

NATION > 02

Nitish Kumar alerted RJD leaders about CBI raids: BJP...



HOLLYWOOD > 06

Halsey battles food poisoning at UK festival...



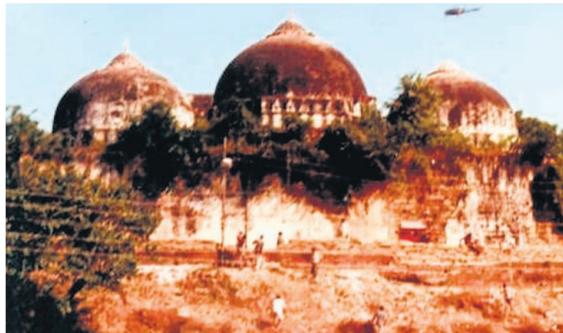
SPORTS > 07

US Open: Caroline Garcia starts with a win; Maria Sakkari...



SC CLOSES CONTEMPT PROCEEDINGS IN 1992 BABRI DEMOLITION CASE

▶ THE ORDER HAS COME AS A RELIEF FOR BJP LEADERS INCLUDING UMA BHARTI, VINAY KATIYAR AND OTHERS ON A PETITION FILED BY MOHD ASLAM ALIAS BHURE, WHO DIED IN 2010. IN NOVEMBER 2019, A FIVE-JUDGE BENCH DECIDED THE TITLE DISPUTE IN AYODHYA CASE IN FAVOUR OF THE HINDU SIDE FOR CONSTRUCTION OF RAM TEMPLE.



10% EWS QUOTA IN ADMISSIONS, JOBS TO BE EXAMINE

PLEAS SEEKING PROPER PROBE OF GUJARAT RIOTS DISPOSED

New Delhi: The Supreme Court on Tuesday said it would examine the constitutional validity of the Central government's decision to allow 10 per cent reservation to economically weaker sections (EWS) in admissions and jobs.

The top court clarified that it would first examine the 10 per cent EWS reservation in admissions and jobs, and then consider appeals against the Andhra Pradesh High Court verdict which set aside a local law granting reservation to Muslims.

It pointed out that since the issues are overlapping in the matter, it would take up the pleas relating to EWS quota first followed by appeals challenging Muslim reservation. The Centre, through the 103rd Constitutional Amendment Act, 2019, introduced the provision for EWS reservation in admissions and government jobs.

New Delhi: The Supreme Court on Tuesday wrapped up its proceedings in connection with 2002 Gujarat riot cases, as it disposed of ten petitions, including a plea filed by the National Human Rights Commission, seeking proper investigation in the cases of violence during the riots.

A bench headed by Chief Justice of India U.U. Lalit and comprising Justices S. Ravindra Bhat and J.B. Pardiwala disposed of the cases as infructuous. It observed that the court had constituted an SIT to conduct the investigation and prosecution of nine cases connected with riots and the trial in eight out of those cases are complete, and the final arguments going in the trial court in one case.

NO GANESH CHATURTHI PUJA AT IDGAH MAIDAN IN B'LRU

New Delhi: The Supreme Court on Tuesday told the Karnataka government to maintain status quo for a few days, added that Ganesh Chaturthi puja can be held somewhere else, instead at Idgah Maidan in Bengaluru's Chamarajpet.

A bench headed by Indira Banerjee told Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, representing the Karnataka government, to maintain the status quo for a few days. "You have the puja somewhere else. And go back to high court," said the bench, also comprising justices A.S. Oka and M.M. Sundresh. The bench emphasised that in the meanwhile, both parties as of today maintain status quo and disposed of the petitions filed by the Central Muslim Association of Karnataka and Karnataka State Board of AUQAF against the Karnataka government.

The petitioners had moved the Supreme Court challenging the Karnataka High Court order, which allowed Ganesh Chaturthi celebrations at Idgah Maidan in Bengaluru's Chamarajpet.

Bhure's counsel asked the court to substitute the petitioner with an amicus curiae, which was denied by the apex court.

Pandit Nehru brought back to life as museum and library gets a makeover

The Pradhan Mantri Sangrahalaya (Prime Ministers' Museum) is a tribute to every Prime Minister of the country since Independence in 1947 and a record of how each one of them has contributed to the development of the country in the last 75 years.



Team Absolute | New Delhi

The Nehru Memorial Museum and Library is located in the capital's Teen Murti House, which remained the official residence of independent India's first Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru for almost all his tenure and life. Designed by Robert Tor Russell and built in 1929 as part of Edwin Lutyens' imperial capital to serve as residence of the British Indian Army's Commander-in-Chief, the Flagstaff House, renamed Teen Murti House, became the residence of Nehru right after the last British Commander-in-Chief left in August 1948 till his death on May 27, 1964. Later, it was decided that Teen Murti House should be dedicated to Nehru and a museum and a library should be set up. On November 14, 1964, on Nehru's 75th birth anniversary, the then President Dr Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan, formally dedicated the Teen Murti House to the nation and inaugurated the Nehru Memorial Museum. On April 1, 1966, the

government established the Nehru Memorial Museum and Library Society to manage the management of the institute, which today remains a major research centre for the Indian public and a platform for various activities. In view of the increasing volume of research material, an annexe building was constructed in 1989. In 1990, the Centre for Contemporary Studies was established in this building as a new unit of Nehru Memorial Museum and Library.

All the items related to the first Prime Minister of India have been kept in the Nehru Memorial Museum. Many governments came and went gone but no attention was paid to its renovation. The Narendra Modi government not only renovated the Nehru Memorial Museum, but also established the Prime Ministers' museum in this campus. Different galleries of all the Prime Ministers from the first Prime Minister of India to the present day were built and this entire building was constructed in a modern manner.

Team Absolute | New Delhi

The Supreme Court on Tuesday closed contempt proceedings against the Uttar Pradesh government and others, including prominent BJP leaders, in the 1992 Babri Mosque demolition case.

A bench of Justices Sanjay Kishan Kaul, Abhay S. Oka, and Vikram Nath said there is a verdict delivered by a larger bench and nothing survives in this matter now. It said in view of the 2019 judgement in the Ayodhya case, the contempt no longer survived in the matter.

The bench added that there was no point in flogging a dead horse as it emphasised that a larger issue has already been decided by a five-judge bench and the petitioner has died, therefore the contempt petition against the respondents is closed.

Amid political crisis, Jharkhand's ruling MLAs to be shifted to Raipur

Team Absolute | Ranchi

Amid the political crisis in Jharkhand, preparations are on to shift the ruling coalition's MLAs to Chhattisgarh's capital, Raipur. On Tuesday, the ruling coalition's MLAs once again gathered at CM House in Ranchi. A special flight has been arranged at Birsamunda Airport in Ranchi.

According to information received from Raipur, rooms have been booked for August 30 and 31 in a resort named Mayfair. A dozen IPS and DSP level officers have been reportedly deployed for the security of the resort. The SP has also issued a letter regarding the posting of officers. The resort's rooms were vacated two days ago.

Jharkhand Mukti Morcha's (JMM) central general secretary Binod Pandey said that all the MLAs have been called to the Chief Minister's residence. The Chief Minister will hold a meeting



with them and further strategy will be discussed. When asked whether the MLAs were being taken out of the state, he replied that any decision would be taken in the meeting itself. "A conspiracy is being hatched by the BJP to overthrow the Jharkhand government. They

want to write a black chapter here, but they don't know that our alliance is very strong," Minister Banna Gupta said.

Meanwhile, Chief Minister Hemant Soren has called a meeting of the Jharkhand cabinet on September 1.

TN reported 2nd highest suicides in country in 2021: NCRB

Team Absolute | Chennai

Tamil Nadu has recorded the second highest number of suicides after Maharashtra in the country in 2021, according to a data.

This was stated by the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) data released on Monday. According to NCRB, Tamil Nadu reported 18,295 suicides in 2021 after Maharashtra which reported 22,207 cases.

Tamil Nadu's suicide cases have shown a 0.5 per cent increase when compared to the figures for 2020. The number of suicides in Tamil Nadu is 11.5 per cent of the national figure.

The state topped the suicides mainly due to family disputes/issues with a figure of 8,073 deaths. The state is followed by Maharashtra with 7,693 deaths.

Sukanya Nambiar who heads SRADDHA, an NGO that provides helpline for those with suicidal thoughts told IANS: "The society is still



ostracising people who need support and they are stamped with the tag of mentally disturbed or mentally ill."

The NCRB data reveals that 3,042 people committed suicide due to illness in Karnataka while 2,469 ended their lives in Andhra Pradesh for the same reasons.

The data shows that people from all walks of life have committed suicide with 25.6 per cent of those who committed suicide being daily wage earners, 14.1 per cent housewives, 12.3 per cent self-employed people, 9.7 per cent salaried people, 8.4 per cent unemployed people, and 8 per cent students.

2 LET TERRORISTS KILLED IN ENCOUNTER AT J&K'S SHOPIAN

Srinagar: Two LeT terrorists were killed in an encounter with security forces in Jammu and Kashmir's Shopian district on Tuesday, police said.

"One more terrorist killed (Total 02). Both the killed terrorists were affiliated with proscribed terror outfit LeT. Search going on," a police official said.

The firefight at Nagbal area of Shopian started after a joint team of police and security forces got an input about the presence of terrorists in that area, and cordoned it off. At this, terrorists hiding there started firing on security forces, who retaliated.

There have been a series of encounters between terrorists and security forces across Kashmir over the last few months, in which many terrorists and their commanders have been eliminated.

CBI FOUND NOTHING, GOT CLEAN CHIT: SISODIA

Team Absolute | New Delhi

Delhi Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia on Tuesday claimed that his family got a 'clean chit' as nothing was found at his home and in his bank locker. Sisodia's bank locker at a Ghaziabad bank was searched by the CBI on Tuesday morning. Manish Sisodia and his wife Seema Sisodia reached the bank along with the probe agency officials to examine the bank locker in connection with the alleged irregularities in the excise policy. "Nothing was found in my bank locker today just like nothing was found at my residence during the CBI raid. I am happy that I have got a clean chit," said Sisodia after the



probe agency examined his locker at the bank. He also added that the CBI officials treated them well and they also cooperated with them. "The truth has won," he added. "The locker has jewellery worth about Rs 70,000 belonging to my children and wife. I am happy that the Prime Minister got my home raided, my locker searched, but nothing was found. My family and I have got a clean chit in all the raids," he said.

Hindu outfits protest after man barred from entering Taj Mahal with idol

Team Absolute | Agra

Hindu outfits are up in arms after a tourist from Jaipur was barred from entering the Taj Mahal with a Lord Krishna idol.

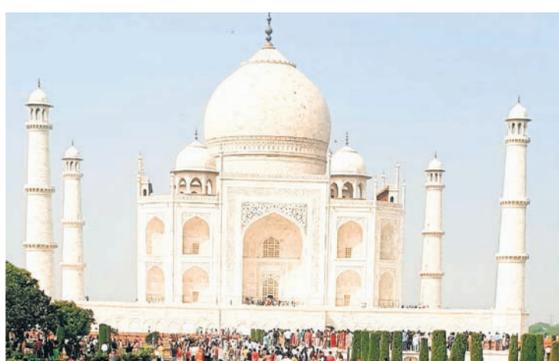
The outfits have said that they will launch protests if action is not taken against those who stopped the tourist.

An official from the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI), Agra circle, said he will enquire about the matter with the CISF officials.

The tourist, Gautam, told reporters at the Taj Mahal that the official cited security reasons for stopping him from entering with the idol.

"Laddu Gopal is like a family member and I always carry him. I have visited Mathura and Vrindavan with the Lord. But here they asked me to enter without God's idol," Gautam said.

Prince Vajpayee, Conservation Assistant (CA) at Taj Mahal said: "I too have got a video in this regard. But I



have no information whether the incident was on Monday or some other day. Will enquire about the incident from the CISF.

"I will ask any devout shopkeeper to keep the idol of the Lord while we

visit the monument." Govind Parashar, national president of the Rashtriya Hindu Parishad Bharat, said: "Strict action should be taken against those who have insulted the Lord. If action is not taken, we will protest."

Not required to check Aadhaar, PAN before consensual sex: Delhi HC

Team Absolute | New Delhi

The Delhi High Court observed that a person, who is in a consensual physical relationship, is not required to see an Aadhaar and a PAN card and verify the date of birth before sex with his/her partner.

Justice Jasmeet Singh was hearing a bail application of a man accused of raping his alleged minor partner who has three different dates of birth on her records of which the court was in the view that she was not a minor during the alleged rape.

"The person, who is in a consensual physical relationship with another person, is not required to judicially scrutinise the date of birth of the other person. He is not



required to see Aadhaar card, PAN card and verify the date of birth from her school record before he enters into a physical relationship.

"The very fact that there is an Aadhaar Card and the very fact that the same shows date of birth as 01.01.1998 is sufficient for the applicant to form an opinion that he was not indulging in physical relationship with a minor," the recent order read.



NITISH KUMAR ALERTED RJD LEADERS ABOUT CBI RAIDS: BJP

Patna | Agencies

Accusing Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar of "working like a rubber stamp" for Lalu Prasad Yadav and Tejashwi Yadav, BJP state President Sanjay Jaiswal alleged that he had informed the RJD leaders about the CBI raids a day earlier.

The CBI conducted multiple raids on the office and residence of RJD MLC Sunil Singh in Patna, Rajya Sabha MP Asfaq Karim in Katihar, RS MP Fayyaz Ahmed in Madhubani, Ex-MLC Subodh Rai in Vaishali and ex-MLA Abu Dojana in Sitamarhi.

"CM Nitish Kumar was aware about the CBI raid and he informed RJD leaders about the same in advance. Tejashwi Yadav has made Nitish Kumar a rubber stamp to protect themselves from various scams. Nitish Kumar is protecting criminals. As a result, the crime graph is



rocketing in Bihar," Jaiswal alleged.

He also said that Union Home Minister Amit Shah is coming to Bihar for two days on September 23 and 24, and will do a rally on September 23 in Purnea and 24 in Kishanganj under 'Mission 36' for Lok Sabha election 2024. The BJP has set a target for itself to win 36 out of 40

Lok Sabha seats in the upcoming 2024 Lok Sabha election. Jaiswal also leveled allegations on district administrations in the Seemanchal area and said that district police of Purnea, Araria, Kishanganj, Katihar and others are registering FIR against 'Gorakshaks' (cattle protectors) for saving cows from slaughtering.

DUBAI RETURNEE HELD WITH GOLD WORTH RS 65L AT AMRITSAR AIRPORT

Amritsar | Customs officials at Amritsar's Sri Guru Ram Das Ji international airport have apprehended a passenger and recovered undeclared gold valued at around Rs 65.16 lakh from his possession.



According to reports, the Customs officials held a passenger who had arrived from Dubai via Air India flight IX-192 on Tuesday. The passenger tried to cross through the green channel but was stopped due to his suspicious movements. He denied carrying any contraband when questioned by the Customs officials. However, after a personal search, three transparent poly pouches containing four pure gold chains weighing 1,240 gm (having a market value of Rs 65.16 lakh) were found concealed in the undergarment worn by him. The recovered gold has been placed under seizure. Further investigation is in progress.

Bengal coal scam: Calcutta HC allows Maneka Gambhir to appear at ED's Kolkata office

Kolkata | Agencies

The Calcutta High Court on Monday allowed Maneka Gambhir, sister-in-law of Trinamool Congress's national General Secretary Abhishek Banerjee, to appear for questioning at the Enforcement Directorate (ED)'s Kolkata office instead of its New Delhi office.

Earlier, the ED had summoned Gambhir at its Delhi office on September 5 for questioning on the coal smuggling scam. However, she had challenged the decision in the high court.

A single-judge bench of Justice Moushumi Bhattacharya approved Gambhir's prayer to appear for questioning at the ED office at the Central government office (CGO) complex at Salt Lake in the northern Kolkata on that date instead of the agency's New Delhi office.

In the court, Gambhir's counsel, Ayan Bhattacharya



argued that when ED sleuths can question Abhishek Banerjee and his wife, Rujira Narula at the CGO Complex office, there was no reason to summon his client to New Delhi. In his counter-argument, ED counsel Phiroze Edulji argued that since the main case in the matter has been filed in Delhi and since the investigation on coal smuggling case is not just restricted to Kolkata,

Gambhir has been summoned at New Delhi. He also argued that there are certain important files in the case and there are problems in bringing those files to Kolkata. Finally, after hearing both sides, Justice Bhattacharya approved Gambhir's prayer for appearance at ED's Kolkata office, and also said that the central agency sleuths should not take any drastic step against Gambhir.

Delhi reports 382 fresh Covid cases, 5 deaths

Team Absolute | New Delhi

Delhi on Tuesday reported 382 new Covid cases in the last 24 hours, against 214 the previous day, while there were five more deaths, said the health bulletin.

Meanwhile, the Covid positivity rate of the city has come down to 2.85 per cent. The number of active cases stands at 2,226 out of which 1,627 patients are being treated in home isolation.

With 410 patients recovering in the last 24 hours, the total number of recoveries has gone to 19,70,547, while

Delhi's total caseload is 19,99,240 and the death toll in the city has risen to 26,467.

The number of Covid containment zones stands at 195. A total of 13,382 new tests -- 8,258 RT-PCR and 5,124 Rapid Antigen -- were conducted in the last 24 hours, taking the total to 3,99,32,743 while 30,305 vaccines were administered -- 1,834 first doses, 4,768 second doses, and 23,703 pre-caution doses. The total number of cumulative beneficiaries vaccinated so far stands at 3,65,09,924, according to the health bulletin.

G-23 ONLY FIGMENT OF IMAGINATION, THERE IS ONLY G-CONGRESS: JAIRAM RAMESH

Thiruvananthapuram | Agencies

Senior Congress leader Jairam Ramesh on Tuesday said that the G-23 is only a figment of imagination and "there is only G-Congress".

Ramesh, who, along with his senior party colleague Digvijaya Singh arrived here to finalise the upcoming Bharat Jodo Yatra, to be led by Rahul Gandhi and set to kick off from Tamil Nadu's Kaniyankumari on September 7, was interacting with the media here.

Preferring to sidestep questions related to the resignation of veteran Ghulam Nabi Azad, he said the yatra will go on and resignations, elections, and such things will all happen.

"Those men and women who have left the Congress after the yatra was announced are engaged in match-fixing with the BJP. Personal ambitions might also be there. Our organisational elections to elect our party President also will be held when the yatra is on," said Ramesh.

"Our party election schedule has now been announced and anyone can contest. Remember we are the only party where



our President is elected... which other party has this. This has got nothing to do with the yatra as this yatra is done to expose the economic, social and political ideology of the BJP.

"Those who predict the demise of the Congress will be surprised to see that this yatra will be the 'sanjeevani' of our party," he added.

On the departure of Azad, Singh said he never left the party on any ideological ground.

"People have been in the Rajya Sabha for 30 years and then leave and it's not based on any ideological ground, but splinter personal issues. The fight is not based on ideology and has he ever spoken against (Prime Minister Narendra) Modi or the RSS? Our fight is against the divisive politics being practised in the country and the economic policies. 99 per cent of the people in the country have lost their incomes, while one percent have doubled theirs," he said.

The Bharat Jodo Yatra, will reach the Kerala border on September 11 and will cover 43 Assembly constituencies and 12 Lok Sabha constituencies in its 453-km, 19 day journey through the state.

Dalit houses demolished, families thrown out in Jharkhand



Ranchi | Agencies

A group of Muslim strongmen at a village in Jharkhand's Palamu district allegedly demolished the houses of Dalit families

and forced them to leave the locality, claiming their houses were built on land that belonged to a Madarsa.

The incident took place on Monday in Murumatu village. The Dalit families

were residing there in the houses mostly made of mud and straw for almost 3-4 decades.

None of the members of the community is said to be literate, and they make ends meet by begging, or by engaging in some petty jobs.

When the Dalits resisted attempts to demolish their houses, they were allegedly roughed up. Besides, they were forcefully made to board two vehicles, and later off-loaded and abandoned near a forest.

The Dalits somehow managed to reach a police station and complained about the matter. They alleged that the Muslim strongmen often used to assault them, and also pressurised them to vacate the village.

The police said the matter pertains to a land dispute, adding that action would be initiated after investigation.

MUMBAI RIOTS: SC SEEKS MAHA RESPONSE ON COMPENSATION PAID TO FAMILIES OF MISSING PEOPLE

Team Absolute | New Delhi

The Supreme Court on Tuesday sought response from the Maharashtra government whether it has paid compensation to legal heirs of 168 people, who were on the missing list during the 1992-93 communal riots in Mumbai.

A bench of Justices Sanjay Kishan Kaul, A.S. Oka and Vikram Nath asked the state government to clarify what it meant by payment paid to heirs of victims and asked it to file an affidavit in 2 weeks. Taking into consideration a chart before it, the top court said 900 people had died in the violence and 168 persons have gone missing.

It also asked the state government to specify the time lapse between the incident and the payment of compensation, and whether 168 people, on the missing list, were included among the 900 identified victims.

The bench further queried the state government to bring on record whether any compensation was paid for the loss of property, and also specify the time lapse between the incident and the payment of compensation.

It said after completion of seven years, the families of people who have gone missing must get compensation. The apex court was hearing a batch of petitions in connection with the payment of compensation to the



Mumbai riots victims.

A commission headed by Justice B.N. Srikrishna, retired Supreme Court judge, which probed the Mumbai riots, had filed its report in 1998.

The apex court, in February 2020, had asked the Maharashtra government to apprise it on action taken against the police officers indicted by the commission.

The commission's report indicted leaders of some political parties and police officers. A lawyer, appearing for one of the petitioners before the top court pressed for the implementation of the recommendations made in the commission's report.

New bridge to shorten distance from Assam to Tawang

Guwahati | Agencies

Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma on Tuesday laid the foundation of a new bridge over the Dhansiri in the state's Udalguri district, that will shorten the distance to Tawang, the popular tourist destination in neighbouring Arunachal Pradesh.

The bridge is expected to be completed by 2025.

In his remarks on the occasion, Sarma said at Bhairabkunda that once construction of the bridge is completed, it would yield significant socio-economic benefit to the people living in Udalguri and Darrang district, in particular, and other parts of the state in general.

The bridge would also give a major boost to tourism potential and generate employment, he said.

Sarma also said that the state government has undertaken the implementation of



the "Goodwill project" in the Bodoland area of Assam and already sanctioned Rs 500 crore for construction of roads and bridges and carrying out various developmental works in the region.

He said that his government in Assam is taking up a mega roads infrastructure project under which all-weather roads would be constructed across the state.

8 KILLED, 3 INJURED IN ROAD ACCIDENT IN J&K'S KISHTWAR

Jammu | Eight people were killed and 3 others injured in a road accident in J&K's Kishtwar district on Tuesday, police said.

Police said a Tata Sumo taxi dropped into a deep gorge at Chatroo in the district after the driver lost control on the wheel. "An injured person has succumbed in the hospital. Eight people have been killed in this accident and 3 are injured," police said.

Lt Governor, Manoj Sinha, in a tweet, said: "Extremely pained by the loss of lives due to a tragic road accident in Kishtwar."

My deepest condolences to the bereaved families and prayers for speedy recovery of the injured. Directed districts administration to ensure best possible treatment to the injured."

DELHI POLICE TO USE FORENSIC TOOLS TO INCREASE CONVICTION RATE

Team Absolute | New Delhi

Delhi Police have made application of forensic tools mandatory in all cases which carry punishment of more than six years.

An order has been issued by Delhi Police Commissioner Sanjay Arora in this respect, instructing all sub-inspectors, inspectors and ACPs to understand their duties during lifting of forensic exhibits from the crime scene.

This is being done in order to increase the conviction rate and to integrate the criminal justice system with forensic science investigation.

"The decision to make forensic investigation compulsory and legal for such offences has been taken to take the conviction rate higher, on the lines of recent directions of Union Home Minister Amit Shah. Delhi Police have already integrated the criminal justice system with forensic science investigation and have also collaborated with the National Forensic Sciences University (NFSU), Gandhinagar, to train and guide the investigating officers to make watertight cases against accused persons," said a senior police official.

The standing order, is meant for setting out guidelines for use of forensic tools in offences attracting punishment of more than six years by all investigating officers (IOs) of Delhi Police.

In order to meet the need of compulsory use of forensic tools, Delhi Police had in recent past made available mobile crime team vans in each district.

"In addition to it, one forensic mobile van shall be allotted to each district to provide scientific and forensic assistance on the spot to the IOs in need. These vehicles shall be equipped with scientific tools, and sufficient number of forensic assistants shall be



deployed in each such van. These forensic mobile vans shall not be under the administrative control of the police, but shall be an independent entity

accountable to the court of law," read the order. The vans will visit the scene of crime whenever called by the SHO or the investigating officials of any

branch or unit.

A few instructions have also been issued to the police personnel.

"Whenever any incident is reported and it appears to the SHO or the IO that an offence with punishment over six years is likely to be registered and certain forensic evidences are to be lifted from the scene of crime, he shall ask the forensic mobile van to visit the spot," read the first instruction.

In the second instruction, it has been said that the IO shall deliver a formal request to the in-charge of the forensic mobile van to inspect the crime scene and lift the forensic evidences present on the spot.

The third instruction is regarding the DD entry and recording of statements of the in-charge of the forensic van, if needed.

"The in-charge of the forensic van shall inspect the scene and lift the evidences. He will properly document all the evidences with the help of his team, including packing and labelling. If the forensic van is taking all the exhibits with it for further examination and analysis, the IO shall record the statement of its in-charge to this effect and properly mention it in the case diary," the instruction read.

NAME CHANGE

I SRISHTI BUDHOLIA W/o SAURABH TIWARI R/o Emerald 103, IBD Kings park, Akriti Eco City, Bawadiya Kalan, Bhopal (M.P.) 462026. have changed my name and shall hear after be known as SRISHTI BUDHOLIA TIWARI.



STATE GOVERNMENT STANDS WITH THOSE AFFECTED BY FLOODS AND HEAVY RAINS-CM SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN

Our first priority is to make up for the damage as soon as possible. In charge ministers should monitor survey work for relief. Ensure that no eligible person is left out. CM Chouhan transferred relief amount of more than 11 crores to 14 thousand 419 beneficiaries of Vidisha district

Team Absolute | Bhopal

Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan has said that there has been a lot of damage to houses, household items, crops and livestock due to excessive rains and floods in the state. Our first priority is to make up for the loss. The state government is with the people of the state at the time of crisis. The minister in charge of the districts should monitor the survey for relief. The damage assessment should be done by a joint team of Revenue, Agriculture, Horticulture and Panchayat and Rural Development Department. In this process, the newly elected public representatives should also be taken into confidence. No eligible person should be left out. After the survey, the list should be pasted in public places and the names mentioned in the list should be read out to the villagers, if any person objects then his objection should be heard. Chouhan said that the distribution of relief amount should be ensured at the earliest. Chief Minister was discussing the



damage caused by floods, ongoing relief works and distribution of relief funds before the meeting of the Cabinet. Chief Secretary Iqbal Singh Bains, Additional Chief Secretaries and Principal Secretaries of all departments were present. All the divisional commissioners and collectors of the districts attended the meeting virtually. Congratulating for no loss of life

due to the severe floods in the state, Chief Minister Chouhan said that this is the result of Team Madhya Pradesh's readiness and devotion to duty that we were able to save the lives of all those trapped in the floods. The NDRE, SDRF, police administration, public representatives, newly elected public representatives of panchayats and urban bodies made

every effort for rescue and relief. As a result we were able to safely rescue thousands of people.

Chief Minister said that top priority should be given to the removal of debris, supply of drinking water and treatment in the flood affected areas. For the families whose houses have been completely washed away or damaged, provision of temporary accommodation should be made till their houses are built. There will be no shortage of funds for relief.

Chief Minister Chouhan transferred relief amount of Rs.11 crore 3 lakh 15 thousand to 14 thousand 419 beneficiaries of 534 villages of Vidisha district in their accounts with a single click. Chouhan praised Vidisha district administration for taking quick action on damage survey and providing immediate relief to the affected. The Collector informed that in the survey till date, 22 thousand 443 kutcha houses of total 910 villages in the district have been damaged, 663 people are living in relief camps in the district and 34 JCB machines are engaged in cleaning operations.

PM Gatishakti is a scientific way of implementing projects: CM

Presentation on PM Gatishakti made after the meeting of the Council of Ministers

Team Absolute | Bhopal

Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan has said that PM Gatishakti is a scientific way of implementing projects. After the implementation of PM Gatishakti, the problems and delays in the implementation of various infrastructure projects will come down. This will save time and make efficient use of resources. The cost will also not escalate as the projects will be completed in less time and India will emerge as a strong economic power fast. Chief Minister Chouhan was addressing the Cabinet on the points of presentation of PM Gatishakti Yojana in front of the ministers after the meeting of the Cabinet.

It was told in the presentation that 16 ministries of the Central government and state governments have been included in the PM Gatishakti Yojana related to infrastructure projects. Digital platform is the basis of this scheme. Various Central Ministries and State Governments are providing necessary information on this digital portal. With PM Gatishakti, it will be possible to conveniently make other departments aware of the activities of each department, set priorities of projects, choose the best route in terms of time and cost, coordinated work of all depart-



ments and live updates of infrastructure projects.

Departments related to agriculture, energy, water resources, industries, urban administration, road and transport will have an important role in PM Gatishakti Yojana. A meeting of the committee constituted under the chairmanship of the Chief Secretary has been held in the state. There is also a system of committee of technical experts. The implementation of PM Gatishakti Yojana in the state will be done by the Department of Industrial Policy and Investment Promotion. Gatishakti conference is proposed in the state. After the meeting of the Cabinet, a presentation was also made on the points directed by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi in the field of school education and higher education in the Chief Secretary's conference.

Meeting of BJP leaders in MP gave wings to speculation

Team Absolute | Bhopal

In Madhya Pradesh these days, the pace of mail meeting between the leaders of the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party has increased. Now even the discussions of major changes in the politics of the state have become common. Recently, Union Home Minister Amit Shah visited Bhopal, during this stay he not only participated in government programs but also participated in the programs organized by the party. Not only this, along with many leaders, he also interacted with different people in a closed room.

After the return of Union Minister Amit Shah to Delhi, Union Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia visited Indore and during this he reached the residence of National General Secretary of the party, Kailash Vijayvargiya. On one hand, where Scindia met Vijayvargiya in Indore, he also went to meet Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan at the Chief Minister's residence in Bhopal. On the one hand, where Scindia had a meeting with two big leaders, then the party's state president Vishnu Dutt Sharma visited



Indore and during this time Sharma had a chat with Vijayvargiya. On one hand, where the round of mail meeting of leaders is going on, during this time Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan's visit to Delhi is going on. This visit is being considered very important from the point of view of the politics of the state. Discussions are hot in the political corridors and it is being said that there may be an expansion of the cabinet in the coming time in the state and the appointments of corporation boards are also possible. Overall, the coming days are being considered very important in terms of the politics of the state.

TRUTH OF MP, EVERY THREE HOURS AN INNOCENT IS RAPED: KAMAL NATH

Team Absolute | Bhopal

State President of Congress's Madhya Pradesh unit Kamal Nath has attacked the Shivraj government over the NCRB figures, saying that every three hours an innocent is raped in the state, this is the reality of the state. Kamal Nath issued a statement saying, "The latest NCRB report has once again exposed all the claims and good governance of the Shivraj government." Madhya Pradesh, which has topped the country in raping innocent girls for years, still remains this stain on it.

He further said, "According to the NCRB report, on an average every three hours in Madhya Pradesh, an incident of rape of an innocent girl, who calls herself 'mama', is a shameful reality of her government.

Referring to the atrocities on tribals and Dalits, Kamal Nath said, "According to this report, Madhya Pradesh has once again come on top in the country in atrocities



against tribals and Dalits." There has been an increase of 9.38 per cent in cases against SC-ST category

in the year 2021 as compared to the year 2020. Madhya Pradesh also ranks third in the country in terms

of suicide. This is the reality of the claims of development, good governance of the last 16 years of Shivraj government. No class is safe in Madhya Pradesh today.

Kamal Nath further said, I have been saying from the very beginning that today sisters and daughters in the state need the most protection and respect. Shivraj's government worships him on the platforms to mislead the public, but over the years, this government has proved to be a complete failure in giving him protection and respect. Today the priority should be safety and respect.

Quoting these figures, Kamal Nath said, after accepting this report, the Shivraj government should immediately apologize to the people of the state, sisters and daughters and take strict action against those responsible and for years on the forehead of the state. Strict steps should be taken to wash off this stain.

BJP's image in Madhya Pradesh is being stained by itself

Team Absolute | Bhopal

In Madhya Pradesh, its own leaders are trying to create trouble for the Bharatiya Janata Party, it is a different matter that the party has also taken disciplinary action against many people.

In the last few years, there have been many such developments which have worked to damage the disciplined image of the BJP. First, the BJYM workers in Ujjain created a ruckus in the Mahakal temple complex, then the party adopted a strict attitude and removed the leaders from the post. A similar case came to Pritam Lodhi, when he made unrestrained remarks on Brahmin society, the party expelled him. Part from this, in Rewa district, BJP MLA KP Tripathi was accused of threatening an officer, it is a different matter that in the case of attack on the officer, a mandal president has been removed from the post and expelled



from the party.

Now the latest case is of Andal Singh Kansana, who belongs to Morena district, and his son, who is accused of threatening a police officer. Sub-Inspector Manoj Yadava released a video accusing Kansana and his son of pressurizing him to do wrong.

This is such a sequence of events that has affected the image of the BJP, the attitude of the party organization is strict and it is also taking action, but even after that, cases are coming to the fore continuously. These cases have only done the work of worrying the party.

HARTALIKA TEEJ IS A SYMBOL OF WOMEN EMPOWERMENT-CM

Bhopal : Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan has extended warm wishes to all the mothers and sisters on the auspicious occasion of holy festival Hartalika Teej symbolising Akhand Saubhagya. He said that the festival of Teej is a symbol of women empowerment. The Creation is incomplete without a woman.

Calling everyone to take a pledge to respect and protect women, Chief Minister Chouhan said that we should take a pledge that we will contribute fully in the education and empowerment of sisters and daughters. CM Chouhan expressed his sentiments through social media.

Former Union Minister Arun Yadav offered to join BJP

Team Absolute | Bhopal

For a long time, BJP's Madhya Pradesh unit of Congress is eyeing Arun Yadav, former state president and former Union minister, this matter has come to the fore once again as the state's urban administration minister Bhupendra Singh offered Arun Yadav to join the BJP. inserted. The occasion was the program of a news channel in the capital. In this program, Urban Administration Minister Bhupendra Singh and former Union Minister Arun Yadav were together on the stage. When Bhupendra Singh was asked a question about Arun Yadav, he said that Yadav is a good leader and injustice is done to him in the Congress. Bhupendra Singh further



said that when it comes to contesting the Lok Sabha by-election from Khandwa, Congress cut Yadav's ticket, Congress is continuously doing injustice to him. Yadav was a Member of Parliament when he was Union Minister and I have seen the work of

Arun Yadav closely, he is a good leader and there is an offer from our side to join BJP. It is to be known that before this, Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan has also indirectly offered Arun Yadav to leave the Congress and join the BJP.

CM CHOUHAN GREETS THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE ON GANESH CHATURTHI

Bhopal : Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan has extended his greetings and best wishes to the people of the state on the occasion of Ganesh Chaturthi. Chouhan has said that the Ganesh Chaturthi festival will strengthen the atmosphere of social harmony, accord and unity in the country and the state and Lord Ganesh, the destroyer of obstacles, will bring happiness in the lives of all of us. Chief Minister Chouhan has appealed to the general public to make efforts to install small Ganesh idols made of clay keeping in mind the environmental protection. CM Chouhan has prayed to Lord Ganesh for the prosperity of the state.

Dam of corruption breaking in MP: CPI(M)

Team Absolute | Bhopal

In Madhya Pradesh, the Communist Party of India-Marxist has attacked the BJP government of the state over the water leakage in several dams and said that these dams are not breaking but the dams of corruption are breaking. In a statement issued by the Communist Party of India-Marxist, it has been said that the chain of dam breaking started in the state due to the breakdown of Karam dam in Dhar district is not taking its name to stop.

The dams of corruption of the BJP rule are breaking due to seepage of Deogarh dam in Mehandwani area of Dindori district, Ghoghari dam in Umaria district and newly constructed Leteri

area of Vidisha district.

These are the dams which have been constructed only during the BJP tenure. CPI(M) state secretary Jaswinder Singh has said that due to the leakage or breaking of these dams, not only the life of the citizens of that area has been disturbed, but the dam of corruption has also been broken during the BJP rule. It has become clear how the BJP government has done corruption with public money, as a result of which those who were supposed to bring the message of prosperity by irrigation in the dam area, have now become synonymous with waste and panic.

The CPI(M) has demanded a high-level inquiry into the corruption in the construction of the dams.

CM replants 13 feet tall banyan

Initiative taken to keep alive the heritage of 100 year old tree damaged by storm

Team Absolute | Bhopal

Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan replanted a banyan tree in Kamla Park area of Bhopal. After planting the tree in the "Ek Ped-Ek Zindagi" (One Tree - One Life) campaign, started by a media organisation operating from the capital Bhopal to protect the environment, Chief Minister Chouhan said that the activism of organisations along with individuals in plantation is commendable.

It is noteworthy that a 100-year-old banyan tree planted in Kamala Park was damaged by the storm. Chief Minister Chouhan planted a new 13 feet tall banyan tree to keep that heritage alive.





EDITOR'S SPECS

BJP WORRIED ABOUT GUJARAT?

During Prime Minister Narendra Modi's two-day visit to Gujarat, two unscheduled meetings have drawn the attention of political readers and people. Besides a series of official events, he held meetings with BJP leaders which were not scheduled earlier. Sources from the party said ground feedback has alerted the Prime Minister. On Saturday, Prime Minister Narendra Modi had a one-and-a-half-hour close-door meeting with Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel at the airport after landing in Gandhinagar. Sources said Modi gave clear instructions to roll out more pro-people works and address unrest in the government employees. An interesting aspect of the meeting was the presence of Modi's most trustworthy bureaucrat Chief Principal Secretary to CM K. Kailashnathan, said sources. In another unscheduled meeting, the Prime Minister met the BJP core committee members on Sunday evening and took ground reports and later guided them on how to prepare the election strategy to counter the 'freebies marketing'. Sources said that till six months ago, the party leaders' calculation was that AAP's presence in elections will split anti-incumbency votes, benefitting the ruling party and their understanding was that it will dent into Congress' vote bank. But in the past six months, now leaders see AAP as a threat, and have started feeling that AAP has started denting the BJP's vote bank. This is worrying the state and national leaders, said sources. According to sources, the party is working on two points. First, is to give less time to political opponents to campaign in elections, and the party is mulling to prepone elections even if it is for two to three weeks. The second point is the party is also working on no-repeat theory, but is cautious to ensure that oldies don't get annoyed and damage the party prospects. So if a sitting MLA or leader is denied a ticket, the party will consider nominating a candidate from such leader's family, sources said.

Asad Mirza

The reset of diplomatic ties between Turkey and Israel may result in some new paradigm shifts at the regional level besides helping both to focus more on bilateral economic gains. Recently there have been indications both from Israel and Turkey that the leadership in those countries was mulling a reset in their bilateral ties. In Israel's case it was one more step in the direction of regional rapprochement, while for Turkey it is basically aimed at tackling and furthering its economic woes and regional interests. The announcement by the two countries on August 17 that they'll exchange ambassadors and normalise bilateral diplomatic relations, follows re-tuning of Turkish diplomatic ties with Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates (UAE). It seems as if the Turkish leadership has realised that its priority should be to focus more on the internal and nearer home issues such as the country's economic woes, Kurdish problem and its relations with Cyprus and Greece. Better regional ties will give it more time and energy to focus on tackling the country's economic woes and expectations of the electorate. The relations between the two countries soured in 2018 when Turkey expelled the Israeli ambassador from Ankara, after the killing of 60 Palestinians in Gaza during protests against former US President Donald Trump's decision to relocate the American Embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem. In fact, the Turkish support to the Palestinian groups, particularly the Hamas and its objection to the Israeli annexation of territories in and around the Gaza Strip has been the bone of contention between the two. The thaw in ties comes after more than 10 years of tensions. A visit to Turkey by Israeli President Isaac Herzog in March, followed by visits of two countries' foreign ministers, helped warm relations. **Turkey's compulsions** President Recep Tayyip Erdogan seems to have realised the futility of Turkey's hostile



policies and stand against Egypt, Israel, Saudi Arabia and the UAE. This stance has made Turkey isolated in the region besides being economically unviable for it. One of the basic reasons for Turkey's animosity against other so-called Islamic countries is the contest for claiming the title of the Leader of the Islamic World. This has resulted in Turkey blaming the successive Egyptian, Saudi Arabian and UAE governments as the main source of adopting postures against its claim to the Islamic world's leadership and making it a pariah state in the region. Historically it was Turkey, which maintained the Two Holiest Shrines of the Muslim world in Saudi Arabia, before oil was discovered in the Kingdom, which changed its fortunes forever. This newfound wealth led Saudi monarchs to lay claim to being the leader of the Islamic world. Obviously Turkey tried to resist this change but the fall of the Ottoman empire led it to modify its stand on several issues related to the Muslim Ummah. In addition Turkey blamed these governments and their policies as responsible for heightening the regional

stability for their own selfish interests. In return these states blamed Turkey for adopting such postures and policies, which led to friction in the region and amongst so called Islamic states. As retaliation these countries have bettered relations with both Cyprus and Greece, Turkey's arch foes in the Mediterranean. While at the same time Turkey has improved ties with Qatar, a country which was made an outcast in the Gulf region in 2017 when UAE, Saudi Arabia, Egypt and Bahrain imposed an economic blockade against it. In addition before facing the electorate next year, Erdogan has shaken hands with Israel in the hope that it may change Turkey's economic condition with increased economic exchange with Israel, translating into improved economic climate for Turkish citizens. **Israel's game plan** Recently, Israel has sought to reset its ties with regional countries both Arab and non-Arab. It considers Turkey to be an important factor both regionally and in

Gaza also, as Hamas has opened up an office in Istanbul and for the last 10 years it has been operating from Turkey, in addition Israeli authorities feel that closer ties with Turkey will allow it to efficiently conduct intelligence monitoring of Iran. In addition, Israel feels that if it wants to sell its natural gas to Europe, which was found near its coast in 2010, then the most economically viable route will be through Turkey. It could be a win-win situation for both if they are able to thrash out any future plan for cutting off Russian gas supply to Europe, both diplomatically and financially in the long run. During the hostile period with Turkey, Israel had come closer to both, Cyprus and Greece. This resulted in increased economic, security and people to people contacts between them. Both countries enjoyed influx of Israeli tourists, who abandoned the Turkey's coasts. Israel also initiated military cooperation with them and has also been training Greek and Cypriot military forces. Now Israel will have to balance the geostrategic and potential economic benefits of cooperation with Turkey with Jerusalem's well-developed ties with Athens and Nicosia. Israeli President Herzog, who played a key role in the Israel-Turkey rapprochement, has given assurances to both Cyprus and Greece that Israel's new found friendship with Turkey will have no bearing on its existing relationship with Cyprus and Greece. All in all, one can presume that the present situation points to a scenario where diplomatic, political and security ties may remain cold, as the real target for both the countries is to give a boost to their economic ties. Israel is also aware that Turkey may continue to play the Palestinian card to placate its internal audience. Over all this odd marriage of convenience might be able to counter other regional alliances and axis's of power, and both would try to maximise their returns either independently or bilaterally, based on the given situation.

international

INDIA WARNS OF 'SIGNIFICANT INCREASE' IN TERROR PRESENCE IN AFGHANISTAN

United Nations | Agencies

India has warned of a "significant increase" in the presence of terrorist groups in the Taliban-ruled Afghanistan and threats to other countries emanating from the war-torn country. "We need to see concrete progress in ensuring that such proscribed terrorists, entities, or their aliases do not get any support, tacit or direct, either from Afghan soil or from the terror sanctuaries based in the region," India's Permanent Representative Ruchira Kamboj told the UN Security Council on Monday. India's concerns about terrorist threats from Afghanistan were widely shared by participants at the Council meeting held on the eve of the anniversary of the US withdrawal from the country. Kamboj said that there was "a significant increase" in the presence of the Islamic State-Khorasan (IS-K) terror group in Afghanistan and its "capacity to carry out attacks". The IS affiliate "continues to issue threats of terrorist attacks on other countries", she said. Kamboj drew attention to the attack on a gurdwara in Kabul in June and the bomb explosion near it the next month, which she said were "hugely alarming". IS-K had claimed responsibility for the attack. "The linkages



between groups listed by the UN Security Council such as the Lashkar-e-Taiba and the Jaish-e-Mohammed, as well as provocative statements made by other terrorist groups operating out of Afghanistan pose a direct threat to the peace and stability of the region," she added. The UK, France, the US, Albania, Kenya and, even, China and Russia acknowledged the terrorism threats from Afghanistan. The meeting was convened at the request of Russia, which, along with China, Iran and Pakistan, wanted the sanctions on the Taliban eased. They used the terrorism threat to make their case, asserting that engaging with the Taliban, lifting travel bans on their leaders and releasing the country's frozen funds would pave the way for finding solutions to terrorism and other issues like women's rights.

Extent of progress in Ukraine's southern offensive unclear: UK

Kiev | Agencies

The UK's Defence Ministry on Tuesday said it was unclear how far Ukrainian troops have pushed into territory held by Russian forces, as Kiev's long-threatened southern counter-offensive got underway. "Several brigades of the Ukrainian Armed Forces increased the weight of artillery fires in front line sectors across southern Ukraine," the Ministry said in its intelligence update on the war. "Ukrainian long-range precision strikes continue to disrupt Russian resupply (lines)," which the UK described as "fragile", reports news agency. But it cautioned that it was "not yet possible to confirm the extent of Ukrainian advances". Half a year into Russia's invasion of Ukraine, the military leadership in Kiev signalled on Monday it was beginning operations to retake areas across the south while releasing few details. The Russians' outermost line



of defence in the Kherson region has been breached in several places, the Ukrainian military said. President Volodymyr Zelensky only hinted about the offensive in his nightly address on Monday evening,

saying it would be irresponsible to speak about "specifics". "But the occupiers should know: we will out them to the border. To our border, the line of which has not changed. The invaders know it well." He called

on the Russian military "to flee" and "go home". In Washington, National Security Council spokesperson John Kirby pointed out that Ukraine has for weeks been telegraphing and preparing for the counter-offensive in the south, which has forced Russia to pull resources and troops from the eastern Donbas region. The major city of Kherson on the right bank of the Dnipro river had been captured by Russian troops advancing from the Crimean Peninsula at the very beginning of the invasion in February. Ukraine is under time pressure because Russia wants to annex the conquered territories and suggested holding referenda in September. Still, there were few confirmed details about the offensive, with the Ukraine's Southern Defence Forces saying Monday only that troops broke through Russian front lines in Kherson, whose administrative centre is the city of the same name.

Lt Gen Subramanian takes command of UN's largest peacekeeping operation

United Nations | Agencies

Lieutenant General Mohan Subramanian of India has taken over the command of the UN's peacekeeping mission in South Sudan, the largest of its 13 operations. "It is a privilege to have the opportunity to serve for sustainable peace in the world's youngest country, South Sudan, by leading diverse military peacekeepers in the world's largest peacekeeping mission," he said in Juba on Monday, according to the mission. The operation, known as UN Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS) has 13,254 troops among its 17,982 personnel, of whom, 2,385 troops and 30 police personnel are from India. He was given a guard of honour by troops from India, China, Nepal, Bangladesh, Rwanda and Ethiopia as he succeeded another Indian, Lt Gen. Shailesh Tinnakar. He took



charge from Major Gen. Main Ullah Chowdhury of Bangladesh, who was the interim commander. This is Subramanian's second tour with the UN, having served in Sierra Leone as a staff officer with the mission in 2000. Subramanian has served as the commandant of Defence Services Staff College (DSSC) and the General Officer Commanding, Military Region Operational and Logistic Readiness Zone in Central India. According to the DSSC, Subramanian, who was commissioned in the Corps of Army Air Defence in 1986, has been awarded the Ati Vishisht Seva Medal, Sena Medal and Vishisht Seva Medal.

Worst violence to hit Baghdad as powerful Shia cleric announces retirement

Baghdad | Agencies

At least 15 people have been killed in clashes between Iraqi security forces and supporters of a powerful Shia cleric in the capital Baghdad following his announcement of his retirement from politics, the media reported. Officials say dozens more were injured after protesters loyal to Moqtada al-Sadr stormed the presidential palace late Monday night, reports the. His bloc won most seats in parliament last October, but he has refused to negotiate with Iran-backed Shia groups to form a government. There has been a year of political instability as a result. Street fighting erupted overnight, as fighters exchanged gunfire and tracer rounds illuminated the night sky in some of the worst violence to hit the Iraqi capital in recent years, said the report.



Much of the fighting has been concentrated around the city's Green Zone, an area that houses government buildings and foreign embassies. Dutch embassy staff were forced to move to the German mission due to the clashes. Security officials said some of the violence was between the Peace Brigades, a militia loyal to Sadr, and members of the Iraqi military. Videos shared on social media appeared to show some fighters using heavy weaponry, including rocket-propelled grenades (RPGs). Iran has closed its borders with Iraq amidst the fighting, and Kuwait has

urged its citizens to leave the country immediately. Mustafa al-Kadhimi, Iraq's caretaker Prime Minister and Sadr ally, has declared a nationwide curfew after unrest in several other cities. He has suspended cabinet meetings and has pleaded with the influential cleric to intervene and stop the violence. For now, Sadr has announced a hunger strike until the violence and use of weapons by all sides stopped.]

Russia slams NATO for planned expansion of its Arctic presence

Moscow | Agencies

Russia has slammed NATO's plan to expand its presence in the Arctic, a resource-rich area world powers increasingly view as holding strategic value. On Monday, Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said Russia perceives NATO's actions regarding the northernmost region of Earth as "negative", reported citing the news agency. "Russia will protect its interests in an appropriate manner," he said, citing security needs and "economic activities". Moscow lays claim to 1.2 million square kilometres in the Arctic, and in particular to the raw materials such as oil and gas stored there. NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg told



Germany's Welt am Sonntag newspaper over the weekend that "NATO must increase its presence in the Arctic". Moscow, he noted, was in the process of reopening bases from Soviet times and stationing new state-of-the-art weapons there, such as hypersonic missiles. China is also increasingly interested in the Arctic, he said, even though it is not an actual Arctic state. The Arctic includes areas of the US, Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Canada, Norway, Sweden and Russia.



FROM DECORATED PANDALS TO MODAK: TV CELEBS WELCOME GANPATI HOME

By Shachi Chaturvedi and Aakruti Bagla

Ganesh Chaturthi is something that everyone looks forward to, especially in Mumbai, where the festival is celebrated with Great Spirit. In the midst of the excitement, our beloved celebrities are preparing to welcome Bappa into their homes.



"Ganpati holds a very special place in all of our hearts", says the actors as they express their enthusiasm for the same. Sharing what they look up to, when festival is around the corner.

Raj Anadkat "Growing up and till date, I always look forward to Ganesh Chaturthi.

Welcoming Bappa with so much love and relishing on delicious modaks has to be my favourite thing. On that note, wishing a beautiful, colourful and cheerful Ganesh

Chaturthi to everyone. May this festive occasion bring along many more smiles and many more celebrations for you."

Avinash Mukherji

I am super thrilled to welcome Bappa after hiatus of two years. Talking about the same, Avinash quipped, "Absolutely, right now after 2 years and this time, there is no restriction. We all are very excited as these 2 years I have not gotten Ganpati at my place too. Every year we bring it for 3 days but this time we are bringing it for 5 days. I think we should not be worried about covid, because if you eat well, sleep well and are spiritually happy then from outside nothing can attack you physically. You should be mentally strong. There will be more guests this year as compared to last year. We can go freely to seek Bappa's blessings as for the last 2 years it



was not allowed because of covid. Bappa brings a lot of positivity and you can feel it. Energy is really positive, and vibrant and it's in the air that if anybody comes and takes Bappa's blessings they will be mesmerised. Just like everyone wants to see Burj Khalifa and the Eiffel Tower they also want to see the Ganpati festival of Maharashtra. I will pray for my family and my loved ones.

Asha Negi:

Every year, I look forward to Pandar darshan and modaks. Ganesh Chaturthi is very important to me. And I've been looking forward to it since I was a little girl. So, on this auspicious occasion, may you find all the joys of life and may all your dreams come



true. May Lord Ganesha continue to light up our lives and shower us with success and love. Happy Ganesh Chaturthi!

Barkha Singh:

Ganesh Chaturthi is a festival that is very close to my heart because I have fond memories over the years of going to different people's homes for their Ganpati. There are some friends that I actually meet year to year only when I go to their house, so it's truly a great way to reunite with a lot of your old friends as well. One of my favourite things about this festival in current times is the shift towards more environmentally conscious Ganesh Murti's and Visarjan practices.

This amalgamation of environmentally consciousness practices with our age old festive practices truly makes me happy.



India to have 45 massive data centres by 2025-end, Mumbai to lead

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Boyed by the growing demand, over 45 data centres spanning 13 million square feet and 1,015 MW of IT capacity are planned to come up in India by 2025, a report showed on Tuesday.

Altogether, there will be 183 data centres in the country with 24 million square feet and 1,752 MW of total IT capacity by 2025-end, according to ANAROCK-Binswanger report.

In terms of IT capacity (nearly 1,015 MW), over 69 per cent of this planned new supply will come up in Mumbai and Chennai, with 51 per cent in Mumbai alone. Currently, there are 138 data centres across India spanning 11 million square feet and having 737 MW of IT capacity (building ready).

At least 57 per cent of this current IT capacity is in Mumbai and Chennai, collectively. "The current size of the India data centre industry is about \$5.6 billion and is bound to grow. The country's total estimated data centre

demand is expected to be 2,100 MW as of FY 2025, with a mix between hyperscalers and enterprises," said Devi Shankar, President, Industrial and Logistics and Data Centres, ANAROCK Capital.

Meanwhile, said the report, there is additional potential of nearly 2,688 MW of future unplanned supply in India. "Land for this supply has been locked in by DC operators, but the projects will likely be planned based on actual demand and/or outcome of earlier planned phases," the report mentioned. Around 78 per cent of this unplanned IT capacity is to be concentrated in Mumbai and Hyderabad.

"Data centres are currently a fulcrum for a lot of the decision-making, especially in Asia Pacific and in India," said Jeff Binwanger, Managing Partner, Binswanger. While 30 per cent of companies are looking at hybrid (Cloud-data centre) hosting services for data management, 72 per cent of professionals have witnessed data surges in their organisations post Covid-19.

Mumbai Police nab actor Kamal R. Khan for scurrilous tweets in 2020

Team Absolute | Mumbai

The Malad Police nabbed Bollywood actor-producer Kamal R. Khan, popularly known as KKR, from the Mumbai airport in connection with a case lodged against him for making certain controversial tweets in 2020, officials here said on Tuesday.

Khan, 47, who was also seen in 'Bigg Boss 3', was detained after he came from a flight and questioned before he was formally arrested for the tweets against various prominent personalities which had kicked up a row.

Following the social media attacks on the late actors Irrfan Khan and Rishi Kapoor, who both passed away in April 2020, Yuva Sena



leader Rahul Kanal had lodged a written complaint against KKR. Booked under various sections of the Indian Penal Code and other laws, he will be produced before a Borivali Magistrate Court later Tuesday, said an official. Welcoming the develop-

ment, Kanal said today that Kamal R. Khan is known for making derogatory comments and using foul language on social media.

"Such a behaviour is unacceptable to society and by nabbing him the Mumbai Police have issued a stern message against such persons," Kanal said.

Kanal had lodged his complaint with the then Deputy Commissioner of Police (IX) on April 30, 2020, pointing out how KKR's Twitter account had been suspended twice for tarnishing the image of respected personalities and demanded action against the actor. Hailing from Saharanpur in Uttar Pradesh, KKR had acted/produced films like 'Sitam', 'Deshdrohi' and currently making the sequel 'Deshdrohi-2'.

MUMBAI'S FIRST UNDERGROUND METRO-3 LINE TRIALS COMMENCE

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Marking a breakthrough, Chief Minister Eknath Shinde and Deputy CM Devendra Fadnis flagged off the trial runs on the city's first fully subterranean Mumbai Metro 3 line, here on Tuesday.

The work on the 33.50 kms long Metro 3 corridor started in 2016 and the first phase is likely to be completed by end-2023.

Shinde, Fadnis and Mumbai Metro Rail Corporation Ltd (MMRCL) officials waved the green flag for the trial run at Sariputnagar in Aarey Colony temporary car-shed inside a 3 kms tunnel till the Marol Naka Station.

Speaking on the occasion, Shinde said that nothing will stop the progress of Mumbai and Maharashtra after the new government took office on June 30, 2022.

Fadnis said that the opposition to the Metro car-shed in Aarey Colony



was more political than environment-related and indirectly flayed the previous Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) Shiv Sena-Nationalist Congress Party-Congress government for delaying the much-needed project. MMRCL officials informed that the test runs of the metro rakes over the next three-six months would comprise various parameters like speed, emergency brakes, oscillation in the tunnel - a

first for Mumbai.

The Metro 3 line will connect Colaba in south Mumbai to SEEPZ in north-west, via Bandra with the first phase likely to be operational by Dec. 2023 and the next phase by June 2024, said the officials.

As per original plans, the line was slated for completion in December 2021, but was bogged down due to the car-shed row coming inside the Aarey

Colony and the MVA government had shot down the proposal in November 2019, to shift the car-shed to a new site in Kanjurmargin. After coming to power two months ago, the Shinde-Fadnis government spiked the MVA's move and restored the car-shed location from Kanjurmargin back to Aarey Forest, attracting howls of protests from the Sena-NCP-Congress and environmentalists. The delays have led to a cost escalation from the original estimates of Rs 23,000-crore to now around Rs 37,000-crore, and the complete project is now slated for completion only by mid-2025.

The current status of the project is nearly 99 per cent of the tunnel digging works are completed, 84 of the civil works, giving an overall project execution of around 70 per cent.

The 33.50 kms Metro 3 will have 27 stations en route, including 26 underground and one at ground-level, with a portion of the line running under the Mahim Creek and the Mithi River.

Anna Hazare reminds Kejriwal of his own lines from 'Swaraj' over excise policy

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Veteran social reformer and anti-corruption crusader Anna Hazare on Tuesday wrote a letter to Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal reminding him of his own lines from his book 'Swaraj' while criticising Delhi's liquor policy and accusing him of getting intoxicated with the power.

Kejriwal had written 'Swaraj' in 2012 before joining politics. "Before stepping into politics, you had written a book 'Swaraj'. You had got the foreword of the book written by me. You had boasted about the Gramsabha and the liquor policy in the book. Whatever you had written is to remind you," said Hazare in his letter and also quoted Kejriwal's lines from the book that deals with the problem of liquor addiction in the villages and it's solutions.



Hazare said further in the letter, "You had written ideally in the book and I had great expectations from you.

"But, it seems that you have forgotten those words after stepping into politics and becoming the Chief Minister. The new excise policy, which you have formulated seems to promote the habit of liquor addiction. The policy can lead to liquor shops at every corner of the state.

In result, it can promote corruption which is not in the favour of the public, but you decided to bring such a policy."

"It seems that as liquor has the intoxication, the same has with the power. And you also have been intoxicated with the power," Anna Hazare said in the letter.

Reminding Kejriwal of Team Anna meeting held on September 18, 2012 where Kejriwal put forth his intention of joining politics, Hazare said, "You forgot that forming the political party was not the intention of our movement.

MAHA BJP CHIEF MEETS RAJ THACKERAY

Mumbai: Amid speculation that the Bharatiya Janata Party is trying to woo Maharashtra Navnirman Sena ahead of Mumbai civic polls, state BJP chief Chandrashekhar Bawankule on Tuesday met MNS president Raj Thackeray at the latter's residence in Mumbai.

Bawankule reached the MNS chief's residence 'Shivtirth' in Dadar's Shivaji Park area around noon. The BJP leader didn't speak to reporters but later said in a social media post that he had discussed various social and political issues related to Maharashtra and the country with Raj Thackeray.

A day earlier, another BJP leader and former Maharashtra minister Vinod Tawde had met Raj Thackeray. The BJP, which had won 82 seats in the 227-member Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) polls in 2017 just two short of Shiv Sena's tally, is trying to woo MNS for Marathi votes amid the split in Uddhav Thackeray-led Shiv Sena. The schedule for the BMC polls is not announced yet.

Traders Jump The Gun With Sugar Export Deals

Team Absolute | Mumbai

The traders have signed deals to export 300,000 tonnes of raw sugar in the coming season as advantageous market conditions counter the risk of agreeing contracts before India announces its 2022/23 export policy, trade sources said.

The government imposed restrictions on overseas sugar sales for the first time in six years when it capped exports at 11.2 million tonnes 2021/22 marketing year ending Sept. 30 to prevent a surge in domestic prices after mills sold record volumes on the global market. Exports from India, the world's biggest producer of sugar, could weigh on global prices but augment sup-

plies across Asia. "Since global prices and the rupee are in favour, a few trade houses bought raw sugar for November-December shipments," Rahul Shaikh, managing director of MEIR Commodities India, told an agency. Three other sources confirmed the export agreements, declining to be named because of their companies' policy on talking to the media. India has yet to finalise export policy for the coming season, but traders are hopeful that exports will be allowed because the country is expected to produce more than 35 million tonnes of sugar during the season while domestic consumption is projected at 27.5 million tonnes.

Rupee ends 51 paise up at 79.45 against US dollar

Team Absolute | Mumbai

The Indian rupee ended 51 paise up at 79.45 against the US dollar as heavy short covering was witnessed in capital markets from FIIs, dealers said.

At the interbank foreign exchange market, rupee ended at 79.45 as against 79.96 against US dollar previously.

Indian markets will be closed on Wednesday on account of Ganesh Chaturthi.

"Rupee gained strongly by 0.40 points as heavy short covering was witnessed in capital markets from FIIs. As benchmark rose 2.50 per cent in Indian capital markets, hence rupee time gained more than 0.50 per cent for the first time in the month of August," said Jateen Trivedi,



VP Research Analyst at LKP Securities.

Dollar index, which gauges the strength of greenback against the basket of six major currencies, was at 108.460. Brent crude oil prices were at \$101.49 a barrel by the closing of Indian

market hours. Sensex ended 1,564.45 points, or 2.70 per cent, up at 59,537.07, and Nifty closed 445.40 points, or 2.58 per cent up at 17,759.30. Nifty bank was up sharply 3.29 per cent. All the 30 stocks on the Sensex ended in green.

BOND YIELD EASES IN EARLY TRADE AHEAD OF GDP DATA

Team Absolute | Mumbai

The yield on government securities in the secondary market fell on Tuesday on value buying ahead of the scheduled release of April-June economic growth data on Wednesday.

At 1.40 p.m., the yield on 10-year benchmark 6.54 per cent-2032 bond yield was trading at 7.2046 per cent as compared to 7.2534 per cent closed on the previous trading session.

The GDP data for April-June is scheduled to be released on Wednesday. Indian markets will remain shut on Wednesday on account of Ganesh Chaturthi.

"We expect GDP to grow by 14.0 per cent- 14.5 per cent y-o-y in Q1 FY23 backed by low base and strong domestic demand. A broad based pickup was observed across consumption, services industry and investment," said Ritika Chhabra-Economist and Quant Analyst, Prabhudas Lilladher Pvt Ltd.

The further fall in bond yields has been capped by the rise in crude oil



prices in the international market. Brent crude oil which was trading at \$101.46 by the closing of market hours on Monday is now trading at \$104.74.

According to various media reports, oil prices rose more than \$3 a barrel due to OPEC+ output cuts and conflict in Libya helped to offset a strong US dollar and a dire outlook

for the US growth. The rise in oil prices impacts India majorly because India is a major importer of crude oil for its consumption.



Michelle Yeoh to receive Groundbreaker Award at Toronto Film Festival's

Los Angeles | Agencies

Malaysian actress Michelle Yeoh will receive the Toronto International Film Festival's inaugural Share Her Journey Groundbreaker Award. The TIFF Share Her Journey Groundbreaker Award recognises a woman who is a leader in the film industry and has made a positive impact for women throughout their career. The award, sponsored by Bulgari, will be presented at an in-person gala fundraiser on September 11 (Sunday) at the Fairmont Royal York Hotel. "Michelle Yeoh is the definition of groundbreaking," said Cameron Bailey, TIFF CEO. Her screen work has spanned continents, genres and decades. This year she delivered a performance in 'Everything Everywhere All at Once' that shows her limitless abilities."

With a nearly 40-year career, Yeoh has broken barriers and inspired generations of audiences with her performances. These include 'Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon', 'Tomorrow Never Dies' and 'Crazy Rich Asians'. Born in Malaysia and educated in the U.K., Yeoh enjoyed her initial acting success in 1990s Hong Kong action films and briefly became a producer following stardom in Roger Spottiswoode's James Bond title 'Tomorrow Never Dies' and Ang Lee's 2000 breakout hit 'Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon'.

Returning to acting, she went on to defy convention and build a global career with key roles in Rob Marshall's 'Memoirs of a Geisha', Danny Boyle's 'Sunshine', and Jon Chu's 'Crazy Rich Asians'. After appearing in James Gunn's second instalment of the 'Guardians of the Galaxy' franchise, Yeoh returned to the Marvel universe in Destin Daniel Cretton's 'Shang-Chi'. In March 2022, she starred in the Daniels' genre-melting 'Everything Everywhere All at Once', which has since become 24's highest grossing film. Yeoh was recently announced as the first Asian artist to receive the American Film Institute Honour, and was this year featured in the Time 100 'Most Influential People' list. Past TIFF Tribute Awards have gone to Jessica Chastain, Roger Deakins, Anthony Hopkins, Joaquin Phoenix, Taika Waititi, and Chloe Zhao.



FOUR SAMOSAS

Indian-American rom-com 'Four Samosas', Dec release planned



Los Angeles | Agencies

Indian-American film 'Four Samosas' has been acquired by IFC Films after it premiered at this year's Tribeca Film Festival. "Four Samosas," a romantic comedy set in the Little India neighborhood of Los Angeles. IFC will release it in theaters and on demand on December 2, 2022.

Ravi Kapoor directs and Venk Potula ("Veep") leads an ensemble cast that includes Sonal Shah, Sharmita Bhattacharya, Nirvan Patnaik, Karan Soni, Summer Bishil, and Meera Simhan. The film centers on wanna-be South Asian American rapper, Vinny (Potula), who along with three friends - all of them first-time thieves - plans to rob a grocery store owned by his ex-girlfriend's father, in order to steal her wedding diamonds and disrupt her pending engagement. Ravi has made a hilarious film that is part comedy and part heist movie with a spirit and style reminiscent of

Wes Anderson," Arianna Bocco, president of IFC Films said.

"It features an incredible ensemble cast who are totally game for Kapoor's wild ride. We're so thrilled to have Ravi and his team as part of the IFC Family, and we can't wait for audiences to experience this endearing and original film." "Four Samosas" was a hit with critics when it debuted at Tribeca.

"Four Samosas" is produced by Kapoor alongside Potula for Khrisp Entertainment, Rajiv Maikhuri and Craig Stovel for Creative Rebel Productions. It is executive produced by Utkarsh Ambudkar, Karan Soni, Sanjay M. Sharma and Milan Chakraborty of Marginal MediaWorks, and Kathrin Hamilton and Matthew Young.

"After a fantastic coming out party at Tribeca, we're thrilled that IFC Films will keep the good vibes going," Kapoor said. "They recognize how our film about finding your crew can resonate with audiences of all ilk!"

Halsey battles food poisoning at UK festival

London | Agencies

Singer Halsey has shared that they suffered "terrible food poisoning" at the Reading and Leeds festival. The 27-year-old singer said via social media that they performed at the festival despite being hit by a bad case of food poisoning.

Halsey wrote: "No idea how I'm still alive after my Leeds set. I have terrible food poisoning STILL! It started yesterday at 2pm and I somehow made it on stage (after the medical team at the festival were soooo helpful!)." She has played shows under some "messed up conditions" in the past.

However, the singer considers this latest drama to be "the worst in recent memory". Halsey shared: "Felt like I was on Jupiter the whole time. Thank you for being so cool and letting me basically do whatever just to survive the set! You guys would have been an unreal crowd under ANY circumstances let alone those."

The 'Gasoline' hitmaker subsequently shared a photo of herself receiving medical attention. In the photo, Halsey is seen slouched on a couch as they receive help from a medic.

Earlier this year, Halsey has hinted at scaling back their workload amid their ongoing health struggles.

The singer took to Instagram to discuss the possibility of reducing their work schedule due to their struggles with endometriosis, which can cause debilitating pain.



NAVEEN ANDREWS SIGNED FOR 'THE CLEANING LADY'

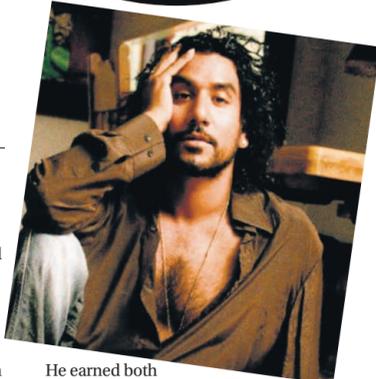
Los Angeles | Agencies

British-American actor of Indian descent Naveen Andrews has been roped in for a series regular role in Season 2 of 'The Cleaning Lady'. Season 2 of the drama series picks up with Thony desperately trying to find her son, Luca, after he was kidnapped by his father, Marco. With nowhere else to turn, she enlists the help of FBI Agent Garrett Miller to track him down before they leave the country. Meanwhile, an incident involving Chris forces Fiona (Martha Millan) to shield her son by any means necessary, furthering the theme of how far a mother will go to protect her child.

Andrews will play Robert Kamdar, Nadia's (Eva De Dominici) gregarious and charming ex-lover, who is intent on driving a wedge between Arman (Adan Canto) and Nadia.

The cast for Season 2 also includes Faith Bryant, with Chelsea Frei and Liza Weigluest set as guest stars this season.

Andrews is no stranger to broadcast audiences, as he famously starred in the hit series 'Lost' throughout the show's run.



He earned both an Emmy and Golden Globe nomination for best supporting actor for his work on the series.

Most recently, Andrews earned praise for his role in the limited series 'The Dropout'.

His other TV credits include 'Instinct', 'Sense8', and 'Once Upon a Time in Wonderland'. He has also starred in films like 'Diana', 'Planet Terror', 'The English Patient', and 'The Brave One'.

'The Cleaning Lady' returns for its second season on September 19. It is based on the Argentinian series 'La chica que limpia'.



Anna Gunn among five cast in 'Sugar'

Los Angeles | Agencies

Irish actor Colin Farrell's upcoming Apple series 'Sugar' has added five new names such as James Cromwell, Anna Gunn, Dennis Boutsikaris, Alex Hernandez and Lindsay Pulsipher.

Cromwell and Gunn will recur, while Boutsikaris, Hernandez and Pulsipher will be series regulars. Along with Farrell, previously announced cast members include Kirby Howell-Baptiste and Amy Ryan, reports a website.

Exact plot and character details for the show remain under wraps, aside from the fact that it is described as a genre-bending contemporary take on the private detective story set in Los Angeles.

Mark Protosevich serves as writer and executive producer on 'Sugar'. Farrell will executive produce in addition to starring. Fernando Meirelles will direct and executive producer. Simon Kinberg and Audrey Chon of Genre Films also executive producer, as do Scott Greenberg and Chip Vucelich. Apple Studios will produce 'Sugar' is the second series that Kinberg and Genre Films have at Apple. The company also produces the streamer's show 'Invasion'.

That series, which is a sci-fi drama about an alien invasion of Earth, debuted on Apple in 2021 and was renewed for a second season in December. Kinberg co-created the series with David Weil.

JENNIFER CONNELLY JOINS JOEL EDGERTON IN SCI-FI SERIES 'DARK MATTER'

Los Angeles | Agencies

Actress Jennifer Connelly is set to star opposite Joel Edgerton in the series adaptation of the Blake Crouch novel 'Dark Matter'.

The nine-episode series was ordered at Apple in March. It will follow Jason Dessen (Edgerton), a physicist, professor, and family man who - one night while walking home on the streets of Chicago - is abducted into an alternate version of his life. Wonder quickly turns to nightmare when he tries to return to his reality amid the multiverse of lives he could have lived.

In this labyrinth of mind-bending realities, he embarks on a harrowing journey to get back to his true family and save them from the most terrifying, unbeatable foe imaginable: himself.

Connelly will star as Daniela, Jason's wife.

This marks one of few television roles Connelly has held throughout her career. She currently stars in the TNT series 'Snowpiercer', which is set to end with its upcoming fourth season. She also starred in the short-lived Fox Wall Street drama 'The Street'. She is primarily known for her critically-acclaimed film roles, including her Oscar-winning supporting role in 'A Beautiful Mind'.

She most recently starred in the blockbuster 'Top Gun: Maverick' and has also starred in films like 'Requiem for a Dream', 'House of Sand and Fog', and 'Blood Diamond'.



ABSOLUTE PIC OF THE DAY



Jennifer Garner



Asia Cup 2022:

AFTER SUCCESS AGAINST PAKISTAN, INDIA SHOULD CONTINUE 'SHORT BALL'

Team India sweats it out ahead of match against Hong Kong

Team Absolute | New Delhi

The Rohit Sharma-led India cricket team was at their tactical best during its opening game of Asia Cup 2022 against Pakistan as they registered a thrilling win, with their opposition having very little idea of coming out of the trap and were forced to fall prey to it.

The smart use of short balls to trouble the batters and sending the left-handed all-rounder Ravindra Jadeja at No. 4 during the run chase were the two solid tactical decisions, which brought positive results for India. Well, it wasn't that the Indian team used some 'rocket science' or cricket hasn't seen these tactics before. But, in a high-pressure game like India vs Pakistan, these small things play a huge role in outsmarting opponents, which everyone witnessed on Sunday. The Indian fast bowlers were the architect of India's win. It was the first time India took all 10 wickets with pace in a T20I innings, so one can definitely see the impact of pace-bowling in that very game. And what's more interesting was that five of the 10 wickets to fall in the Pakistan



innings came off short balls, which generally Indian fast bowlers are not known for especially in a white-ball game.

Dubai generally has spinner-friendly wickets but since August is one of the hottest months of the year there, the pitch curators have left ample amounts of grass to sustain the tracks for a longer duration. Also, back-to-back matches at

similar grounds doesn't make their job easier either. There was lack of movement off the pitch and in the air but the pitch had a bit of bounce on it, which guided Indian fast bowlers to bowl short or short of a good length at the Dubai International Cricket Stadium on Sunday. India all-rounder Hardik Pandya led India's play as he kept digging in at hard Test match

lengths at 140 kmph, slipping in bouncers at will that earned him all three of his wickets on short deliveries. Hardik first dismissed Iftikhar Ahmed on a well-directed bouncer and then removed Mohammad Rizwan, who tried to ramp a short ball, but ended up hitting it straight to deep third man. Khushdil Shah also attempted the upper-cut against Pandya but only to be caught at deep point. However, all this 'short ball tactics' started with the wily Bhuvneshwar Kumar. The experienced pacer, who is known for his swing used the short ball as a rabbit out of his hat to get rid of Pakistan skipper Babar Azam. Babar was getting himself into driving positions against straighter and fuller lengths, so the bouncer that arrived after a succession of pitched up deliveries had the desired effect on the Pakistan captain -- the top-edge off a pull going to the short fine leg fielder. The conditions didn't set Bhuvneshwar up for the typical early breakthrough, but it came anyway for him. The 32-year old, who has been a breath of fresh air for the present Indian side and has picked 24 wickets in 18 T20Is in 2022, explained the bowling plan.

Asia Cup 2022: Afghanistan thrash Bangladesh by 7 wickets, qualify for Super Four

Sharjah | Agencies

A disciplined bowling performance followed by a clinical batting effort helped Afghanistan thrash Bangladesh by seven wickets in a Group B match and qualify for the Super Fours of the Asia Cup 2022 at the Sharjah Cricket Stadium, here on Tuesday.

With their back-to-back wins against Sri Lanka and Bangladesh, Afghanistan became the first team to make it to the Super Fours.

After winning the toss and opting to bat first, Bangladesh batters couldn't get going for most part of the innings on a dusty pitch, which had a fair amount of grip and turns.

The Afghanistan spin twins Mujeeb Ur Rahman (3/16) and Rashid Khan (3/22) bowled tight length and lines and spun their webs in the powerplay and in the middle-overs respectively.

When Mahmudullah (25 off 27) got out in the 15.4 overs, Bangladesh were 89-6 and it looked like they'd even fold for under 100. However, Mosaddek Hossain's 31-ball 48, and Mehidy Hasan's 12-ball 14 helped Bangladesh in some form of recovery and led them to a respectable



total of 127/7 in 20 overs. Chasing a respectable target, Najibullah Zadran (43 not out off 17) and Ibrahim Zadran (42 not out off 41) played fantastic knocks and led Afghanistan to a convincing win in 18.3 Overs, with seven wickets in hand.

Apart from Najibullah and Ibrahim, Hazratullah Zazai also played a crucial knock (23 off 26). Mosaddek Hossain (1/12), Shakib Al Hasan (1/13), and Mohammad Saifuddin (1/27)

were the wicket-takers for Bangladesh.

Brief scores

Bangladesh 127/7 in 20 overs (Mosaddek Hossain 48 not out, Mahmudullah 25; Mujeeb Ur Rahman 3/16 and Rashid Khan 3/22) lost to Afghanistan 131-3 in 18.3 overs (Najibullah Zadran 43 not out, Ibrahim Zadran 42 not out, Mosaddek Hossain 1/12) by 7 wickets.

US Open

Serena overcomes Kovinic's challenge; Halep bows



Cincinnati earlier this month. "I always feel so comfortable on this court," she said. "When I step on the court I just want to do the best I can. The crowd was crazy. It really helped pull me through," Serena said post-match. "It's been such a hard decision (to retire). Because when you're passionate about something, love something so much it's hard to walk away. I was just like all right, now's the time.

There's other chapters in life. It's going to be Serena 2.0. "Meanwhile, in the first major upset at this year's US Open, qualifier Daria Snigur of Ukraine overcame Romania's Simona Halep in three sets to reach the second round. The 20-year-old Snigur, playing only her third WTA-level match and first at a major, upset the Romanian 6-2, 0-6, 6-4. "I'm very happy," she said. "I'm very, very, very nervous," she added. "But I tried to do my best."

New York | Agencies

American tennis star Serena Williams, four weeks shy of her 41st birthday and playing in her last career event, overcame Danka Kovinic of Montenegro 6-3, 6-3 to secure a place in the second round of the US Open on Tuesday (IST). Serena will play No.2 seed Anett Kontaveit of Estonia on Wednesday. The winner of 23

singles titles at majors, Serena has now won 107 matches in New York, and 102 of them have come in Arthur Ashe Stadium, according to Wtatennis Williams began tentatively, losing three of the first four points. But she smashed two aces to get even and took the opening game when a Kovinic forehand found the net. The legendary player moved remarkably compared to her stints in Toronto and

DIVYA WINS WOMEN'S AIR PISTOL T6 NATIONAL TRIALS



New Delhi: Karnataka's Divya TS won the women's 10m Air Pistol T6 national shooting trials, with a 16-12 win in the gold medal match against Haryana's Rhythm Sangwan, here at the Dr. Karni Singh Shooting Range. Rhythm, however, won both the Youth and Junior Women's Air Pistol T6 trials to land a double on yet another profitable day. Neha of Uttar Pradesh had topped the 283-strong qualifying field in the Women's Air Pistol with a score of 582, while Divya and Rhythm had finished second and third with 576 and 575 respectively. In the Junior Women's final, Rhythm beat U.P.'s Divanshi Dhama 16-8 to clinch gold while in the Youth final, she beat yet another UP girl Mansi Anand 16-2 to register a double.

US Open:

Caroline Garcia starts with a win; Maria Sakkari escapes to victory

New York | Agencies

No. 17 seed Caroline Garcia opened her 2022 US Open campaign with a 6-2, 6-4 scoreline over lucky loser Kamilla Rakhimova while Maria Sakkari survived a scare as she advanced with a three sets victory in early women's singles action here.

On Monday, Sakkari returned to the scene where she tore through the 2021 US Open women's draw, riding on a high of a breakthrough season that saw her crack the Top 10 for the first time in her career, determined to change the narrative. She opened her 2022 campaign with an emphatic 6-4, 3-6, 6-0 win over Tatjana Maria of Germany. Early on, a knee-high volley from midcourt caught Rakhimova by surprise and the stance and execution on return was particularly aggressive. Sprinkle in winners off each wing and 10 successive points, and it all enabled the Frenchwoman to surge 4-0 in front. By this point, Garcia was serving superbly with two holds to love. It took 18 minutes for Rakhimova to claim a game, but it was pure dominance from Garcia. An ace at 5-2 was called let by umpire James Keothavong, but Garcia didn't hear the call and celebrated posting a set lead. Back to the baseline for taking two, another well-constructed point, and Garcia secured a 6-2 advantage. The power play, the transitioning up the court, and the net play was all on the song and the pressure finally took hold on the world No. 90. At 2-2, Garcia connected with a backhand return on the stretch, read her opponent's reply and



hooked a forehand pass for a pivotal break. Down 15-30 in the next game, Garcia stood firm in a bruising rally, skipping forward to clip away an acute volley and fend off any danger of a potential comeback.

Why Haryana is a sports hub?

Team Absolute | New Delhi

In the recently concluded Commonwealth Games in Birmingham, India put up a contingent of 215 sports persons. Out of these, 42 were from Haryana and they won 20 medals out of the 61 the country bagged. Haryana sports persons won 9 gold, 5 silver, and 6 bronze medals at Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games. The state accounts for less than 2 percent of the country's population. The stats tell the story of Haryana's domination of the Indian sports scene. Players from Haryana have been dominating every competition. Be it the National Games or at the International level, players from Haryana have got everyone's attention with their performances.



Overall, more than 30 percent of India's individual medals in its entire Olympic history have been bagged by sports persons from the state. Apart from hockey, India have won 23 individual medals in the Olympics so far, with Haryana bagging seven of them. This year in the Tokyo Olympics, India's most successful campaign in the prestigious quadrangular marquee sports event, with the country bagging seven medals including a historic gold by Neeraj Chopra in the javelin throw. India's contingent for the Tokyo Olympics included 126 athletes, out of which 31 were from Haryana - nearly 25 percent of the total. So, what makes Haryana such a success in sports? For the answer to this question, we have to go a little bit into the culture of Haryana.

Japan Open 2022:

HS PRANNOY ADVANCES TO PRE-QUARTERS

Osaka (Japan) | Agencies

Ace Indian shuttler HS Prannoy advanced to the men's singles round of 16 at the Japan Open 2022 badminton tournament, here on Tuesday.

Prannoy, the world No 18, was leading 11-10 in the first game against Hong Kong's Ng Ka Long Angus when the latter retired from the tie due to an apparent injury. The Ng Ka Long Angus withdrawal means that Prannoy will get the must-needed rest for his next round encounter which will be against the 2021 world champion Loh Kean Yew of Singapore. The Indian, who reached the quarter-finals at the world championships last week after beating Kento Momota and Lakshya Sen along the way, will fancy his chances against Loh Kean Yew. In the women's doubles, the pair of Ashwini Bhat and Shikha Gautam were knocked out after they lost 15-21, 9-21 to South Koreans Baek Ha Na and Lee Yu Lim. Meanwhile, Commonwealth Games champion Lakshya Sen will begin his Japan Open



2022 campaign against Kenta Nishimoto on Wednesday. The likes of Kidambi Srikanth and Saina Nehwal also begin their campaigns on Wednesday, as do the pairs of MR Arjun/Dhruv Kapila and Treasa Jolly/Gayatri Gopichand. However, two-time Olympic medallist and former world champion PV Sindhu is still recovering from a stress fracture on her ankle sustained during the Commonwealth Games and will miss the tournament.

Durand Cup:

Odhisa FC defeat Sudeva Delhi to enter quarters

Guwahati | Agencies

Odhisa FC (OFC) became the second team to make it to the quarterfinals in the Durand Cup after registering a comfortable 3-0 victory over Sudeva Delhi FC (Sudeva) in a Group D game at the Indira Gandhi Athletic Stadium here on Monday. Spaniard Saul Crespo scored a brace while Jerry got the third; to hand the Juggernauts a third successive win in the tournament. All the goals came in the first half. Both Saul and Jerry have also

scored three times now for Josep Gombau's side who have scored 11 goals without return in their three group games so far. They take on Army Green in their final group game. For Sudeva perhaps it was a gulf too big to bridge at this stage of the tournament and despite a spirited performance, especially in the first 30 minutes, they ended up the second-best side on the day by a distance and could not avoid the first loss in this year's tournament. They can still go through, however, if they win big against NorthEast United in

their last group game of the fixture. Odhisa practically killed the game with three first-half goals and it was more the manner in which they got them that perhaps did more damage. It began well though for Sudeva and they were matching the Juggernauts in attack in the first quarter of an hour.

The opening for OFC came in the 19th minute when off a Sahil Panwar corner, Crespo rose to head in despite having markers on the job. OFC had begun to take control. In the 39th minute, a delightful ball from

Raynier Fernandes found Crespo again, but this time he had more to do. He took a few steps forward to shrug off his marker, bent his knees slightly to attack the header low and deflected it from the near post, across the keeper into the far post. A minute later Nandha Kumar Sekar struck from distance and given that the shot went through a maze of feet, perhaps unsuspected Sudeva keeper Kabir Kohli who reacted a tad late to block the shot. The rebound however fell too kindly for Jerry, to miss getting his third of the tournament.





Tisca Chopra says her upcoming show captures raw fear

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Actress Tisca Chopra, who is set to play an IAS officer in her upcoming thriller series 'Dahan - Raakan ka Rahasya', shared that the show captures the essence of raw fear as every character involved in the show has its own demons to battle.

The series is a dark tale of myths and superstition and touches upon society, its beliefs and challenges its characters to face their deepest and darkest fears.

Opening up on the show, the actress said: "What I love most about the series is how it captures raw fear as each character faces their own demons. Avani Raut, my character, fights personal and professional battles when she is caught in the

crossfire of superstition and the supernatural and resin and practicality on the other."

The show takes off when a mining expedition threatens the village fabled with a temple that legends say can unleash a deadly curse when harmed. But Tisca's character of the IAS officer sets out on a mission to battle age-old superstitions that shroud the village in the face of mysterious killings and disappearances.

Adding further, Tisca said: "The show puts the character Avani Raut on a quest by drawing parallels between her external and internal fears, which all of us confront. It's been an absolute delight to bring Dahan and Avani to the audiences."

The show, which has been shot across Rajasthan's rugged landscapes, also stars Rajesh Tailang, Mukesh Tiwari, Saurabh Shukla, Ankur Nayyar, Rohan Joshi and Lehar Khan.



Shruti Haasan get down to work in Turkey

Team Absolute | Chennai

A crucial schedule of Telugu star Natasimha Nandamuri Balakrishna and director Gopichand Malineni's highly anticipated mass action entertainer, being tentatively referred to as #NBK107, has just begun in Turkey.

Sources say that the team landed in Istanbul City in Turkey for the new shooting schedule. They will shoot an important part of the movie with the prominent cast taking part in it.

Director Gopichand Malineni posted a selfie picture of himself alongside Balakrishna and Shruti Haasan from the shooting location. Sources say that other than the talkie portions, action episodes will also be filmed in this schedule.

The makers provided two back-to-back treats on Balakrishna's birthday by releasing a 'First Hunt' video and then following it up with a poster.

The movie, apart from Balakrishna and Shruti Haasan, also features Duniya Vijay, and Varalaxmi Sarathkumar in important roles. National Award winning music director Thaman is scoring the music for this film, which has cinematography by Rishi Punjabi. Naveen Yemini and Y Ravi Shankar of Mythri Movie Makers are producing the film on a massive scale. Acclaimed writer Sai Madhav Burra has penned the dialogues, while National Award-Winning craftsman Navin Nooli is handling editing. Chandu Ravipati is the executive producer for the film that has fights by Ram-Lakshman duo.



VARTIKA'S CHARACTER IS VERY DEAR AND PERSONAL TO ME: SHEFALI SHAH

SIDHARTH ABOUT HIS JOURNEY NOT BEING A CAKEWALK

'People need to see your journey from a holistic point of view'

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Sidharth Malhotra who celebrated a decade in Bollywood this year, has spoken about his 'extreme journey' from a 'non-film' background. He made his film debut with Student of the Year. Sidharth has appeared in several popular films over the course of his ten-year career, including Kapoor & Sons, Marjaavaan, Ek Villain, Hasee Toh Phasee, Baar Baar Dekho, and others. Sidharth said in a recent interview: "I think people need to see your journey from a holistic point of view as to where you started off and where you are today". He went on to say that his journey in the industry has been very extreme, having come from New Delhi and a non-film background. He also spoke about working for the last ten years entertaining people in various different

roles. Furthermore, Malhotra discussed his career trajectory, stating that it is simply to demonstrate to people through his actions that anything is possible if one puts one's mind to it.

The Shershaah actor stated that people's opinions are not always to be trusted. "Eventually, you have to live with your gut instincts and your dedication, and your obsession about one particular field while trying to achieve it. I'm a prime example for that and I hope that youngsters will take inspiration from it," said Sidharth. He stated that he still has a long way to go before achieving the title of 'icon,' as being an icon in the field is a little too early for him. Meanwhile, Sidharth will next be seen in Mission Majnu, Yodha, and Thank God. He will also appear in Rohit Shetty's web series Indian Police Force.



Sohum Shah dream to portray larger than life characters on screen fulfilled

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Actor Sohum Shah, who has been getting a lot of positive response for his work as Bheema Bharti in the recently released second season of political drama 'Maharani', shared that the series allowed him to live his childhood dream. The actor has always harboured a dream to portray larger than life characters on screen. Talking about how grateful the actor is for the response he is receiving from the audience and the critics, Sohum said, "I grew up watching Amitabh Bachchan and Shah Rukh Khan playing larger-than-life characters and I always wanted to play such characters."

Expressing his gratitude towards the show creator Subhash Kapoor, he mentioned, "When Subhash Kapoor offered me the character of Bheema Bharti, I got to live that dream and I can never be thankful enough to him. Subhash Ji wanted to see only Bheema Bharti in flesh and blood and I really enjoyed my journey to transform Sohum Shah into Bheema Bharti."



Talking about the preparations for the part, Sohum added, "I had to put on weight, grow a beard, undergo tremendous dialect training, and let go of several projects that came my way but in the end, I am glad that it was all worth it."

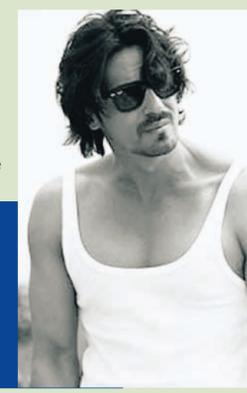
Meanwhile, on the work front, the actor has an interesting line up of 'Sanaa' with Radhika Madan and 'Dahaad'.

Vicky who I have seen as kids and now as producers. Also I am very fond of the Sinha family and so delighted to see Kush at work doing so well and Sonakshi in a totally different avatar."

"Nikita Roy and Book of Darkness' will be a film to look out for and I wish the whole team my best wishes for it, as I had a blast

working with them," the actor added. The film also stars Paresh Rawal and Suhail Nayyar in pivotal roles and marks the directorial debut of Sonakshi Sinha's brother Kush S Sinha.

Arjun Rampal to do a cameo in Kush S Sinha debut film



Team Absolute | Mumbai

Actress Shefali Shah, who plays the headstrong police officer DCP Vartika Singh in OTT series, is over-the-moon with the response the second season of the show is getting, and said that she wanted to be part of stories that are global in nature. Shefali said: "The kind of response I have been receiving for Delhi Crime 2 is enormous. Yes, we have put a lot of effort to execute the show and we are truly grateful for the love that we are receiving from the audience. From the beginning of season 1, the audience has time and again showered love on the show and we couldn't have asked for more. Touchwood, this season is also getting the same response and even more."

The actress said that her character of 'Delhi Crime' is very personal to her. She added: "Vartika is very dear and personal to me and I'm overwhelmed and grateful to know it has touched everyone as deeply. I always wanted to be a part of stories that travel places, that are global in nature, and with this serial, we have achieved that".

The show revolves around a violent quadruple murder that stokes public fear and escalates Delhi's class divide. It's a fictionalised account of the brutal 'Kachcha Baniyan' gang that once struck terror in the national capital.

The show's main characters are played by Shefali, Rasika Dugal, Rajesh Tailang, Adil Hussain, Anurag Arora, Yashaswini Dayama, Sidharth Bhardwaj, Gopal Dutt, Deniz Smith, Tillotama Shome, Jatin Goswami, Vyom Yadav and Ankit Sharma. Shefali will next be seen in 'Doctor G' along with Ayushmann Khurrana and Rakul Preet Singh.

INSTAGRAM PIC OF THE DAY



Nehha Pendse