notification, the government has announced that post-retirement, the Chief Justice of India will get a domestic help, a chauffeur, and a secretarial assistant for lifetime after he or she demits the office. The following staff shall be deployed with a retired Chief Justice during his lifetime from the establishment of the Supreme Court or a High Court with full pay and allowances admissible to regular employees of the Supreme Court -- domestic help, chauffeur, and secretarial assistant. The notification said the Supreme Court Judges Rules have been amended again to extend more post-retirement benefits to retired CJIs and apex court judges. Earlier, the rules were amended on August 23. Retired CJI and apex court judges will get ceremonial lounge facilities at airports, announced earlier this month, would continue. On August 23, the Centre had amended the Supreme Court Judges (Salaries and Conditions of Service) Act, 1958 for providing additional post-retirement benefits to retired chief justices and Supreme Court judges.

## Drugs given to Phogat found in washroom of restaurant: Goa Police

Panaji | Agencies

The Goa Police on Saturday said that 'Metamphetamines' drugs given to Sonali Phogat has been recovered from the washroom of the Curlies restaurant in Anjuna-Goa. "Based on the disclosure of accused person Sudhir Sangwan, the drugs given to the deceased were seized from the washroom of the Curlies restaurant. The drugs have been identified as Metamphetamines," Deputy Superintendent of Police Jivba Dalvi said. He said that investigation has revealed that the drugs were supplied by Dattaprasad Gaonkar who was working as a room boy in Hotel Grand Leoney Resort in Anjuna, where the accused persons and the deceased were staying.



Phogat had come to Goa on August 22 and was staying at a hotel in Anjuna. She felt uneasy on Monday night and the next morning, she was taken to the St. Anthony hospital in Anjuna where she was declared brought dead. The police have registered offences under Sections 22 (b), 29 and 25 of NDPS Act against the owner of Curlies restau-

rant Edwin Nunes and Dattaprasad Gaonkar, both have been arrested. A court in Goa on Saturday granted a 10-day police custody of Sudhir Sangwan (PA of Phogat) and Sukhwinder Singh, the two accused persons arrested in the murder case of BJP leader and actress Sonali Phogat. So far, four arrests have been made in murder case of Sonali Phogat. Inspector General of Police Omvir Singh Bishnoi had said that Sangwan had confessed to the crime stating that after reaching Goa, he along with Singh took Phogat to Curlies in the pretext of partying and he mixed some "obnoxious" substance in drinking water and forced the victim to drink it. Bishnoi had also said that CCTV footages of relevant premises were examined by the Investigating Officer.

## 6 BODIES FOUND 10 DAYS AGO, COMMITTED SUICIDE: J&K POLICE

Jammu: The Jammu and Kashmir police on Saturday said that six persons whose bodies were found 10 days ago, had committed suicide by drug overdose. Chandan Kohli, SSP (Jammu) told reporters that one of the 6 deceased persons, Noor-ul-Habib had convinced 5 members of a family including an elderly woman, her specially abled daughter, son, another daughter and grandson to commit suicide as both families suffered depression due to pending court cases and medical reasons. The SSP said two persons, a health worker and a plumber have been arrested for not informing the police on time so that their lives could be saved. Six dead bodies were recovered from 2 houses by police in semi-decomposed condition on August 17 from Tawi Vihar residential area of Sidhra in Jammu.

## Manish Tewari slams Congress 'coterie culture'



Team Absolute | New Delhi  
A day after Ghulam Nabi Azad quit the Congress blaming party leader Rahul Gandhi, another G-23 leader Manish Tewari on Saturday slammed the grand-old party for its "coterie culture". Talking to IANS over phone, the Anandpur Sahib MP said had the party implemented the suggestions of the G-23 group in December 2020, the current situation would not have arisen. However, hitting out at the 'coterie culture' he said: "Peons

of Congress leaders are giving sermons to those who have given decades to party." These "so-called" leaders are not capable of winning even the municipal polls. Asserting that he is not a tenant but a shareholder in the party, the veteran leader said the very fact that Congress is losing all elections confirms that the party is not in sync with the people of the country. Ghulam Nabi Azad, in his resignation letter, has blamed Rahul Gandhi for the destruction of the party and alleged that proxies are propped up for the president's post, who will only be a mere puppet. Azad alleged that the G-23 leaders were abused, humiliated, insulted and vilified in a specially summoned meeting of the extended Congress Working Committee following their letter seeking reforms in the party in 2020.

## Kerala NEET Innerwear row: Girls allowed to re-appear for exam



Thiruvananthapuram | Agencies  
Following a backlash over girls being forced to remove their innerwear at a NEET examination centre in Kerala's Kollam, the National Testing Agency (NTA) has decided to allow the affected medical aspirants to re-appear for the examination if they desire on

September 4. The last month's incident had led to a huge furore with the Kerala Police arresting seven persons in connection with it. They were released on bail soon after. The girls' parents had raised their voice against the "inhuman act" by the invigilators saying their wards were totally "devastated" which impacted their performance. Consequently to this, a three-member team of officials attached to NEET conducted a probe into the incident and submitted a report on the mental agony the girls had to undergo. Based on the report, the testing authorities decided to conduct a re-examination only for the affected girls if they wish at a new centre in Kollam district.

## INDIGO FLIGHT DELAYED BY AROUND SIX HOURS AFTER BOMB THREAT



New Delhi: An IndiGo Chennai-Dubai flight got delayed by almost six hours due to a bomb threat which eventually turned out to be fake, officials said on Saturday. Officials said that a comprehensive investigation exercise was taken by the concerned security agencies of the aircraft after an anonymous call about a bomb was received at the police control room. Meanwhile, IndiGo airline in a statement on Saturday said: "Due to a specific bomb threat, IndiGo flight (6E 65) from Chennai to Dubai was delayed. As per the protocol, the aircraft was taken to a remote bay and bomb threat process was initiated. The flight was operated after a delay of about 6 hours from Chennai." The passengers of the flight and staff members were provided accommodations in the hours of the delay. The police have taken action and nabbed the accused person.



# ROZGAR DIWAS PROGRAMME WILL PROVE TO BE MAHAYAGYA TO BUILD ATMANIRBHAR STATE: CM

► BENEFITS TO OVER 75000 BENEFICIARIES UNDER SWAROZGAR SCHEMES IN STATE-WIDE ROZGAR DIWAS

► CM CHOUHAN INAUGURATES FIRST TOY CLUSTER OF CENTRAL INDIA BUILT AT A COST OF RS 2.84 CRORE

Team Absolute | Bhopal

Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan said that "Madhya Pradesh is such a state in the country which has the lowest rate of unemployment. It is our endeavor that gradually the state should be made unemployment free. No youth should be disappointed on the land of Madhya Pradesh, education along with employment will be made available here. It is the resolve of the Madhya Pradesh government to ensure that every month about 2.5 lakh people should be linked with livelihood through various programme. With these words, Chouhan was addressing the Rozgar Diwas programme at Amardas Hall, Indore today. Chief Minister distributed cheque and loan approval letter to beneficiaries under self-employment schemes. Assistance of Rs 466 crore was made available to more than 75 thousand beneficiaries for self-employment in the pro-



gramme. Certificates of benefits were also distributed to select beneficiaries by Chief Minister Chouhan.

On this occasion, the Chief Minister laid the virtual foundation of the first toy cluster of Central India constructed at a cost of Rs 2.84 crore in Indore. He also launched an e-learning module for entrepreneurship development training.

Chouhan said that under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, efforts are being made to establish the country on the world stage. In this direction, the

Madhya Pradesh government is also trying to provide better self-employment opportunities to its youth. On 12 January 2022, the first Rozgar Diwas was organized in Madhya Pradesh, in which more than 5 lakh people of the state were provided employment under different schemes. Till March 31, 2022, loans worth Rs 7 thousand crore were sanctioned to about 13 lakh beneficiaries by giving benefits of various schemes. Similarly, from April 1 to August 22, 2022, loans worth Rs 6 thousand crore were sanctioned to

about 9 lakh 52 thousand people. Chouhan said that from street vendors to start-up industry, we are standing with every person in the state who wants to start his own business. The Rozgar Diwas is not only a milestone in the making of Atmanirbhar Madhya Pradesh, but it is a Mahayagya.

Chouhan said that 42 clusters have been approved in the state, out of which today a toy cluster made at a cost of Rs. 2.84 crore was inaugurated in Indore. In this first toy cluster of central India, 20 small units

will be established and more than two thousand people will get employment opportunities. An investment of Rs 80 crore is likely in the first phase of this cluster. Similarly, investment will not only increase in the state through various clusters, but employment opportunities will be provided manifold faster.

Chouhan informed that he would soon provide appointment letters to about 16 thousand teachers on September 3 through a programme being organized in Bhopal. He said that recruitment is also being done regularly in the police department. He told that the target of Madhya Pradesh government is to provide about one lakh government jobs to the people of the state in a year.

Chouhan said that the women of self-help groups of our state are performing miracles. They are active not only in rural areas but also in urban areas. At present the turnover of the business being done by the women of Self Help Groups is Rs 20 thousand crores. For the manufacture of the products being done by the group, loans are being provided from banks every month, out of which only 2 percent interest has to be paid by the group, the rest is given by the Madhya Pradesh government. Nutrition food factories are also being run by the women of the group in different parts of the state. He said that the goal of the government is that every woman of the group can earn an additional income of at least Rs 10,000 per month along with her household work.

## BHOPAL SC CONSTITUTIONAL BENCH TO HEAR THE BHOPAL GAS DISASTER COMPENSATION MATTER; SURVIVORS ASK STATE & CENTRAL GOVTS TO STOP MISLEADING THE SC

Team Absolute | Bhopal

Leaders of five organizations of the survivors of the Union Carbide gas disaster welcomed the recent announcement on hearing of the long pending Curative Petition before the Supreme Court of India. Addressing a press conference here on Saturday, they also expressed their apprehension that the Bhopal survivors will be denied just compensation because of the government's downplaying of deaths and extent of injuries caused by the US corporations.

"We too are petitioners along with the state and central governments in this matter," said Rashida Bee, President of the BGPMSKS. "We are asking for 646 billion rupees as additional compensation while the governments are asking for 96 billion rupees. It is time the Bhopal survivors become active against this assault on their legal rights."

Said Rachna Dhingra of the Bhopal Group for Information & Action "The government is presenting a far lower figure of deaths than actual and downplaying the extent of health injuries by claiming that 93 % of those exposed were only temporarily injured. Scientific reports and official records show that the correct death figure is 23 thousand and counting and that the overwhelming majority have suffered permanent injuries as a result of exposure

to methyl isocyanate gas." "On at least four occasions in the last few years ministers and officials of state and central governments have agreed that the figures of damage caused by the Bhopal disaster as presented in the Curative Petition were incorrect and promised to take steps to correct them," said Nawab Khan, President of the Bhopal Gas Peedit Mahila Purush Sangharsh Morcha.

"The petition is to be heard soon and they are yet to make the corrections," he added. According to Balkrishna Namdeo, President of Gas Peedit Nirashrit Pensionbhogi Sangharsh Morcha, "If the state and central governments do not make the promised corrections in the Curative Petition before it is heard, they would be deliberately misleading the apex court making justice impossible." Nousheen Khan of Children Against Dow Carbide appealed to the next generation of survivors to assert their rights to adequate compensation for health damages caused to them due to the toxic exposure of their parents. "While several scientific publications have reported growth retardation, birth defects and immune disorders among children of gas exposed parents the Curative Petition by the state and central governments remains silent on this matter. Only collective action can break this silence."

## Cruise pulled out from Bhopal lake, repair work underway

'Lake Princess', the cruise boat that partly got submerged at Bhopal's upper lake due to strong winds and heavy rainfall, has been pulled out.



Team Absolute | Bhopal

'Lake Princess', the cruise boat that partly got submerged at Bhopal's upper lake due to strong winds and heavy rainfall, has been pulled out.

"The two-storey cruise is being repaired as glass and wooden parts were badly damaged. It will take some time to make it operational again," a tourism official, who was present at the spot, told IANS on Saturday.

An engineer said that parts of the cruise are being opened and then damage will be assessed.

"It will take at least one month to repair this cruise and make it operational once again," a Hyderabad-based engineer said, adding that heavy flow of wind made the cruise uneven due to which portion of it submerged into water.

Though there are several paddle and electric boats for tourists visiting upper lake, this cruise is the prime attraction. It carries at least 70-80 tourists in one go and takes a round of entire upper lake. The ride becomes more enjoying for tourists in the cruise as they can have coffee, beer, snacks along with music and dance on it.

## CM PLANTS SAPLINGS OF LEMON, GULAR AND MAULSHREE



Bhopal: Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan along with the members of Kailash Welfare Society Bhopal, planted saplings of Lemon, Gular and Maulshree in Smart City Park. He sought information about the environmental protection efforts. Collector Avinash Lavania was present.

Lemon is a fruit rich in Vitamin C, energizing and helpful in fighting against diseases. It helps in the production of white blood cells and anti-bodies in the human body. Lemon strengthens the immune system. Lemon juice is beneficial in prevention of cold. Gular is an important tree from the point of view of Ayurveda. Its fruits are like figs. Maulshree is a medicinal tree, it has been used in Ayurveda for centuries.

## RESTORATION WORK AT COLLAPSED BRITISH ERA BRIDGE BEGINS

A team of Indian Army engineers of Sudarshan Chakra Corps of Southern Command has begun the restoration work at the British era bridge in Madhya Pradesh that had collapsed in April due to heavy load of a container.

Team Absolute | Bhopal

A team of Indian Army engineers of Sudarshan Chakra Corps of Southern Command has begun the restoration work at the British era bridge in Madhya Pradesh that had collapsed in April due to heavy load of a container.

The centuries-old bridge on the Sukhtawa river on national highway 46 connects Bhopal - Nagpur (Maharashtra) via Betul district.

Army engineers team has set up a 90-foot long bailey bridge, the official in Madhya Pradesh government told IANS on Saturday.

Over the last three months, engineer regiment of Army along with Madhya Pradesh state authorities and NHAH have been working on a war-footing for early construction of the bridge. "Within a short period of three months, displaying urgency and apt civil military coordination a heavy load class superior engi-



neering skill and equipment handling capability is required to construct the bridge over the existing piers," the Madhya Pradesh government said in an official statement.

The construction of this bridge will be a boon for movement of critical goods and will also facilitate faster movement of locals and civilians from adjoining towns and villages, reducing congestion and delays caused over these few months, the official added.

The bridge had collapsed when a multi-axle lorry loaded with around 130 tonnes of weight (electric machines) was crossing over it. Before the lorry could

cross, a portion of it collapsed leaving the lorry hanging and heavy machines fell on the dry Sukhtawa river.

Over 50 meters long bridge built over the Sukhtawa river in Narmadapuram (Hoshangabad) district was constructed during the British-era (around 1865) at the height of 25 feet above from the river.

It is believed that the bridge was constructed to provide connectivity from Nagpur to Bhopal.

Meanwhile, a diversion route built to sustain the heavy traffic on the river also submerged multiple times due to heavy rains thus cutting off the crucial lifeline.

## IIFM STUDENTS VISIT IGRMS



Bhopal: Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Manav Sangrahalaya is working for valuable cultural traditions. 57 students of IIFM (PGDFM) under course on 'Society & Polity' visited IGRMS led by Ujjal Kumar Sharma and Ashish David visited IGRMS. During the museum tour, all the students were divided into 11 groups and studied in detail about different tribal habitats. At the start of the programme, P Sankar Rao introduces the exhibitions of this museum in brief. Later on they were shown documentary film on IGRMS and taken to various open air and indoor exhibition of Museum, where they were guided by the senior officer of the museum.

On this occasion, the Director, IGRMS PK Mishra addressing these students, said that - All of you will get many valuable information through the exhibitions. Spread over an area of 200 acres, the physical space of this museum has been converted into a cultural space by the directors, curators, technical officers, and all the people of the museum working here 45 years ago. Today in the 21st century the museum has become a center of information. Museum visit get more knowledge about culture. The museum is not limited to the exhibits shown only, but it is the centre of cultural significance and associated with that community. The museum is always working in this direction. For further information you visit our face book site with the aim of reaching more close to the community.

## There should be no procedural delay in construction of houses: CM

Team Absolute | Bhopal

Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan reviewed the public welfare schemes in Panna district in detail this morning through video conference from the CM's residence. He obtained information about the level of implementation of the schemes from Collector Panna. Chouhan said that there should be no procedural delay in the implementation of Pradhan Mantri Awas and other beneficiary oriented schemes.

Chouhan, after reviewing the work of the houses being built under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana in Panna district, said that there should be no procedural delay in the implementation of the scheme. If two-three months will be spent in the works like geo-tagging and mapping, then the beneficiary will get the benefit of the scheme with a delay. Collector Panna Sanjay Mishra informed that 83 percent houses have been built in the district against the target of the scheme. Chief Minister gave instructions to complete the approved houses at the earliest and review the scheme every month. Negligence and corruption will not be tolerated at any level in the scheme.

Chouhan received information from Collector Panna about the beneficiaries who benefitted on Employment Day. According to this, 11 thousand 201 beneficiaries have been benefitted in the Employment Fair. Earlier 2400 people were given employment. Work is being done to provide employment through Mudra Yojana, Pradhanmantri Rojgar Srajan Karyakram, PM Swanidhi Yojana, Chief Minister Street Vendor Scheme. Describing



the scheme of welfare of street vendors as flagship scheme, Chouhan said that if there is any obstacle in this scheme to provide assistance to the poor from banks, then the collector should be informed. This will be resolved at the high level. To make the beneficiaries aware, apprise them of the provision about getting double the amount on return of the loan amount of the scheme. There will be dialogue with the beneficiaries, if we educate them then more people will be benefitted.

Chouhan directed to undertake the work of promotion and sale of different products of Amla selected for "One District-One Product" in Panna district. He directed to start stalls for the tourists visiting Panna Tiger Reserve and to make profitable arrangements for the sale of Amla Candy, Achaar, Murabba and Achar Supari from Amazon and various selling agencies along with Aajeveika Mart. The Collector informed that with the cooperation of the Forest Department, attention is being paid to the expansion of area under Amla cultivation, storage and processing in the district.

Chouhan sought information about distribution of Ayushman cards in Panna district. The collector said that, more than 4 lakh cards

have been made against the target of making 7 lakh 72 thousand cards. About 2 thousand cards are being made every day. About 19 thousand beneficiaries have got treatment facilities amounting to Rs 16 crore

Chouhan sought information about the progress of Adopt-An Anganwadi. The Collector informed that public cooperation is being sought in the work of obtaining toys, furniture and other materials for the Anganwadi centres. As an innovation, the distribution of Moringa Morvita Nutritious Powder with Milk to children has shown improvement in health and nutrition. Praising this innovation, Chief Minister said that it is a good and exemplary initiative. Those who have adopted Anganwadi must visit the Anganwadi center at least once a month and inspect the arrangements.

Chouhan said that 6 CM Rise Schools have been started in Panna district. Public representatives and officials should inspect them from time to time to see the arrangements. The kids are excited and the parents are aware too. Let us all support and play a role in setting schools as an example.

Chouhan said that strictest action should be taken against the elements involved in identified crimes. Action of control should be taken keeping an eye on the criminals who come from the border of Uttar Pradesh. The Superintendent of Police said that a gang involved in smuggling ganja has been caught from Orissa and West Bengal. Chouhan said that there should be no delay in crushing the people associated with illegal liquor or drug business.

## CITIZEN CENTRIC COMMUNITY SURVEILLANCE IN GUNA AND BHOPAL

Bhopal: The State Government has taken a significant initiative towards saving lives from the disease and has approved the implementation of citizen centric community surveillance model "Swasthya Kavach" as a pilot project in two blocks of Guna district and three urban slums of Bhopal city. This initiative is being implemented by the State IDSP in association with USAID (Integrated Diseases Surveillance Programme) and John Hopkins University.

Health Commissioner Sudam Khade informed about "Swasthya Kavach" in state level training today and explained its importance. He said that the objective of Swasthya Kavach is to strengthen the disease outbreak detection and response system. The knowledge obtained from this initiative will be studied and the possibility of expanding it to other districts of the state will be explored.

The mobile application of "Swasthya Kavach" (for smart phone users) and interactive voice response system (for non-smart phone users) will be useful. In this, the Community Health Officers posted at Ayushman Bharat Health and Wellness Centres will get information about health conditions. Also, in case of a serious situation, they will be able to initiate a health response immediately. The information will also be visible to the block, district and state health teams through a dedicated portal. Any type of case in the community or a possible outbreak of a particular disease can be identified at an early stage. Health related action will be initiated in time by the health department.





# RTI: MODI GOVT 'CRUSHES' HINTERLAND TERROR, ONLY 7 ATTACKS IN 8 YEARS

Quaid Najmi | Mumbai

The government of Prime Minister Narendra Modi has come out with flying colours in curbing hinterland terror, with only seven such extremist attacks notched in the past over eight years of the NDA rule, a RTI reply has revealed here. Besides, there has been minimal loss of lives, 11 civilians and 11 security personnel killed, and injuries sustained by 52 civilians and 44 by security forces, from 2014-till date.

These and other significant revelations came in a RTI reply by the Union Home Ministry to Pune-based activist Prafull Sarda.

"I had sought details of all terror strikes that took place in India, from 2004 till date, implying, during the UPA tenure of former Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh and the NDA government of Prime Minister Modi," Sarda said.

The RTI reply provides startling details of the UPA regime from 2004-2013, a total of 42 hinterland terror attacks killing 853 civilians and 18 security personnel, and leaving 3,147 civilians injured, with zero casualties on the security side.

The data indicates that 2008 and 2006 were the worst years in terms of



extremist strikes in the hinterlands, recording 306 and 238 civilian deaths plus 833 and 1,266 civilian injuries, respectively. In 2008, which includes the dastardly 26/11 Mumbai terror attacks, 18 security personnel were killed and 9 terrorists from Pakistan were killed while one Ajmal Kasab was caught alive, tried and secretly hanged on November 21, 2012.

The other major incidents of 2008 include: attacks in Rampur (Uttar Pradesh), Jaipur in May, Bengaluru and Ahmedabad in July, Delhi and

Mehrauli, Malegaon and Gujarat, all in September, Agartala, Imphal and Assam, all in October.

The 2006 data comprises the terror strikes in Ahmedabad railway station (February 19), Mumbai 7/11 serial bomb blasts in suburban trains (July 11), and the Malegaon blasts (September 8).

The RTI reply by the Ministry's Director (CT-I) & CPIO Chanchal Yadav had provided the details pertaining only to terror hits or bomb blasts in the 'hinterland' of India, or

the civilian areas.

"Its puzzling why the officer restricted the reply to 'hinterland' regions, and conveniently omitted the crucial terror activities in the border states. So, this doesn't reveal the true picture of how many times the country was really targeted between 2014-till date both on the borders and interiors," said Sarda.

The activist pointed out that the Centre has named the state 'police' as the first responder to any terrorist/criminal activities, and thereby appears to "club together terror-crime incidents" in the country. Sarda said the CPIO has directed the RTI queries for Jammu & Kashmir, Left Wing Extremism (Maoist/Naxalism) and North-East to the concerned departments, but their responses are awaited.

However, the Centre has taken various critical administrative and legislative measures to rein in hinterland terrorism in the past 18 years.

The initiatives are: augmenting the Central Armed Police strength, capacity building of special forces, modernising the (state) Police forces, tighter immigration controls, upgrading intelligence set-up and coastal security, and giving more teeth to the UAP and NIA acts.

# In a first, Indian Navy to use locally manufactured ammunition

Notching a first, the Indian Navy will use 100 per cent indigenous 30 mm high explosive gun ammunition manufactured by a private company, officials said here on Saturday.



Team Absolute | Mumbai

The ammunition has been produced by Solar Group's Economic Explosives Ltd., Nagpur, which was manufactured tested and delivered within 12 months with propellant sources from the Bhandara Ordnance Factory.

Solar Group Chairman & Managing Director Satyanarayan N. Nuwal handed over the first con-

signment of the ammo to Vice-Admiral S. N. Ghormade, Vice-Chief of Naval Staff.

"It's the first time that the services have placed an order with an Indian private company for delivery of complete gun ammunition which was executed within a year. The Indian Navy provided technical support by way of finalising the drawings, design specifications, inspection tools, proof and testing the

ammunition," said a defence official.

With this, the Indian Navy has successfully developed an alternate source of supply for the 30 mm high explosive gun ammunition, indigenously produced as part of the Atmanirbhar Bharat policy. Founded in 1995, Solar Group is among the major players in the Industrial Explosives segment and has also ventured into the defence sector.

# India's forex reserves fell by \$6.687 bn to \$564.053

Team Absolute | Mumbai

India's forex reserves fell by \$6.687 billion to \$564.053 billion in the week ending August 19, the RBI's weekly statistical data showed.

"India's forex reserves dipped to USD 564bn as on August 19, lowest since October 2020. The main reason behind this fall is dip in foreign current assets which the RBI has been using in forex market to cushion the fall in rupee. Since the start of this year, the geopolitical uncertainties and back to back rate hikes by the Fed have led to weakening of emerging market currencies including INR," said Ritika Chhabra, Economist and Quant Analyst, Prabhudas Lilladher.

In the week prior, during the week ending August 12, the country's foreign exchange reserves had declined by \$2.238 to \$570.74 billion. The reserve had declined every single week barring the increase in the last week of July. It has fallen for 20 of the 26 weeks since Russia invaded Ukraine in late February. The drop in the reserves during the week



ended August 19 was due to a fall in the Foreign Currency Assets (FCA) and the gold reserves, as per the Weekly Statistical Supplement released by RBI on Friday.

FCA fell \$5.779 billion to \$501.216 billion in the reporting week.

Going forward, Chhabra added that the forex reserves are likely to stay under pressure in the near term as DXY is back to its mid-July highs and oil prices are expected to stay elevated.

# Diversify agriculture towards energy and power sectors: Nitin Gadkari

Team Absolute | Mumbai

With a view to reduce dependence on the huge import of petroleum products, the Centre has decided to launch flex engines in India.

Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways, Nitin Gadkari, said on Saturday that the country spends Rs 15 lakh crore per year for import of petroleum products, hence there is a need to diversify the agriculture sector towards energy and power sectors.

Addressing the felicitation programme of National Cogeneration Awards 2022 in Mumbai, Gadkari exhorted the industry of the crucial need to focus on alternative fuels with the help of futuristic technologies.

"While 65-70 per cent of our population depends on agriculture, our agricultural growth rate is 12-13 per cent only. The sugarcane industry and farmers are a growth engine for our industry. The next move should be cogeneration to increase revenue from sugar.



"The industry should produce less sugar and generate more byproducts, embracing the vision for futuristic technologies and using the power of leadership to convert knowledge into wealth. This will enable the farmers to become not only food growers, but energy producers as well," Gadkari

said. The minister said that while our requirement was 280 lakh tonnes of sugar this year, the production was more than 360 lakh tonnes.

"This could be utilised due to the situation in Brazil. However, we need to divert production towards ethanol as ethanol requirement is very high. Last year's capacity was 400 crore litres of ethanol; we have taken a lot of initiatives to increase ethanol production. Now is the time for the industry to plan demand for ethanol using technologies such as power generators run by bioethanol," Gadkari said. The minister also told the industry that the government has decided to launch flex engines in India.

"Bajaj, Hero and TVS are already making flex engines, many car manufacturers too have promised to launch their models on flex engines," he said.

"Even auto-rickshaws can be run on bioethanol; in the construction equipment industry too, alternative fuels can be used. Similarly, Germany has proven technology to run trains on bio-ethanol," Gadkari said.

# GN Azad raised valid issues about congress: Devendra Fadnavis

Team Absolute | Nagpur

Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis on Saturday said Ghulam Nabi Azad raised valid points while exiting the Congress which is a "sinking ship".

Azad has resigned from all positions in the Congress, including its primary membership, by describing former Congress president Rahul Gandhi as "immature" and "childish" and accusing the leadership of "foisting a non-serious individual" at the helm of the party.

Speaking to reporters at the Nagpur airport, Fadnavis said the Congress was a sinking ship and people who think the ship cannot be salvaged were taking different decisions.

"I think some questions raised by Azad were valid. However, it is their internal matter and I will not com-



ment on it," the senior Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leader said. Azad, 73, who has been associated with the Congress for nearly five

decades, also attacked party chief Sonia Gandhi for applying the "remote control model that demolished the institutional integrity of the

UPA government" to the party.

Reacting to the Shiv Sena's decision to ally with Maratha outfit Sambhaji Brigade, the BJP leader said when the time comes for one's destruction or downfall, one fails to think wisely.

With Dussehra just around the corner, both factions of the Shiv Sena are likely to seek permission for the annual rally during the festival.

When asked if the rival groups led by Chief Minister Eknath Shinde and Uddhav Thackeray will be granted permission for the rally in Mumbai, Fadnavis, who handles the home department, said,

"Whichever event is as per rules and regulations will happen and anything that violates rules will not take place in this government."

The Shiv Sena traditionally holds a Dussehra rally at Shivaji Park ground at Dadar in Mumbai.

# Film fraternity demand probe and justice for Sonali Phogat

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Actress-turned-politician Sonali Phogat passed away on Tuesday reportedly due to a heat attack. However, later her autopsy report revealed multiple 'blunt injuries' following which a murder case had also been filed by Goa police. Now, her family and friends have been demanding justice for the late actress.

A video of actresses daughter demanding justice for her mother is doing rounds on the internet. And now, her Bigg Boss co-contestants have come forward and demand probe behind her mysterious death.

Taking to his twitter handle, Rahul Vaidya wrote, "Sonali ji was drugged & murdered. I hope the ones responsible are punished asap. Cos what has been done to her is INHUMAN !!! May Justice prevail soon! #SonaliPhogat".

Besides Rahul, Vinu Dara Singh also called for proper investigation and wrote, "Shocked to hear about some murder evidence in her death !! This case must be properly investigated as nowadays #Forensic science is very advanced and if anyone is guilty they must be hanged too!



#SonaliPhogatDeath" Sonali Phogat is remembered for her stint in Bigg Boss 14. Prior to this, she was also seen in shows like Amma and films like P Se Pyaar F Se Faraar.

# Minor girl's body found in bag on highway

The body of a 15-year-old girl was found stuffed in a bag on the side of a highway in Vasai of Maharashtra's Palghar district on Friday.

Team Absolute | Palghar

The body was found near Naigaon bridge on the side of Mumbai-Ahmedabad Highway around 2 pm, a police official said.

A passerby noticed the bag and alerted the Valiv police, following which a team rushed to the scene, he said. The body bore multiple

stab injuries and it has been sent for post-mortem to a government hospital in Vasai.

"The victim was living in Andheri area of Mumbai and a case of kidnapping was registered at Andheri police station," the official informed.

A case under section 302 (murder) of the Indian Penal Code has been registered. "The family members of

the victim said that she had left her house to go to school, but when she did not reach home till late evening then a complaint was lodged at the Andheri police station. Today afternoon the body of the girl was found in a bag. The Valiv police have registered a case of murder and are checking the surrounding CCTV," the police said.

# Film-Style robbery in Pune: Crores looted after highway chase, firing

Team Absolute | Mumbai

A dramatic highway chase coupled with firings led to a robbery worth crores in Pune in what seemed like an action scene from a movie.

Rs 3 crore 60 lakh were looted from two men after the robbers chased their car in four vehicles for several kilometres on the Pune-Solapur highway late on Thursday night.

It is yet to be known why the two men - Bhavesh Kumar Patel and Vijaybhai - were carrying such a big amount in a car. It is suspected the amount could be linked to a hawala racket.



In the incident that occurred in Indapur in Maharashtra's Pune district around 2 am on Friday, the robbers first tried to stop the victims' car when they slowed down near a speedbump, according to the police complaint.

Four unidentified men carrying iron rods approached their car and tried to stop it, but they speeded away.

Thereafter, the robbers started chasing them in two cars and two motorcycles. Those on the motorcycles fired at their car and brought the car to halt. The robbers thrashed the victims and fled with the cash kept in their car, police said.



## Chrishell Stause radiates confidence in a bold red jumpsuit

Los Angeles | Agencies

**C**hrishell Stause stepped out in West Hollywood on Friday in an eye-popping getup. The 41-year-old Selling Sunset bombshell was clad in a striking red jumpsuit from Beyonce's Ivy Park collection. The belted number cinched at the Netflix star's trim waist and had three pink vertical stripes along the sides. She teamed her ensemble with a pair of sunglasses with pink frames and lightly tinted lenses. Continuing to pick up on the outfit's hot pink accents, she added a matching clutch and open-toe heels with two thick straps.

The one-piece suit boasted strong shoulder pads and a plunging zip-up neckline that teased her perky cleavage. Stause - who hails from Kentucky - wore gold, dangling chain link earrings that were visible as her hair blew in the wind. Her blonde, high-lighted locks were styled with a precise center part and ironed straight as they fell down her back and over one shoulder.

In addition to her bright handbag, she also carried a black-encased tablet in her hand as she strutted with confidence. The belt had a hanging strap, which she tucked over itself. She skipped a necklace but wore rings on her nude-manicured fingers. Stause, who rose to fame as a personality on the popular Netflix series, recently noted that real estate isn't her 'sole focus.'

When asked how much she 'actually' works at the Oppenheim Group, the reality star revealed that as of June 2022 she'd 'done seven deals so far in real estate' this year.

"It's not a ton of deals. I obviously could be doing a lot more if that were my sole focus, but it isn't. I try to only take the jobs that are going to be filming on the show, or involve people I've worked with in the past," she told a Magazine.

## Kim says 'extreme diet' makes her painful skin condition flare up

London | Agencies

**K**im Kardashian is battling against the painful skin condition psoriasis with the help of a plant-based diet, reports a website. The reality star, has struggled with the autoimmune disease for 15 years and often gets painful flare-ups that cause flaky red patches to appear on her skin. According to the website, Kim has been open about living with psoriasis and she regularly gets the same flare-up on her lower leg.

Website states that in July, she was spotted with the red mark again as she showed off her stunning figure while relaxing in a bikini during her tropical holiday. In a 2019 blog post for sister Kourtney's website Poosh, the beauty mogul documented how she changed to a plant-based diet in an effort to manage her condition, as well as trying a herbal tea that "tasted like tar".

In an interview she revealed that her diet before the Met Gala caused her to have a "really painful" psoriasis flare-up. The 'Kardashians' star had switched to eating meat ahead of the event, while trying to lose weight.

After the extreme weight loss, she started suffering badly, saying, "Psoriasis broke out over my body and I got psoriatic arthritis so I couldn't really move my hands."

"It was really painful, and I had to go to a rheumatologist who put me on a steroid. I was freaking out. I cut out the meat again, and it's calmed down," she added.



## Christine McGuinness shows off her sizzling physique as she practices yoga in the garden

Los Angeles | Agencies

**C**hristine McGuinness shared her yoga work out with her fans as she revealed she has missed her regular class over the summer holidays. The mother of three looked incredible in a turquoise gym set, which consisted of a sports bra and a pair of matching cycling shorts. Christine showcased her natural beauty as she went make-up free and wore her blonde hair in a loose care free style.

During the session, Christine showed off an impressive headstand and a reverse table top among other advanced moves. The TV personality completed the session in her garden with her three kids, Penelope and Leo, both nine, and Felicity, six. She wrote in the caption: 'Ok kids.. today's lesson is Yoga. I've missed my usual class over the school holidays but all my three babies joined in with mummy in the garden today and they loved it!' It comes after Christine put her incredibly toned figure on display as she documented her grueling 'gym therapy' for her Instagram followers on Wednesday.

She showed off her impressive abs in a skimpy black crop top and matching shorts as she worked up a sweat in the gym.

Sharing a montage of her exercise session, Christine admitted she feels 'so much better' after getting in some exercise, amid a difficult time for the star following her split from her husband Paddy.

Christine showed off her toned abs in skintight black gym wear as she headed down to her home gym for the workout.

The star posted a montage of the different exercises she completed, including squats and lifting weights.

Captioning the video on her grid, Christine wrote: 'It's been a while. Today I needed some gym therapy, I got a good 45 minutes in and I feel so much better!'

She then went onto share a snap from her workout on her Stories, writing: 'It's been a while but I need this today. Once the kiddies go back to school I can get myself back into a good routine.'

'Shout out to all the parents and careers who are juggling work, kids and life right.. You're doing great. Back To School is almost here!'



## Camilla Arfwedson is pregnant!

Actress announces she is expecting her first child with husband Jack Hawkins in her 40's

Los Angeles | Agencies

**H**olby City star Camilla Arfwedson is pregnant. The actress took to Instagram on Friday to share the happy news that she is expecting her first child - a boy - with her husband Jack Hawkins. Camilla showed off her bump as she headed to her baby shower - revealing she only has two weeks to go until the birth of her child and wanted to keep the majority of her pregnancy private. She looked glowing in a floaty blue

dress which she teamed with comfy trainers while accessorising with a leopard print headband. She penned in the caption: 'I always thought pregnancy is an incredibly private journey & have resisted sharing mine on social media but with two weeks to go till we meet our little boy I thought why not. Just joyful, emotional and completely wonderful in every way. So here's to celebrating life & all the good things!'

In 2019 Camilla married Call The Midwife's Jack quietly, having been an item for three years.

The couple kept their union low-key - seemingly tying the knot in October that year in an under-the-radar ceremony. The pair met in

2016 when Jack, now 36, was 'treated' by Camilla who plays Dr Zosia March.

She left the show - with Dr March disappearing off to the USA - but then returned - with a new, off-screen husband. Casually dropping into conversation that she and Jack tied the knot, Camilla told a newspaper: 'It's nice to be back for a couple of months. I love it on Holby.'

## Jennifer Garner rises up to TikTok's 'Teenage Dirtbag' challenge

Los Angeles | Agencies

**T**he 'Dallas Buyers Club' star Jennifer Garner recently shared a series of throwback photos from her teen years in a video recently, reports a magazine. The Golden Globe winner, proved that she's still hip to the trends as she jumped on the "Teenage Dirtbag" TikTok challenge trend. "My 'Teenage Dirtbag' photos," Garner wrote with a clip of herself standing in front of San Francisco's Golden Gate Bridge, set to a sped-up version of the 2000 Wheatus song. According to a website, the video then cycled through some hilarious retro photos of Garner practising the saxophone, doing ballet and playing Dorothy in a staged production of The Wizard of Oz, among other fond adolescent memories. She was met with love from some famous friends in the comments section. "No dirtbag detected," wrote Aisha Tyler. Rita Wilson commented with some crying-laughing emojis. People add that Garner, who celebrated her 50th birthday in April, previously said she "can't wait" to celebrate the milestone birthday with her family. "I turn 50 yeah, Easter Sunday," she told Extra earlier that month. "My family has tickets to come out. My parents and my sisters, nieces, and nephews. I don't know what we'll do, but I can't wait.

We're gonna have a good time." Mark Ruffalo, who starred with Garner in 13 going on 30 and The Adam Project, added: "I would never guess Jen is 50."

## ABSOLUTE PIC OF THE DAY



Georgia Steel





## Asia Cup 2022

# MEN IN BLUE SWEAT OUT TO SETTLE THE SCORE WITH PAK

While India and Pakistani cricket fans are looking forward to the blockbuster clash between the arch-rivals in the Asia Cup in Dubai. Tickets for India-Pakistan clash sold.

Team Absolute | New Delhi

With temperatures in the daytime touching 40 and 41 degrees or even going beyond, people are left in the dilemma of whether to explore the city and bear with hot air or stay put in their rooms with air conditioner on and enjoy the cool air.

In this environment of intense heat in Dubai, the Asia Cup, in its 15th edition begins. As usual, there is an India-Pakistan match, happening on Sunday, which has managed to grab a huge chunk of eyeballs leading into the six-team competition.

Amidst the heat, the atmosphere in Dubai will go a couple of notches

August is generally seen as the hottest month to travel to Dubai. There is an India-Pakistan match, happening on Sunday, which has managed to grab a huge chunk of eyeballs leading into the six-team competition.



high when the greatest rivalry in the world of cricket resumes on Sunday. Though the social media buzz has been largely muted, once the game begins, the excitement of an India-Pakistan clash will keep the netizens busy.

Both India and Pakistan will be entering Sunday's match without their pace spearheads -- Jasprit Bumrah and Shaheen Shah Afridi.

While Bumrah is nursing a back injury, Afridi is missing due to a right knee ligament injury.

Afridi will be a huge miss for Pakistan as he picked 3-31 in his four overs and became 'Player of the Match' in a 10-wicket victory when these two teams last met in the Men's T20 World Cup in 2021 at the venue which is now all geared up to host Sunday's Asia Cup Group A match.

In Bumrah's absence, Arshdeep Singh and Avesh Khan have been given opportunities to strengthen their respective cases for spots in the Men's T20 World Cup squad. In absence of Afridi and Mohammad Wasim Jr., Hasan Ali, who was not in the original Asia Cup squad due to dip in form, has been given a chance to show he's still got in him to get that ticket to the World Cup apart from Haris Rauf, Shah Nawaz Dahani, Mohammad Hasnain and Naseem Shah. Sunday's match also marks talismanic India batter Virat Kohli's 100th T20I appearance, and his first international match since playing in the third ODI against England on July 17. It will also make Kohli only the second player (after New Zealand's Ross Taylor) to clock 100 appearances in all three formats of international cricket.

Kohli, the former India captain, has not scored a century in international cricket since November 2019, and has played only four T20I matches for India this year. Kohli's return to cricket after a break of a month and a half adds extra bling to the clash between the arch-rivals.

# Afghanistan thrash Sri Lanka by 8 wickets in opener

Dubai | Agencies

Afghanistan produced a clinical all-round performance to thrash Sri Lanka by eight wickets in the first match of the Asia Cup 2022 T20 Tournament at Dubai International Cricket Stadium, here on Saturday.

After being invited to bat first, Sri Lanka lost wickets in clusters and their batters looked uncomfortable in the middle for most of the innings, getting bowled out for paltry 105 in 19.4 overs. Bhanuka Rajapaksa (38 off 29), Chamika Karunaratne (31 off 38) and Danushka Gunathilaka (17 off 17) were the top-scorers for Sri Lanka.

On the other hand, Fazalhaq Farooqi (3/11), Mohammad Nabi (2/14), Mujeeb Ur Rahman (2/24), and Naveen-ul-Haq (1/23) were the wicket-takers for Afghanistan. In reply, Afghanistan chased down the target quite comfortably, losing only two wickets. They lost the wicket of Rahmanullah Gurbaz (40 off 18) in the 7th over and Ibrahim Zadran (15) in the 10th over. However, Hazratullah Zazai (37 off 28) and Najibullah Zadran (2) remained not out and took Afghanistan over the victory line in 10.1 overs.

Wanindu Hasaranga



(1/19) was the lone wicket-taker for Sri Lanka.

### Brief scores

Sri Lanka 105 all out in 19.4 overs (Bhanuka Rajapaksa 38, Chamika Karunaratne 31; Fazalhaq Farooqi 3/11, Mohammad Nabi 2/14) lost to Afghanistan 106-2 in 10.1 Overs (Rahmanullah Gurbaz 40, Hazratullah Zazai 37; Wanindu Hasaranga 1/19) by 8 wickets

## World Cadet Judo Championship:



# India's Linthoi Chanambam clinches historic gold

Team Absolute | New Delhi

Indian teenager Linthoi Chanambam claimed a historic gold at the World Cadet Judo Championship in Sarajevo, becoming the first from the country to win a medal in the tournament across any age group.

The 15-year-old from Manipur defeated Brazil's Bianca Reis to finish on top of the podium in the women's 57kg contest held in the capital of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

"LINTHOI WINS 1st EVER GOLD AT WORLDS. Reigning Asian Champion Linthoi Chanambam (W-

57kg) defeats Bianca Reis 1-0 to win at Cadet World C'ships 2022. She scripts history to become Champion by winning 1st ever medal for India at the Worlds across any age-group," the Sports Authority of India (SAI) said in a tweet on Friday.

As per SAI, Linthoi is a 'TOPScheme' development group athlete. In July, she won a gold and opened India's medal account on the third day of the Asian Cadet & Junior Judo Championship 2022 in Bangkok. Linthoi claimed her gold medal in the 63kg category of the cadet event.

## Competing in World Cup

# CWG GAVE ME CONFIDENCE, SAYS SONIKA

Team Absolute | New Delhi

Participating in the World Cup and Commonwealth Games against all the top teams in the World within a month or so is a learning experience for a player returning to the game after a break. Doing well in such mega events held close to each other has given Indian women's hockey team midfielder Sonika the confidence that she can take on anyone in the world. The young midfielder was part of the World Cup team and also started all six games in the Commonwealth Games in Birmingham as the Indian team won a bronze medal, their first medal since 2006. Sonika, who played integral roles in the FIH Women's Hockey World Cup 2022 in Spain and Netherlands and Commonwealth Games 2022 in Birmingham, spoke about her experiences of competing in major tourna-



ments for the first time.

On the back of her consistent performances, Sonika made it to the Indian squad for the FIH Women's Hockey

World Cup 2022, where she started in all six games. At the Commonwealth Games 2022, Sonika was a key force in the midfield. "Returning to hockey after a long gap, and then competing for the first time in major tournaments was an extremely positive experience for me. I always had faith in the team and I knew we have the potential to perform well. But on a personal level, competing in these matches gave me a boost of confidence to face every challenge in front of me," Sonika was quoted as saying by Hockey India in a release on Saturday. Speaking on how Indian hockey has evolved over the past couple of years, Sonika emphasised how they have become more dominant in the attack. "The Indian Women's Hockey Team has improved a lot over the past couple of years. We, as a team, have started playing solid attacking hockey.

# AIFF polls: Final list out, Manvendra Singh to contest for VP post

Team Absolute | New Delhi

After getting relief from the international body (FIFA), the All India Football Federation (AIFF) on Saturday released a final list of candidates who filed their nominations for the elections, scheduled to take place on September 2.

With the contest pitting Kalyan Chaubey, a former national footballer who is currently a member of the West Bengal State BJP, against the poster boy of Indian football, Bhaichung Bhutia -- the most-capped footballer after Sunil Chhetri and the first Indian to play 100 international matches, it's a no-brainer that a former footballer will be at the helm of affairs in a national body hitherto ruled by politicians and businessmen.

The list is almost the same as that shared by IANS earlier. However, the new entry is of Manvendra Singh (Rajasthan association chief) for the vice-president post and Gopalkishna Kosaraju (Andhra president) for



treasurer. President: Bhaichung Bhutia, Kalyan Chaubey Vice-president: NA Haris, Manvendra Singh

Treasurer: Kipa Ajay, Gopalkrishna Kosaraju Executive committee members: GP Palguna, Avijit Paul, Anilkumar P, Valanka Natasha Alemao, Maloji Raj Chhatrapati, Menla Ethenpa, Mohan Lal, Arif Ali, K Neibou Sekhose, Lalnginglova Hmar, Deepak Sharma, Vijay Bali, Syed Imtiaz Husain, Syed Hasnain Ali Naqvi.

Tokyo | Agencies

The Indian badminton men's doubles pair of Chirag Shetty and Satwiksairaj Rankireddy went down fighting to world No. 6 Aaron Chia and Soh Wooi Yik of Malaysia 22-20, 18-21, 16-21 in the semifinal of the BWF World Championships 2022 to settle for bronze at the Tokyo Metropolitan Gymnasium on Saturday.

The loss of the young pair against the 2020 Tokyo Olympic Games bronze medallists also ended India's campaign at this year's championships. The Malaysian duo will face the Indonesian pair of Mohammad Ahsan and Hendra Setiawan in the final on Sunday. This was India's 13th World Badminton Championships medal and the first in men's doubles. Chirag and Satwiksairaj, ranked seventh in the world, gave a gritty display to take the first game but could not keep up the pressure on their Malaysian counterparts thereon. The Indian pair was leading by five points going



into the first break but the nimble Malaysian duo grew in confidence as the match progressed. The Malaysians' solid defence saw them level the game at 16-all. But Chirag and Satwiksairaj survived the opening game largely because of their compact net play. The second game saw the Malaysian pair take four successive points after the break, which gave them enough cushion to thwart the Indians' charge and stretched the match into the decider. The third game was all about long rallies. The Indian duo was in the match till 15-16, but they conceded five of the next six points to go down in the 77-minute contest.

This was Aaron Chia and Soh Wooi Yik's sixth victory against the Indian pair in as many outings. Earlier in the quarterfinal, Chirag and Satwiksairaj had defeated reigning world champions Takuro Hoki and Yugo Kobayashi to assure themselves of a medal. Shuttlers Chirag-Satwiksairaj go down fighting to Malaysian pair; settle for bronze.

# NAVJEET KAUR DHILLON FAILS DOPE TEST, BANNED FOR THREE YEARS

New Delhi: Indian discus thrower Navjeet Kaur Dhillon, who won a bronze medal at the 2018 Commonwealth Games in Gold Coast, has been handed a three-year ban by the Athletics Integrity Unit (AIU) after she tested positive for a banned drug.

As per AIU, which is the independent body created by World Athletics to manage all integrity issues -- including doping and age fraud, Navjeet had tested positive for Dehydrochloro methyl test osteron, an anabolic-androgenic steroid prohibited by World Athletics.

The drug was infamously used to enhance field performances by some East German athletes during the late 1960s. The 27-year-old has been a regular feature in the domestic competitions and those held outside India this year. She was also part of the Indian contingent for the Commonwealth Games 2022 in Birmingham where she finished eighth in the 11-women discus throw final.

The AIU team took an out-of-the-competition urine sample from Navjeet during the Qosanov Memorial Athletics Meet in Almaty, Kazakhstan on June 24.

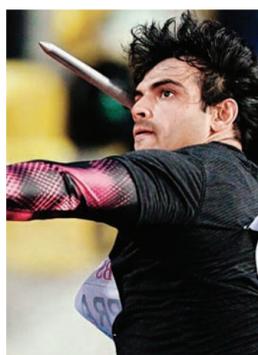


# Neeraj Chopra gifts Tokyo 2020 gold-medal-winning javelin to The Olympic Museum

Lausanne (Switzerland) | Agencies

Indian javelin thrower and Olympic gold medallist Neeraj Chopra gifted his javelin from Tokyo 2020 to The Olympic Museum, here on Saturday.

Chopra's javelin joined another Indian individual Olympic gold medallist -- shooter Abhinav Bindra's triumphant rifle from Beijing 2008 in the Olympic heritage collection held at the Museum, a rich patrimonial collection that is aimed at securing the Olympic legacy and inspiring future generations. The 39-year-old Bindra was also present for the occasion, which has now become an iconic moment for Indian sports fans. "I'm grateful for this occasion. It is a privilege to join the hallowed galleries of The Olympic Museum, a space where the most iconic



moments from Olympic history are showcased. For any athlete, it is a great honour to be able to inspire others," said Chopra. The reigning

Olympic champion, who is also the Indian national record-holder, was the first track and field athlete ever to win a gold medal for India at the Games. In his Olympic debut in Tokyo, Chopra threw 87.58 m in his second attempt, winning the gold medal and making him only the second Indian to win an individual gold medal, after Bindra's win in the men's 10-metre air rifle event in Beijing 2008. "It is a pleasure to be able to witness this moment and share it with Neeraj," said Bindra, who is also a member of the IOC Athletes' Commission.

"Neeraj's exploits in Tokyo inspired millions, and I am delighted that his javelin will now join my rifle at The Olympic Museum, which has been a bit lonely in terms of Indian company so far," he added.

## US Open

# Serena Williams prepares for final tournament

New York | Agencies

Boyzone were top of the charts and more than a quarter of the women's top 100 had not been born when Serena Williams made her US Open debut 24 years ago.

Already a superstar in the making at 16, Williams has been the talk of tennis ever since and will be celebrated as such at Flushing Meadows as she marks the end of one of the great sporting careers, reports. A few weeks short of her 41st birthday and keen to focus on trying to have a second child, Williams has decided, reluctantly, that now is the time to hang up her racquet. While she has played spar-

ingly over the last few years and women like Naomi Osaka, Ashleigh Barty and Iga Swiatek have staked their claim at the top of the game, Williams remained the alpha female of the tour and her retirement will leave an inescapable hole. Most of her fellow competitors in New York have known only tennis with Williams in it. Former US Open finalist Madison Keys told the PA news agency: "I grew up watching Serena, I idolised her forever and being able to play against her multiple times on the tour, those are still some of the most memorable matches that I've ever played and they will also be some of the most special moments that I've had on a tennis court.



## "WE FINISHED OUR 9TH FILM TOGETHER"

### Tabu Announces Wrap Of Bholaa With Ajay Devgn

Team Absolute | New Delhi

It's a wrap for Ajay Devgn and Tabu-starrer Bholaa. Not to forget Bholaa marks their 9th project together. The announcement was made by stars in a joint post on Instagram. In the behind-the-scenes photo, Tabu is seen wearing a white shirt and a jacket over it. Standing beside her is Ajay Devgn, who is pointing at something. Not just you, we are also wondering what it is. For the caption, playing around Ajay Devgn's antic in the picture, Tabu wrote, "Look. We finished our 9th film together." Bholaa is also Ajay Devgn's fourth film as a director. His previous work includes U, Me aur Hum, in 2008, Shivaay, in 2016, and Runway 34, in 2022. The actor's love for direction is no secret. Ajay Devgn often shares glimpses from the sets of films, featuring him behind the camera. And, Bholaa was no different. Last month, Ajay Devgn shared a

frame in which he is handling the camera on the sets of Bholaa. Ajay Devgn's post came with a question. The actor asked, "Guess who's directing whom?" Bholaa is slated to release in March next year. The film is the remake of the Tamil blockbuster Kaithi, which featured Karthi in the lead. Meanwhile, Tabu and Ajay have shared the screen in films including Golmaal Again, De De Pyaar De, Drishyam, Vijaypath, Haqeeqat, and Thakshak. Apart from Bholaa, the duo will also be seen in Drishyam 2, which is helmed by Abhishek Pathak. Along with Ajay Devgn and Tabu, the sequel will star Akshaye Khanna, Shriya Saran, Rajat Kapoor, and Ishita Dutta.

Ajay Devgn will reprise his character of Vijay from the hit 2015 film Drishyam. In the first part, he convinced everyone to believe that his family went for a holiday, which in turn was a pitch-perfect plan to save them from a murder conviction.



## 'Sita Ramam' pumps up Mrunal Thakur's social media following to 5.3 mn

Chennai | Agencies

The fan base of actress Mrunal Thakur, whose performance in the critically-acclaimed romantic period drama 'Sita Ramam' has come in for praise, seems to have grown considerably if one is to go by what sources say.

Sources say that after the massive success of 'Sita Ramam', which also stars Dulquer Salmaan and Rashmika Mandanna, Mrunal's fan base has increased by leaps and bounds.

A source says that the follower base of the actress on social media has shot up from 4.6 million to 5.3 million in less than a month.

The actor, who has earned appreciation from not just the southern film industry but also from her fans in other parts, is floored by the affection shown by her fans, who are leaving no stone unturned on social media to express their love for her. Mrunal says, "Each and every gesture makes me (feel) so special that it is hard to explain. My social media and DMs are filled with such updates. I wish I could tag them all or share all their work."

I am so grateful for the love that I am being shown and the way people have accepted me is heartwarming."

'Sita Ramam', a period music romantic drama, was released on August 5 and it continues to do strong business at the box-office. The



film emerged as a critical and commercial success, grossing over Rs 75 crore at the box office.

## Richa Chadha Is Busy Dreaming

Team Absolute | New Delhi

Richa Chadha has shared a throwback video from her recent vacation to Italy with boyfriend Ali Fazal. In the post, the Fukrey actress revealed that sometime when she is working, she sits down and thinks about her dreamy vacation. On Friday, she went down memory lane and shared a short clip on her Instagram handle, in which the couple can be seen having the time of their lives, sitting by the ocean and roaming on the streets of Italy. In the captions, she wrote, "Sometimes when I'm working I sit and think about Italy". A few weeks ago, Richa Chadha and Ali Fazal jetted off to Italy and kept their fans updated by sharing videos and pictures from the picturesque location.

Richa Chadha and Ali Fazal first met on

the sets of Fukrey and fell in love with each other. The couple has been dating for a long time, and now, reports of their wedding have been creating a heavy buzz on the Internet.

The couple was reported to get married in 2020, but due to the COVID-19 pandemic, they postponed the plan. Speaking to a website, the actress confirmed that they should hopefully get married this year. She said, "I think shaadi... shaadi ho jaegi iss saal. Kar lenge kisi tarah se... (We will get married this year, will marry somehow). We're very excited to get married but just worried about COVID and want to be responsible. (We) don't want to be in the news for the wrong reasons. Plus, we've both gotten really, really busy when stuff opened up and work resumed at full pace. So, I'm saying we have to like do a live production job of taking combination dates and making this happen this year."

In terms of work, Richa Chadha was last seen in Lahore Confidential. Next, she will be seen in Fukrey 3.

About Her Holiday In Italy With Boyfriend Ali Fazal



## 'MAKERS ARE YET TO TAP JACQUELINE CAPABILITY': DICTION COACH KULVINDER BAKSHISH SINGH

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Jacqueline Fernandez is one of the most beautiful and talented actress of Tinsel town. The diva was recently seen in Bachchan Panday and Attact: Part 1. Talking about her further films, she has Ram Setu in her pipeline. For the film the actress is making sure to get her Hindi diction right and taking the required coaching for it.

The actress is training under Kulvinder Bakshish Singh, who is a well-known diction coach in Bollywood.

Recalling his first meet with the actress, Kulvinder Bakshish Singh shared, "When I met her, I can't say she spoke well but she understands Hindi very well. She told me that she has difficulty in performing when it comes to Hindi lines. She remembers lines but the feeling, and emotions which language has of its own does not come easily. Since then I have started working with her."

Talking about his experience of working with actress for Ram Setu, he shared, "She is very serious and dedicated about her work, be it language, be it acting. Jacqueline is a good listener and picks up things quickly. More than the teacher, the commitment of the student matters and she has everything to the T. So does her work well and is very positive." He further revealed that apart from working on Hindi, the actress is working on Urdu and Sanskrit too.

"She is also trying to get an understanding of Urdu and Sanskrit too. Jacqueline is always eager to learn new things and takes care of the people who work for or with her", Kulvinder Bakshish Singh shared.

Adulating her hardwork, Kulvinder Bakshish Singh stated, "Jacqueline has a lot of potential but the sad thing is the makers are yet to tap her capability well till now."



## Parineeti Chopra Travels Solo

### "Requests Strangers" To Click Pictures

Team Absolute | New Delhi

Parineeti Chopra, who is all set to mark her first collaboration with filmmaker Imtiaz Ali in his film Chamkila, is currently on a trip to an unknown location. Recently the actor shared two pictures of her on Instagram. In the pictures, she is seen wearing an oversized sweater, paired with black pants. She is also sporting a cap in the pictures. Sharing her photos, the actor wrote, "I travel to places no one goes, so I can walk free and no one knows. (But request strangers to take my photos)", with a laughing emoji. Many of her fans flooded her comments section with compliments like, "You're Gorgeous" and "Awesome", while others have dropped heart and fire emojis, expressing their love for her. Parineeti Chopra, who was earlier said to appear in Ranbir Kapoor's Animal, opted out, to join Imtiaz Ali's cast for Chamkila. The film is a biopic of Punjabi singer Amar Singh Chamkila, starring Diljit Dosanjh and Parineeti Chopra in the lead. Just a few weeks ago, the actor had also shared a picture with her Kesari co-star Akshay Kumar, announcing an untitled project. Her caption read, "We are back. This time the Kesari duo may be shooting in York, but the laughs, jokes, games, and Punjabi Gupshup is the same", with a smiley face and a heart emoji. Parineeti Chopra was last seen in her 2021 films like The Girl on the Train and Saina. Saina is a biopic of badminton player Saina Nehwal.



## INSTAGRAM PIC OF THE DAY



Niharika Gandhi