

absolute india

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PUBLISHED SIMULTANEOUSLY FROM NEW DELHI, MUMBAI AND BHOPAL

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DIRECTED ENERGY WEAPONS: INDIA'S DEFENCE FUTURE

Given India's security concerns, Directed Energy Weapons (DEWs) will play an essential role, especially at a time when our neighbouring countries are also experimenting with such weaponry. DEWs are the weapons of the future. CHES is working on both the Hard Kill and Soft Kill parts of these weapon systems which will enable the country to better engage with threats. These systems will provide India with strategic and operational superiority over its adversaries.

- ▶ According to reports, CHES conducts research and works on High Energy Laser Systems. The organisation has been experimenting with Directed Energy Weapons (DEWs) in an attempt to modernise the defence technology of the nation.
- ▶ These systems destroy hostile targets using laser technology. Any hostile object, whether it is a drone, enemy boat or mortar, that comes in contact with a high-energy laser gets destroyed. In layman's terms, DEWs are capable of destroying or damaging the target temporarily or permanently by focusing high-energy beams or lasers.
- ▶ The application of systems developed by CHES includes neutralising targets such as personnel, missiles, drones, vehicles and optical devices on land, air or water, reported All India Radio.



Team Absolute | New Delhi

Aiming to take India's defence sector to another level, the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) is making optimal use of the facilities provided by the government. As the world is moving towards laser-based weapon systems, India looks up to organisations like the Centre for High Energy Systems and Sciences (CHES) under DRDO. In India, CHES is the nodal centre for such evolved and futuristic weapon

systems. Located in Hyderabad, CHES is a defence lab under DRDO. In a conversation with PBNS, Ravi Shankar, a scientist at CHES, said that DRDO has a tie-up with Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL) for mass production of these defence systems as it is only an R&D organisation. "Currently, the defence systems developed by CHES are employed with Army Air Defence, National Security Guard (NSG) and Special Protection Group (SPG)," said Ravi Shankar at FICCI's event 'Making

India a Global Drone Hub'. DRDO has been working in this domain for the past few years to develop weapon systems of up to 100 kilowatts of power for short, medium and long ranges. These high-powered DEWs can quietly incapacitate enemy missiles or drones without leaving any physical evidence or debris. Russia, France, Germany, the UK, Israel and China are few of the countries that are working and have robust programmes to develop DEWs or Laser Directed Energy Weapons. DEWs are being used by various militaries as a force multiplier and India is also making simultaneous efforts to keep up with the requirements of modern-day warfare. India's DEW development includes DURGA II (Directionally Unrestricted Ray-Gun Array), which is a 100 kilowatt, lightweight directed-energy system. This weapon system will be integrated with the Indian Army and any other platform on land, air or water bodies. There are many projects in progress related to DEWs under DRDO's sleeves. Some of the projects are Kilo Ampere Linear Injector (KALI), Project Aditya and Air Defence Dazzlers.

King Charles III officially proclaimed British monarch



- ▶ Before Charles was named the King, the death of the Queen was formally announced.
- ▶ The 200 or so people gathered in the room all then said 'God save the King' before documents were signed.
- ▶ Flags that were lowered in mourning for the late Queen will fly full-mast for a short time.
- ▶ A wave of further proclamations will take place across the UK until Sunday.

LONDON | Agencies

For the first time in a televised ceremony, King Charles III was on Saturday officially proclaimed the new British monarch following the demise of his 96-year-old mother, Queen Elizabeth II who reigned for 70 years on the throne. Charles, the Queen's first born, became king immediately after her death on Thursday, but a historic meeting formally confirmed his role on Saturday during the ceremony at St James's Palace, says the BBC. The Accession Council, a body made up of senior politicians, judges and offi-

cials, proclaimed him as the monarch in the State Apartments. Following the proclamation, the King formally announced the death of his "beloved mother, the Queen". "The whole world sympathises with me in the irreparable loss we've all suffered. My mother gave an example of lifelong love and of selfless service. My mother's reign was unequalled in its duration, dedication and devotion. Even as we grieve, we give thanks for this most faithful life. I am deeply aware of this deep inheritance and of the grave duties and responsibilities which are now passed to me," the BBC quoted Charles as saying.



Andhra woman wades through river to write exam

Visakhapatnam: A 21-year-old student in Andhra Pradesh's Vizianagaram district had to cross a river without any conveyance to appear in an examination. She, with the help of her brother and another family member, crossed the swollen river Champavati, risking her life. A video of the woman wading through neck-deep water with the help of the duo has gone viral on social media. The incident occurred in Gajapathinagaram mandal of Vizianagaram district. Taddi Kalavathi, a resident of Marivalasa village, had to take an examination in Visakhapatnam. The river was in spate due to heavy rains upstream, cutting off the village. There were no boats available to take her to the other side of the river. With no other option left, the girl entered the river. As she did not know how to swim, her brother and another family member carried her on their shoulders and helped her cross the river.

Only legal loan apps to be hosted on app stores: Centre

Team Absolute | New Delhi

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) will prepare a "whitelist" of all the legal apps and the Union Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology will ensure that only these "whitelisted" apps are hosted on app stores. This decision was taken at a high level meeting on issues related to illegal loan apps, which was chaired by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Thursday. It was decided in the meeting that the RBI will monitor the 'mule or rented' accounts that may be used for money laundering and accordingly cancel dormant non bank finance institutions or NBFCs to avoid their misuse, official sources said. The RBI will also ensure that registration of payment aggregators is completed within a timeframe and no un-registered payment aggregator be allowed to function after that. The Ministry of



Corporate Affairs has been asked to identify shell companies and de-register them to prevent their misuse. Sitharaman expressed concern over rising instances of illegal loan apps offering loans mostly to vulnerable sections of society, offering high interest rates and then using intimidatory tactics to recover the amount. She also highlighted the possibility of money laundering, tax evasion and data breaches by such aggregators.

'Mahabharata' to find an OTT home on Disney+ Hotstar, global audience

LOS ANGELES | Agencies

'Mahabharata', which a generation of Indians grew up seeing on Doordarshan, will be back with a contemporary look and on a global platform -- the streamer Disney+ Hotstar. It was among the three Indian titles that were revealed at the global Disney fan event D23 Expo in Los Angeles, reports 'Variety'. 'Mahabharata' is being produced by Madhu Mantena, Ram Gopal Verma's nephew and Anurag Kashyap's former associate, Mythoverstudios and Allu Entertainment. The other announcements made included the return of Karan Johar's celebrity chat show 'Koffee With Karan' for Season 8, after a hugely successful ongoing Season 7. It is produced by Johar, Apoorva Mehta and Anisha Baig for Dharmatic



Entertainment Production. Johar, Mehta and Somen Mishra are also producing Bollywood-set drama series 'Showtime', which, according to the Dharmatic boss, "will lift the curtain on India's entertainment industry's biggest trade secrets". 'Variety' quotes Mantena as saying: "For centuries Indian epics have captured the imagination of billions around the world. These epics are deeply woven into the very fabric of our nation. The 'Mahabharata' -- one of the oldest epics in India, despite being as old as time, is still relevant today for the many lessons and words of wisdom hidden within its ancient verses." Disney+ Hotstar India's Head of Content Gaurav Banerjee said: "Over the last several years, India has emerged as a content powerhouse, pushing the envelope with stories that transcend language and cultural boundaries."

Brother meets sister in Kartarpur after separation from family in 1947

Team Absolute | Lahore

The Kartarpur Corridor has once again reunited another family after a man who separated from his parents when he was only a few months old in 1947, finally met his sister in Pakistan. Amarjit Singh was left out in India along with his sister while his Muslim parents came to Pakistan. All eyes went teary as they saw the emotional scenes of the brother-sister reunion in Gurdwara Darbar Sahib Kartarpur, Geo News reported. Amarjit Singh arrived in Pakistan via the Wagah border with a visa to meet his Muslim sister and to remain as his guest. His sister, 65-year-old



Kulsoom Akhtar, could not control her emotions after seeing Amarjit. Both hugged each other and kept crying. She had travelled from her hometown in Faisalabad along with her son Shahzad Ahmed and other family members to meet her brother. Now an elderly man, Sardar Amarjit Singh came to Gurdwara Sahib in a wheelchair. Kulsoom Akhtar also could not travel due to back pain, but she showed courage and reached

Kartarpur from Faisalabad along with her son. Both the siblings kept crying while embracing each other and remembering their parents. Amarjit said that when he first learned that his real parents were in Pakistan and were Muslims, it was a shock to him. However, he comforted his heart that many families were separated from each other in addition to his own family. Many Muslim children became Sikhs and many Sikh children became Muslims, Express Tribune reported. He said that he always wanted to meet his real sister and brothers. He said that he is happy to know that three of his brothers are alive. However, one brother who was in Germany has passed away.

THE STORY

Kulsoom said that her parents came to Pakistan from the suburbs of the Jalandhar region of India in 1947, leaving behind her younger brother and a sister, Express Tribune reported. Kulsoom said she was born in Pakistan and used to hear about her lost brother and a sister from her mother. She said that her mother used to cry every time whenever she remembered her missing children. Kulsoom said that she did not expect that she would ever be able to meet her brother and sister. However, a few years ago, a friend of her father Sardar Dara Singh came to Pakistan from India and also met her. Kulsoom's mother told Singh about her son and daughter she left behind in India. She also told him the name of their village and the location of their house in the neighbouring country. Amarjit then visited her house in Padawan village of Jalandhar and informed her that her son was alive but her daughter was dead. Her son was named Amarjit Singh who was adopted by a Sikh family back then in 1947, The Express Tribune reported. After getting the brother's information, Amarjit and Kulsoom Akhtar contacted on WhatsApp and using the Kartarpur Corridor and the meeting between the two siblings became a reality.

IT IS GOOD TO HAVE BREAK: HARMANPREET KAUR

Durham: India captain Harmanpreet Kaur feels it is good for a cricketer to take a break from the game rather than pushing themselves too hard whenever they are feeling down due to mental fatigue. Harmanpreet's comments come after England all-rounder and stand-in captain Nat Sciver pulled out of the white-ball series against India to focus on her mental health and well-being. "We as a team discuss a lot on these things. Your performances go up and down, and it is better to take a break than pushing too hard in such times. As a team we want to help that player, and we are very open about players taking break when there is mental fatigue and things do not go as you want." "Last year, I went through these things playing back-to-back cricket. This year, we had the Commonwealth Games, and the Hundred was there (back-to-back), but I wanted to take a break. Playing back-to-back does take a mental toll, and it is good to take a break at times (rather than pushing too hard)," said Harmanpreet ahead of first T20I at Durham. In the past, Harmanpreet has been vocal about the benefits of having a mental psychologist around, in whom the players can confide about their mental struggles in challenging phases of their careers. In recent times, talismanic men's batter Virat Kohli had spoken about his mental fatigue during a prolonged lean patch, which resulted in him taking time off cricket for a month and a half. Though the men's team has a mental conditioning coach in Paddy Upton till Men's T20 World Cup, the women's team haven't got a same person in full-time capacity.



NEW INDIA IS SURGING AHEAD WITH JAI JAWAN, JAI KISAN, JAI VIGYAN & JAI ANUSANDHAN: PM

Sharad Pawar re-elected as NCP president

Team Absolute | New Delhi

Prime Minister on Saturday said that science is not only the basis of solutions, evolution and innovation, but also the inspiration with which today's new India is moving forward with Jai Jawan, Jai Kisan, Jai Vigyan as well as Jai Anusandhan.

Prime Minister Modi made the observation while inaugurating 'Centre-State Science Conclave' in Ahmedabad via video-conferencing.

Addressing the gathering, the Prime Minister highlighted that the organisation of this conclave is a clear example of Sabka Prayas. "Science is like that energy in the development of 21st century India, which has the power to accelerate the development of every region and the development of every state. Today, when India is moving towards leading the fourth industrial revolution, the role of India's science and people related to this field is very important. In such a situation, the responsibility of people in administration and policy making



increases significantly."

On the lessons from history that will help both the Centre and the states, he said during the early decades of the last century, the world was going through a period of devastation and tragedy. But even in that era, whether it was about the East or the West, scientists everywhere were engaged in their great discovery.

In the West, scientists like Einstein, Fermi, Max Planck, Niels Bohr, and Tesla were dazzling the world with

their experiments. In the same period, many scientists, including C.V. Raman, Jagdish Chandra Bose, Satyendranath Bose, Meghnad Saha, and S. Chandrasekhar were bringing their new discoveries to the fore. He also underlined the fact that due recognition was due to the "work of our scientists".

The Prime Minister reiterated that the government is working with the thinking of Science-Based Development. "Since 2014, there has

been a substantial increase in investment in the field of science and technology. Due to the efforts of the government, today India is ranked 46th in the Global Innovation Index, whereas in 2015, India was at number 81", the Prime Minister added. He acknowledged the record number of patents being registered in the country. He highlighted that in order to make India a global centre of research and innovation in this Amrit Kaal, one will have to work on many fronts simultaneously.

Concluding the address, the Prime Minister expressed the belief that the 'State-Centre Science Conclave' will add a new dimension and resolve toward the progress of Science in the country.

The Prime Minister also urged everyone to not let any opportunity slip in the field of science and technology. "The coming 25 years are the most important years for India as it will determine the new identity and strength of India to come", the Prime Minister said.

Team Absolute | New Delhi

Sharad Pawar was on Saturday unanimously re-elected as the Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) president during the party's national executive meeting that was held here.

After the meeting, NCP general secretary Praful Patel said Pawar has been elected unopposed by the party's national executive.

The party would hold national council meeting on Sunday during which Pawar is expected to lay out the road map for the national-level alliance of the opposition parties.

Patel, meanwhile, said that OBC census should be done and all the parties should come together to challenge the BJP.

He also said Bihar Chief Minister and senior Janata Dal-United Nitish Kumar has left the



NDA and there was a need for unity.

Nitish Kumar, who was in national capital this week, met scores of political leaders starting from Congress leader Rahul Gandhi, NCP leader Sharad Pawar, CPI-M Secretary General Sitaram Yechury, CPI's D. Raja and Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal (AAP). Nitish Kumar's purpose of

the visit was around the talks of opposition unity. He also intends to meet Congress interim chief Sonia Gandhi when she returns from abroad.

Before coming to the national capital, the Bihar Chief Minister had met RJD leader Lalu Prasad and TRS supreme K. Chandrasekhar Rao -- the Telangana Chief Minister.

Bihar minister's photo with accused in terror case goes viral

Patna | Agencies

An alleged photo of a Bihar minister with an accused booked in a terror case in Patna's Phulwari Sharif area having links with the Popular Front of India (PFI) went viral on social media on Saturday.

The minister seen in the photo is Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) MLA Mohammad Israil Mansuri, who was recently in news after he accompanied Chief Minister Nitish Kumar inside the Vishnupad temple in Gaya, which triggered a massive

controversy. The shrine authorities do not allow a non-Hindu person inside the temple.

The latest controversy arose after a coaching centre operator, Mohammad Ikram, a native of Madipur in Muzaffarpur district, was seen standing alongside Mansuri at a public event in the photograph.

The National Investigation Agency had recently raided the coaching centre of Ikram as also his house in Muzaffarpur in connection with the Phulwari Sharif terror case and seized some

documents and a laptop.

During a scan of the laptop, Ikram's photo with Mansuri was found.

When contacted, Mansoori clarified: "I don't know who is standing alongside me. When I became a minister in the Bihar government, there were so many people clicking photos with me. Many others took selfies as well. Some of them also requested that I put my hand on their shoulders. It is not possible for me to identify every person who meets me. I have no connection with him."

Country's food security at risk, says TRS

Hyderabad | Agencies

Food security in the country is at risk and the lack of foresight in the policies of the Central government is the main reason behind this unfortunate situation, said the Telangana Rashtra Samithi (TRS) on Saturday.

TRS working president K.T. Rama Rao stated that six months ago, the Central government boasted that it had enough wheat and rice reserves for four years.

Ironically, the same Centre imposed a 20 per cent export duty on rice exports saying that the foodgrain stocks in the country are diminishing.

This proves the policy failure of the Central government in the procurement of food grains, he said.

He demanded union minister for food and public distribution Piyush Goyal to implement one nation and one food grain procurement policy.



Rama Rao said the Narendra Modi-led government, which has already imposed restrictions on

the export of wheat and wheat based products, recently levied 20 per cent duty on rice exports and imposed a ban on the export of broken rice as well.

KTR said that the Modi government has taken this decision due to the huge reduction in stocks of food grains in FCI godowns and at various centres.

The TRS leader alleged that the reason for the current state of affairs is the Centre's lack of awareness of the basic needs of the people and lack of a clear food grain procurement policy.

"In a bid to portray Telangana as a failed state, the Modi government got caught in its own trap. Six months ago, when the Telangana government appealed to the Central government to buy the foodgrains from the state, the Centre outrightly refused saying that the country has more than the required reserves. The same Central government imposed restrictions on food grain exports now," said KTR, demanding an explanation from the Central minister.

It's 'Bharath Todo Yatra', BJP hits out at Rahul Gandhi

CHENNAI | Agencies

Hitting out at the Bharath Jodo Yatra of Rahul Gandhi, the BJP on Saturday said that it was Bharath 'Todo' Yatra. BJP spokesman Shehzad Poonawalla stated that Rahul Gandhi had met the controversial Hindu hater priest George Ponniah who had told Rahul that 'Jesus was real God unlike Shakthi'.

Shehzad Poonawalla said, "George Ponniah who met Rahul Gandhi says 'Jesus is the only God unlike Shakthi and other goddesses. This man was arrested earlier for Hindu hatred. He says that he is wearing shoes because impurities of Bharath Mata must not contaminate."

The BJP spokesperson said, "Bharath Jodo with Bharath Todo



icons." Shehzad Poonawalla also shared a video of George Ponniah with Rahul Gandhi in which the

priest was saying 'Jesus is real god unlike Shakthi'. Meanwhile the controversial

priest George Ponniah told media persons that he did not insult any religion.

Amaravati farmers gear up for Padyatra 2.0 from Sep 12

Amaravati | Agencies

With the Andhra Pradesh High Court giving its green signal, preparations were in full swing for the second Maha Padyatra by farmers to demand development of Amaravati as the state capital.

Amaravati Parirakshana Samithi (APS) and Joint Action Committee (JAC) of Amaravati farmers were gearing up to launch Maha Padyatra from September 12.

The long march will begin from Venkatapalem in Thullur mandal at 5 a.m. The mahurat has been fixed by priests. The participants will begin the walkathon after performing puja at Sri Venkateswara Swamy temple in Venkatapalem.

The Padyatra with the slogan 'Build Amaravati Save Andhra Pradesh' is proposed to conclude at Arasavalli in Srikulam district on November 11 after passing through 16 districts. It is aimed at mounting pressure on the government to complete the constructions and infrastructure creation in Amaravati as ordered by the High Court on March 3 this year.



Special Srivari Rath prepared for the Padyatra will be formally flagged off at 9 a.m. The organisers have invited leaders of all political parties except the ruling YSR Congress Party (YSRCP).

Leaders of Telugu Desam Party (TDP), Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), Communist Party of India (CPI), Communist Party of India-Marxist (CPI-M), Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) and Congress will be present at the launch programme.

On the first day, the Padyatra will conclude at Mangalagiri after passing through Krishnapalem, Penumaka and Yerrabalem.

Meanwhile, the APS and JAC have submitted a list of 600 participants to the police. The organisers handed over the list to the office of the Director General of Police.

The High Court on Friday gave green signal hours after the police refused the permission for the long march aimed at demanding implementation of High Court orders for development of the state capital.

However, the court has given the nod to the organisers subject to the condition that not more than 600 people should participate in the march.

'Game for 2024 will start from WB': Mamata in no hurry to bet on Nitish

Kolkata | Agencies

As Bihar chief minister Nitish Kumar is fast emerging as the principal face of the opposition for the 2024 polls, two questions are floating around in the political circles and the corridors of power in West Bengal.

Will Trinamool Congress supremo and West Bengal chief minister Mamata Banerjee be able to bring her party out of the current multiple crisis chain and emerge as a key player in determining terms in the opposition space at the national level for the 2024 Lok Sabha polls. Will she accept Nitish Kumar as the most accepted face of the Opposition?

On Thursday afternoon while addressing party workers and leaders at Kolkata, Mamata Banerjee remarked about the need for opposition unity against the BJP in 2024, without making it clear whether she would accept Nitish Kumar as the principal face of the opposition.

"We, Nitish Kumar, Akhilesh Yadav and Hemant Soren are all together. You will see that others will also be united soon. The game for 2024 will start from West Bengal," she said. Interestingly, she did not count Congress in the list. BJP's national vice-president and party MP, Dilip Ghosh feels that the ambition to be a key player to remove the saffron party from power in New Delhi is an unachievable dream for the Trinamool Congress in the present political situation. "Rather she should concentrate now on keeping her chair of chief minister intact till the 2024 Lok Sabha polls," Ghosh said.

The CPI(M) leadership feels that accepting



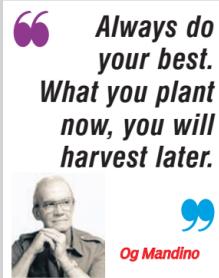
Nitish Kumar as the main opposition face in 2024 is not a problem for them, since the Left Parties in Bihar are already backing the Janata Dal (United) and the Rashtriya Janata Dal alliance government there. At a joint press conference at New Delhi on September 6, Kumar and CPI(M) general secretary Sitaram Yechury said that their prime aim now is to unite all the opposition parties which includes the Congress and other regional parties. The regional parties which Kumar said he is interacting with included all except the Trinamool Congress.

In fact, despite having separate meetings with leaders of political parties like the Congress's Rahul Gandhi, AAP's Arvind Kejriwal, CPI(M)'s Sitaram Yechury and TRS's K Chandrasekhar Roy, the Bihar chief minister is yet to hold any meeting with Mamata Banerjee or any other Trinamool Congress leader.

According to political analyst Amal Kumar Mukhopadhyay, the Trinamool Congress's stand in the recent Presidential and Vice-Presidential elections have isolated the party as well as Mamata Banerjee at the national level.



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INDIA'S STRATEGY OF FISCAL PRUDENCE HAS PAID OFF WHILE US AND EUROPE'S MASSIVE STIMULUS BACKFIRED

HEADING TOWARDS GROWTH

Morgan Stanley in a report said that the key change in India's structural story lies in the clear shift in the policy focus towards lifting the productive capacity of the economy. Policymakers have taken up a series of reforms which will catalyse an upswing in the private capex cycle, helping to unleash a powerful productivity dynamic, leading to the onset of a virtuous cycle.

- Over 2022-23, India's growth will average 7 per cent, the strongest among the largest economies, contributing 28 per cent and 22 per cent to Asian and global growth.
- India is best positioned within Asia to deliver domestic demand alpha. Its cyclical recovery will be sustained by structural factors.
- The recent strong run of data increases our confidence that India is well positioned to deliver domestic demand alpha, which will be particularly important as developed markets growth weakness percolates into Asia's external demand.



Some observers argue that while the Russia-Ukraine war has definitely contributed to the misery of the west, this was set into motion during Covid-19 when the governments in these countries went on a massive spending spree to give economic stimulus, pushing inflation at a time when growth was slowing.

These observers argue that the so-called economists were "pushing" India to follow the same path that these western countries took.

They remind that some were glorifying USA's \$3200 to everyone, Germany's stimulus and UK's furlough scheme -- trying to create dissatisfaction among Indian public and pushing the Indians to demand something similar. Eminent international economists were putting pressure on Indian government to spend 5, 10 or even 15 per cent of entire GDP as stimulus. Other economists provided other varying and large amounts to be distributed without

worrying for inflation. Despite repeated pressures from "fancy economists", intelligentsia, freeloaders, the government was fiscally prudent and knew the dangers that uncontrolled inflation can wreak on Indian economy and public.

It repeatedly prioritised very careful spending and targeted stimulus only to those sections that desperately required it. Observers argue that today, India is the only large country which is not just at the minimum risk of inflation, but also exhibited a growth of 13 per cent this quarter.

Observers say that strategy has paid off in a huge way. The fancy economists and intellectuals were prescribing policies to India that have now spelled a doom for the west. Fortunately, the team of economists under the government of India assessed the situation much better and did not cave into the immense pressure. Experts say that with passing time, more and more evidence as well as consensus is emerging that mindless stimulus did more harm in the long run even in those large economies which were fiscally surplus before the pandemic or were highly advanced.

ED seizes crores in mobile gaming app fraud

Team Absolute | Kolkata

As counting of notes seized by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) from the residence of city-based businessman Nasir Khan and his son Amir Khan in connection with the mobile gaming app fraud continues on Saturday evening, more Trinamool Congress leaders are coming up with their own logic to criticise the central agency action.

According to sources, over Rs 16 crore have been recovered till now from the Garden Reach residence of Amir Khan, who allegedly launched a mobile gaming application named E-Nuggets, which was designed for the purpose of defrauding the public.

Veteran Trinamool leader and three-time Lok Sabha member Saugata Roy claimed that the ED raids are deliberately meant to deprive the Trinamool Congress from any assistance from the business community in the future.

Earlier on Saturday afternoon, when the recovery amount was Rs 8 crore, state minister and Kolkata Mayor Firhad Hakim said the continuous raids and search



operations by the central agencies, in his opinion, are part of the Union government and BJP's ploy to show West Bengal in bad light and to destroy the state's economy.

Incidentally, the residence of Nasir Khan and Amir Khan at Shashi Astabal Lane in Garden Reach falls under the Kolkata Port Assembly constituency, which is held by Hakim since 2011.

Meanwhile, ED sources said that Amir Khan, who is the mastermind behind developing and launching the mobile gaming application that duped people of several crores of rupees, is absconding and his three

mobile phones are switched off since Saturday morning. ED officials are currently questioning his family members to find out his whereabouts.

As opposition leaders have started targeting Hakim alleging his connections with Nasir Khan, Hakim has said that recovery of money from the residence of a businessman that comes under his constituency does not make him an accomplice in the matter.

ED started conducting raids on Saturday morning under the provisions of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) at six premises in Kolkata.

SCAMSTERS CHEAT SII OF RS 1CR IN ADAR POONAWALA'S NAME

Pune: In a shocker, some unknown scammers have cheated the vaccine giant Serum Institute of India (SII) over at least Rs 1 crore by sending fraudulent messages in the name of its CEO Adar Poonawala seeking money transfers, an official of Bundgarden Police Station said here on Saturday.

The fraud transpired earlier this week and following a complaint, the police had lodged a First Information Report, said the official.

When contacted by reporter, the SII official declined to comment on the matter.

As per the police complaint, an SII director Satish Deshpande received a WhatsApp message purportedly from a person claiming to be Adar Poonawala and seeking the money transfers in installments to certain bank accounts.

Misled by the 'messages' from the CEO, the company officials effected online transfers of around Rs 1.01 crore, only to belatedly realise that they had been gypped as Poonawala never sent such messages or demanded the money.

Kerala snake boat race accident: Two Bodies recovered

Thiruvananthapuram | Agencies

The body of a youth, who reportedly went missing after a snake boat overturned in Kerala's Pamba river on Saturday, was recovered by scuba divers and rescue teams.

The deceased has been identified as 28-year-old Vineesh, a resident of Cherukol in Alappuzha district.

Earlier on Saturday, the body of another youth identified as 17-year-old Adidevan, a Class 12 student, was recovered from the Pamba river by the search and rescue teams.

One more person is suspected to be missing and his identity is yet to be known.

Heavy undercurrent in Pamba river due to incessant rains in the past few days which led to overturning of the snake boat, is also making the rescue



operation difficult.

However, locals have said that children were seen jumping in the boat which could have also led to overturning of the boat.

Chengannur MLA and former Minister, Saji Cherian told the media that scuba divers, fire department and the police are jointly carrying out the search and rescue operations for one more person, who is suspected to be missing.

Assam police arrest two suspected KLO linkmen

Kokrajhar: Two linkmen associated with banned insurgent outfit Kamatapur Liberation Organisation (KLO) were arrested by Assam police from Kokrajhar district on Saturday, officials said.

The two persons, who were nabbed by the police from the Serfanguiri area of the district, have been identified as Bishnu Rai and Tapas Rai.

A senior police officer informed that the accused KLO linkmen allegedly attempted to extort money from a local businessman, namely Sunil Mandal.

Mandal lodged a complaint with the police against Bishnu Rai and Tapas Rai and claimed that they were demanding money on behalf of KLO. On the basis of his complaint, the police launched an operation to arrest the duo.

A case under relevant sections has been registered against them.

Police are investigating to find further linkages of the two arrested persons with the banned militant outfit.

GUJARAT ATS, DRI SEIZE HEROIN WORTH RS 200 CR AT KOLKATA PORT

Gandhinagar | Agencies

Gujarat Anti Terrorist Squad (ATS) and

Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) in a joint operation have seized 39.5 kg of heroin, worth nearly Rs 200 crore in the international market, from Kolkata.

Director General of Police Ashish Bhatia told media persons that the ATS team had received a specific information about a scrap consignment imported in February is lying at the docks of the Kolkata sea port since landing, and it carries drugs.

The DGP said that based on the information, a ATS team with DRI Jamnagar



team were sent to Kolkata, where during the inspection it found some 12 gear boxes with white marks on it. When opened, 72 packs of heroin, having the net weight of 39.5 kg worth Rs 197.82 crore in the international market was found in the boxes.

The further investigation will be conducted by DRI.

Never Seen Climate Change On This Scale: UN Chief On Floods In Pakistan



Karachi | Agencies

United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said Saturday that he has "never seen climate carnage" on such a scale as he toured parts of Pakistan hit by floods, blaming wealthier countries for the devastation.

Nearly 1,400 people have died in flooding that covers an area the size of the United Kingdom and has wiped out crops and destroyed homes, businesses, roads and bridges.

Guterres has said he hopes his visit will galvanise support for Pakistan, which has put the provisional cost of the catastrophe at more than \$30 billion, according to the government's

flood relief centre.

"I have seen many humanitarian disasters in the world, but I have never seen climate carnage on this scale," he said at a press conference in the port city of Karachi after witnessing the worst of the damage in southern Pakistan.

"I have simply no words to describe what I have seen today." Pakistan receives heavy -- often destructive -- rains during its annual monsoon season, which is crucial for agriculture and water supplies.

But downpours as intense as this year's have not been seen for decades, while rapidly melting glaciers in the north have for months heaped pressure on waterways.

Gen Bipin Rawat Military Garrison only the third to be named after people

Kolkata | Agencies

India's first Chief of Defence Staff (CDS), late General Bipin Rawat, has now got a military garrison close to the Line of Actual Control (LAC) with China named after him.

On Saturday, the Indian Army garrison at Kibithu in Arunachal Pradesh was formally named Gen Bipin Rawat Military Garrison. Gen Rawat (then a Colonel) had commanded a unit of the 5/11 Gorkha Rifles at this garrison in 1999-2000. There are few military stations in India named after people. INS Netaji Subhas - the Indian Navy's headquarters in Kolkata - was probably the first one. The second one was Air Force Station Arjan Singh at Panagarh, also in West Bengal. Now, Gen Bipin Rawat has got an Indian Army Garrison with his name on it. During his tenure at Kibithu, a strategic location, Gen Rawat named a nearby feature as 'Bogra' to commemorate Battle Honour Bogra conferred on the 5/11 Gorkha Rifles after the 1971 Indo-Pak War. Bogra was a stronghold of the Pakistan

Army in East Pakistan that was captured by this Battalion before the onward march towards Dhaka and the Liberation of Bangladesh. During his tenure at Kibithu, Gen Rawat also improved civil-military ties and formalised the Border Personnel Meeting mechanism with China.

On Saturday, the military station was formally named as Gen Bipin Rawat Military Garrison by Arunachal Pradesh Governor Brig B.D. Mishra (ret) in the presence of Chief Minister Pema Khandu.

Gen Rawat's daughter was also present during the event. Chief Minister Khandu also named the 22-km-long road from Walong to Kibithu as Gen Bipin Rawat Marg.

According to the Indian Army, this was a befitting tribute to the General who died in a tragic helicopter crash in December 2021. An official said that Gen Rawat contributed immensely in strengthening the security of the area. The infrastructural development and social growth he brought about also benefited locals greatly.

BODY OF MEDICAL STUDENT KILLED IN ARMENIA REACHES MP'S REWA AFTER 14 DAYS

Team Absolute | Bhopal

The body of a 27-year-old medical student - Ashutosh Dwivedi, who was allegedly killed in Armenia on the intervening night of August 27-28 -- reached his hometown Madhya Pradesh's Rewa district on Saturday. Dwivedi's family members received the body at the Indira Gandhi International (IGI) Airport in Delhi at 2:30 am on Saturday following which it was taken to Rewa by an ambulance. As per reports, Dwivedi's body was found by the police in Yerevan, the capital of Armenia, on August 28 from near a shop located in an area called DeWitt Beck Street. Reports said that the Armenian police have arrested a 45-year-old man named Balwinder

Singh in connection with Dwivedi's murder. A family member told reporter that the body reached the village located under Tenothar town in Rewa district at around 3:30 pm on Saturday. The aggrieved family members waited for 14 days to retrieve the body after they got information regarding the murder of Ashutosh from the Indian Embassy in Armenia on August 28. The family members of the deceased confirmed that all expenses to bring back the body from Armenia to Delhi and then to the village were borne by the Madhya Pradesh government. "We are grateful to Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan for helping us bring the body. We are also grateful to the officials and the state administration and the Indian Embassy.

Global equity prices rise on news of Ukrainian advances in war against Russia

Russia's invasion of Ukraine has slowed global growth and raised inflation through large energy supply disruptions -- Russia accounts for well over 10 per cent of global oil and natural gas production. Grain supply has also been disrupted, leading to a spike in commodities prices.

An energy price shock and central bank pivot to fight inflation in Europe has further dampened investor sentiment. Recessions now look certain in Europe as prices of gas continue to accelerate into the winter, CNN reported.

New York | Agencies

Ukrainian forces have made sweeping advances in September in their fight against Russia, easing some investor fears of a prolonged war-induced energy crisis in Europe, the media reported. European markets closed higher Friday, as did markets in the Asia-Pacific area. The Dow jumped more than 200 points in the US and the major indexes appeared on track to end a three-week slump, the CNN reported. Equity prices tend to rise on news of Ukrainian gains or improvement on the ground, explained Joseph Brusuelas, chief



economist at RSM US, CNN reported. Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky claimed on Friday that the country's military has retaken more than 1,000 sq. km of territory since the beginning of this month, as they continue to press on in the Kharkiv and Kherson regions. Over the past three days,

Ukrainian forces have raised their country's flag in the Kharkiv settlement of Shevchenkove, an important Russian logistics hub inside Ukraine.

"If you map those three days over the direction of the market, said Quincy Krosby, chief global strategist for LPL Financial, it's clear that this is a contributing factor to equity gains. "This is good news, even at the margin," she added, CNN reported.

The war in Ukraine has been mentioned as a factor in about 250 S&P Global credit rating downgrades or outlook cuts since it began in late February. The increase in energy costs and interest rates globally means the impact is likely to spread.



20 DEAD IN PARTS OF MAHARASHTRA DURING IMMERSION OF GANESH IDOLS

Team Absolute | Mumbai

In Wardha district, three persons drowned at Sawangi, while another one died in a similar manner at Devli, an official said. Two persons drowned in a pond in the Yavatmal district when during the immersion of an idol, he said.

At least 20 persons died, 14 of them due to drowning, in different incidents that occurred during the immersion of Ganesh idols in parts of Maharashtra, police said on Saturday. The 10-day Ganesh festival, which had started on August 31, ended on Friday. In Wardha district, three persons drowned at Sawangi, while another one died in a similar manner at Devli, an official said. Two persons drowned in a pond in Yavatmal district when during the immersion of an idol, he said. In Ahmednagar district, two persons drowned in separate incidents at Supa and Belvandi, he said, adding that two others died in Jalgaon district of north Maharashtra - one each at Chalisgaon and Jamner. One person each died at Ghodegaon and Yavat in Pune district, in Dhule district, Lonikand in Satara district and Solapur city, he said. Four persons died in a road accident at Sakkardara area of Nagpur city during Ganesh immersion, he said. In Thane, a 55-year-old woman was killed and four others injured after a tree collapsed on a Ganesh pandal in Kolbad area due to heavy rains. The incident occurred on Friday night, a civic official said. "A huge tree fell on the pandal while the 'aarti' of Lord Ganesh idol was on as part ahead of its immersion. The woman, Rajashri Walavalkar, was



seriously injured in the mishap. She and other injured were rushed to a hospital, where she was declared brought dead," the official said. Meanwhile, at least 11 persons, including a nine-month-old child, were injured after suffering an electric shock at Panvel in Raigad district during a procession. The incident took place on Friday evening at Wadghar Koliwada after a cable of an electric generator snapped, an official said. "At least 11 persons, who were part of the procession, came in contact with the cable and sustained injuries. The injured include four children," he said. While some of them were rushed to a private hospital, others were taken to a state-run hospital in

Panvel, he said, adding that all are responding well to the treatment. Some incidents related to law and order situation were also reported in parts of the state during the immersion. A scuffle broke out between the supporters of Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde and Shiv Sena president Uddhav Thackeray at Tophkhana in Ahmednagar district, an official said. In Jalgaon, a group of people hurled stones at the mayor's bungalow during the Ganesh immersion procession, he said, while a clash broke out between two groups at Mundhwa in Pune city. A brawl occurred at Shikrapur in Pune district over bursting firecrackers, while in Chandrapur, a fracas was reported

between Ganesh mandal volunteers and police personnel, he added. In Mumbai, the Ganesh festival and the immersion procession passed off peacefully and no untoward incident was reported, police said. "#GaneshUtsav2022 in Mumbai conducted & celebrated peacefully, smoothly & enthusiastically. I thank all the Mumbaikars, Members of all the Ganesh Mandals & all the Lord Ganesh's devotees, who followed all instructions & cooperated with us, the MUMBAI POLICE!" the city police's Twitter handle said. Like every year, this year too we got an opportunity to serve the devotees, the Mumbai police said.

Amravati woman who went missing junks 'love jihad' allegation

A 19-year-old woman, who had gone missing Tuesday afternoon from Amravati city sparking 'love jihaad' allegations by local BJP leaders and Independent Lok Sabha member Navneet Rana, said she had not eloped.

Team Absolute | Mumbai

She also told the media that whatever Rana spoke about her is false. The woman, whose identity police have withheld, had left her home in Amravati city Tuesday afternoon and her parents had approached the local Rajapeth police station on Tuesday night and subsequently, a missing complaint was registered. She was found at the Satara railway station Wednesday night. The woman said she is being "defamed" and had left home to get information about some educational courses. The Rajapeth police said the woman does not have any complaint. She added, "Whatever Navneet Rana has spoken about me is false. I did not elope with anyone. I request people to stop defaming me. I had left home alone." Meanwhile, Rana did not respond to phone calls or text messages for a comment. Rana had termed the girl to be a victim of 'love jihad'. An accused, who is in his 20s, was detained by the police. Rana was echoed by local BJP



workers led by BJP spokesperson Shivraji Kulkarni who also claimed this was the fifth such case in the region. Rana had claimed that the woman was confined somewhere by members of a community. The Independent MP had created a fracas at the police station Wednesday saying senior inspector Manish Thakare had recorded her phone call when she had called him to ask for an update on the investigation and to act sternly against the man detained by them. Rana, on camera, was seen ranting and shouting at Deputy Commissioner

of Police Vikram Sali, saying who gave police the right to record phone calls of elected representatives and she will not leave the police station till the police commissioner comes to the police station. She was also heard saying, "If you catch his family members, if you bring their parents to the police station or catch his brother who is moving around freely, within one hour you will be able to trace the woman. There are so many such cases in Amravati. Amravati is getting a bad name because of this. I am an MP and I am answerable for this."

Mumbai Man Rescues Kidnapped Daughter From UP

Team Absolute | Mumbai

A daily-wage labourer rescued his 12-year-old daughter who was allegedly kidnapped from near her house in suburban Bandra in Mumbai and taken to Uttar Pradesh, police said on Saturday.

The accused identified as Shahid Khan (24) was employed in a garment manufacturing unit in Bandra and the victim's family lived in the same locality, an official said. The accused had allegedly asked the girl to accompany him for some shopping on September 4, but instead took her to Kuria, from where he boarded a bus to Surat with her and later reached Delhi by train, he said. The girl had given some excuse to her mother before stepping out of the house, and when she did



not return, her parents lodged a police complaint and a case of kidnapping was registered, he said. The girl's father, who is a daily-wage labourer, enquired with neighbours and people

in the locality and zeroed in on the accused with the help of the police, quite similar to Liam Neeson's character in the film 'Taken'. After finding out that he hailed from Aitroli village near Aligarh, the victim's father contacted the family of the accused and managed to rescue her with the help of local police and villagers, he added. "My daughter said the accused had raped her in an inebriated state in the bus to Surat," the girl's father claimed, demanding an FIR under relevant sections of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offence Act (POCSO) be registered. An FIR under section 363 (kidnapping) has been registered and more sections will be added once the victim's statement is recorded, an official from Nirmal Nagar police station said.

RBI using forex reserves 'sensibly' to defend rupee, lower outflow in festive season

Team Absolute | Mumbai

The Indian rupee, which was falling since the start of calendar year 2022 and touched lifetime lows multiple times, was defended by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) multiple times in a prudent manner by spending the country's forex reserves. "The erosion in the forex reserves amid the central bank's filling the gap between dollar demand-supply. The RBI has very well managed the inflows and outflows in the last couple of years," said Dilip Parmar, Research Analyst, HDFC Securities. According to the data compiled from the RBI's website, the central bank, since the start of this calendar year, has spent \$94.752 billion till date to defend rupee from a free fall. Since the



start of this financial year, it has used \$71.768 billion. As on August 26, the forex reserve of the country was \$561.046 billion, sharply lower from \$633.614 billion as on December 31, 2021. "The outflow has been global as all the risky assets have seen selloff including equities... metals sector has been impacted largely as slowdown signs in US along with recession on paper with

back to back lower GDP number in US has shifted all the cash flows to dollar, as in times of slowdown, dollar is best bet to beat the high inflation numbers," said Jateen Trivedi, VP Research Analyst at LKP Securities. Trivedi added that this has led to outflows by FPI FII in last few months which has made rupee weak, but comparing from current FY overall the rupee fall has been very less as Rupee has seen fall of 5 per cent, euro 10 per cent, pound 11.50 per cent, and the Japanese yen a massive 15 per cent, compared to USD. In the past few months, rupee has depreciated to record low on multiple occasions. On August 29, it had depreciated to all-time low of 80.15 against the US dollar due to strong American currency and firm crude oil prices.

Waiter Kills Colleague After Quarrel In Restaurant: Police

Team Absolute | Thane

A 60-year-old waiter of a restaurant was bludgeoned to death by his colleague following an argument in Dombivili town of Maharashtra's Thane district, police said Saturday. The police have registered a case under section 302 of the IPC against the 70-year-old accused who was injured in the incident that took place at a restaurant in Nilje village on Friday, an official said. The accused Avimannan Ayyadevar was having a drink with his colleague Sitappa alias Natarajan, when an argument ensued between the two, he said. The duo clashed with each other and the victim was attacked with a log of wood, the official said. Another employee of the restaurant found the accused bleeding and spotted the victim lying dead in a pool of blood in the store room of the establishment, he said, adding that the injured accused is undergoing treatment at a hospital.



Paytm on my watchlist, next multibagger to come from digital businesses: Dipan Mehta

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Indian digital businesses are witnessing rapid growth, aided by stronger adoption of online services in diverse segments, especially in the fintech landscape. In view of this development, Dipan Mehta, Director, Elixir Equities, recently said in an interview to a publication that he believes that the next set of multibagger stocks will come from digital businesses.

Elaborating on the subject, Mehta said the next set of multibaggers will come from concept stocks rather than mature businesses. He defined concept stocks as the ones where companies are doing something differently with a huge market and can be scaled up at a very low cost. He added that a lot of digital businesses fit this criteria, which is why he is bullish on stocks of companies like Paytm, India's leading digital payments and financial services company, and the pioneer of mobile and QR payments. For Paytm, Mehta said the stock is on his



watchlist and he tracks it "very closely". He went on to say that he could invest in the company in future, based on its profitability target and revenue source. Paytm shares have been gaining over the past few months and closed sharply higher on Friday at Rs

727 after a 2.83 per cent jump. "My simple submission is that one of these companies or most of these companies may turn out to be great value creators because of the way the business models are and our understanding of those business models," he said in the interview. In April, Paytm MD and CEO Vijay Shekhar Sharma shared a letter with shareholders, saying that the company will achieve operating EBITDA breakeven by September 2023, supported by stronger business momentum, scale of monetization and operating leverage. He also highlighted that the company plans to achieve this without compromising on any of its growth plans. Paytm has revolutionised digital payments in the country and paved the way for stronger financial inclusion. Several analysts are bullish on Paytm's business model and path to profitability. Top brokerages continue to maintain their BUY ratings for the stock, based on the scale the company is seeing in its unique high-margin businesses and subsequent revenue growth in each quarter.

Uddhav to Blame for Sena Split; My Focus is on Maharashtra, Not Delhi: Devendra Fadnavis

Former Maharashtra CM Uddhav Thackeray is responsible for the recent political turmoil in the state and it is his style of working that led to the split in the Shiv Sena, Deputy CM and senior BJP leader Devendra Fadnavis said on Saturday.

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Speaking at the event, Fadnavis also categorically stated that his focus remains on Maharashtra and not Delhi. "Only Uddhav Thackeray is responsible for the political debacle and crisis in Maharashtra. His working style is responsible for the Shiv Sena split. Around 30-40 MLAs left the Maha Vikas Aghadi alliance and Uddhav Thackeray had no idea about," Fadnavis said. "Uddhav ji used say in his speeches that 'you can try to bring down



my government'. I said 'one day your government will come down and you won't even realise it'. And that's exactly what happened," he added. Maharashtra underwent a sea change in power in June-July with Sena leader Eknath Shinde launching a rebellion against Thackerays' leadership.

Majority of MLAs sided with him, which led to the collapse of the Sena-NCP-Congress government led by Uddhav Thackeray. Shinde, with BJP support, was sworn in as CM on June 30, a day after Uddhav Thackeray quit the post.

Row over Tiger Memon kin's meeting BJP, Sena leaders

Team Absolute | Mumbai

A fresh row erupted between the Bharatiya Janata Party and the Shiv Sena over each other's photos and alleged 'links' with a kin of the absconding terror accused Mushtaq Abdul Razzak alias Tiger Memon, here on Saturday. The trigger was an undated video clip showing one Rauf Memon, the cousin of the dreaded Tiger Memon and his executed brother Yakub - with former Shiv Sena's Mumbai Mayor Kishori Pednekar, which went viral on Saturday. Grabbing the

opportunity, the BJP slammed Shiv Sena President 'Janaab' Uddhav Thackeray to link with the fracas over the renovation of the grave of the hanged terror convict Yakub Memon. Accusing the BJP of trying to defame it, the Shiv Sena hit back by circulating a purported undated photo of the same Rauf Memon with BJP's current Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis and present Minister Chandrakant Patil. Jumping into the cauldron, Congress General Secretary Sachin Sawant also tweeted a couple of pix showing Maharashtra Governor Bhagat Singh

Koshyari felicitating Rauf Memon with a query: "Is it the same Rauf Memon?" The developments came two days after a major brawl between the two erstwhile allies on the alleged 'make-over' of the grave of terror convict, Yakub Memon (hanged in 2015), located in the Bada Qabrastan in south Mumbai. "I had not gone to the grave as portrayed, but had visited a mosque... Anybody could have shot that video... The BJP is trying to defame us at every step and linking everything to Uddhav Thackeray Saheb," a livid Pednekar said.



STRICT ACTION SHOULD BE TAKEN AGAINST VIOLATORS IN UREA DISTRIBUTION: CM SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN

Chief Minister Chouhan took a follow-up meeting regarding supply of urea in Jabalpur. No farmer should face problem of fertiliser in any district. Arrests continue in the case of irregularities in urea distribution

Team Absolute | Bhopal

Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan has said that the urea sent to the farmers of Jabalpur region, instructions were given by the state government to distribute 70 percent from government agencies and 30 percent urea from private agencies. Strict action should be taken against whoever is responsible for violating these instructions. The culprits will not be spared under any circumstances. The persons responsible for the violation should be identified and such action should be taken against them so that no one dares to indulge in such acts in future. The availability of adequate urea should be ensured in the districts where urea is required.

Jabalpur Divisional Commissioner informed Chief Minister that action has been taken in the matter at two levels. So far, FIR has been lodged against three



people including transporter Dwarka Gupta, resident of Bilaspur,

Jaiprakash Singh, resident of Bhopal and Rajendra Chaudhary of Noida.

Jaiprakash Singh and Rajendra Chaudhary have been taken into custody. Shubham Birla and Naveen Jha of Jabalpur are also being questioned. Along with this, the process of raiding various godowns to recover urea is also going on. Chief Minister Shri Chouhan said that it should be ensured that no guilty manages to escape. The matter should be investigated in a scientific manner, as well as no innocent should be harassed unnecessarily.

Chief Minister Chouhan said that no farmer should face the problem of fertiliser in any district. If necessary, advance lifting of urea should be done. Adequate storage should be done after assessing the requirement for Rabi crop. Such a situation should not be created where the farmers have to form queues or face hardship for the fertiliser. Chief Minister received information about the availability of fertilisers in the district from Collector Ashoknagar.

CM Chouhan plants saplings on World Suicide Prevention Day

Team Absolute | Bhopal

Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan planted saplings along with Bhopal's renowned psychiatrist Dr. Satyakant Trivedi and his mother Prabha Devi on World Suicide Prevention Day (September 10).

Chief Minister Chouhan along with psychiatrist Dr. Satyakant Trivedi gave the message of "Say Yes to Life" to the people of the state on World Suicide Prevention Day. Dr Trivedi is running "Say Yes to Life" campaign against suicide. He believes that trees teach us optimism. We get the lesson of being flexible in temperament from the trees and plants. They do not resist the time of change, but adapt themselves according to winter, summer, sun, rain and autumn without resistance. Trees also teach us to struggle with external crises. Growth of a tree from a plant teaches us to struggle. Even after providing life-giving air and fruits, the tree never considers itself as superior and others as inferior,



because humility is the nature of the tree.

For the last three years, the organisation has planted a large number of saplings for environmental protection in Bhopal, Satna and

Bina of Sagar district. Along with this, it also runs a campaign Sakora for the world-less birds. Relief activities were also conducted by the organisation during the Covid pandemic.

REMEMBERING ANCESTERS



Devotees perform Tarpan rituals on the banks of the upper lake on the first day of Pitra Paksh in Bhopal on Saturday.

Shivraj Singh orders probe into financial irregularities in churches

Team Absolute | Bhopal

A day after Madhya Pradesh's Economic Offences Wing (EOW) conducted searches at the residence and office of Church of North India Jabalpur Diocese's bishop P.C. Singh in connection with a cheating case that led to the disclosure of large-scale financial irregularities, Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan on Friday ordered a probe into the activities of the concerned church and related trust headed by the accused Bishop.

Talking to the media on this issue, Chouhan said that massive financial irregularities on multiple counts have come to the fore after the EOW action. Chouhan said that the EOW search has resulted in the seizure of huge volume of cash, including foreign currency, documents pertaining to 17 properties, 48 bank accounts and eight four-wheelers.

"We've decided for a three-pronged probe into the entire matter. There is a possibility of the funds being invested in



illegal activities, including illegal religious conversion by the Church of North India and the associated trust and entities. The EOW will conduct a detailed probe into this serious issue, while the Jabalpur district administration too will have its own role in the probe," Chouhan said.

"The EOW and the district administration will also investigate complaints about land leased by the government to the trust and associated entities for religious, educational and medical purposes, actually being used for commercial

purposes," the CM added.

The Chief Minister further said that there have been complaints about taxes and stamp duties being evaded on a large scale by the trust and related entities in matters related to land lease renewal and related aspects through cheating and fraud.

Sources told IANS that the EOW had in 2015 received a complaint which alleged that bishop P.C. Singh, who is also the chairman of the Board of Education Church of North India Jabalpur Diocese, has siphoned off fees collected from students of the educational institutes (run by the Board) to religious entities as well as for his personal usage. It was also alleged that Singh had changed the name of the original society and became its president thereafter.

During the EOW probe into the complaint, it was prima facie established that around Rs 2.70 crore had been siphoned off to religious entities and personal use between 2004-05 and 2011-12.

Priest tied boy to tree for eating Almonds kept for offering

Team Absolute | Sagar

An 11-year-old boy was allegedly tied to a tree by a priest at a Jain temple for eating almonds kept as offerings in Sagar district, the police said on Saturday.

The police took action after the video of the incident surfaced on social media where the boy was seen crying and asking for help when the priest, Rakesh Jain, tied the boy to a tree with a rope. The incident took place inside the premises of Jain Siddhayan Mandir in Sagar's Kareela.

The priest said he suspected that the boy picked up almonds from the offerings,

and he tied him to a tree so that the minor couldn't run away. The boy and his family said that he was standing near the temple's gate and the priest got angry after he entered the temple, and allegedly beat him up. The police said there were injury marks on the minor's body.

Based on a complaint lodged by the boy's father, a case has been registered against Rakesh Jain, Moti Nagar police station in charge Satish Singh said.

A case has been registered against the accused priest under the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act and the matter is under investigation the official said.

FAKE ARMY OFFICIAL DUPED DOCTOR

Indore: A 70-year-old doctor in Indore was duped allegedly by a man posing as a military havildar, a police official said on Saturday.

Dr Rajkumar Mathur was called by a man who identified himself as an Army havildar posted in Jammu and Kashmir, said Tilaknagar police station in charge Manju Yadav.

"The accused said his younger brother required surgery for kidney stones for which he needed Rs 60,000. Amidst the conversation on online transfer of this amount, the accused managed to siphon off Rs 93,871 from the doctor's account," Yadav said.

A case has been registered under Indian Penal Code and Information Technology Act provisions and a probe was underway, the official added.

KAMAL NATH INVITES UMA BHARTI TO JOIN 'BHARAT JODO YATRA'

Team Absolute | Bhopal

Madhya Pradesh Congress Committee (MPCC) chief and former Chief Minister Kamal Nath on Saturday invited senior BJP leader Uma Bharti to join his party's ongoing 'Bharat Jodo Yatra' led by Rahul Gandhi.

Kamal Nath made this comment while reacting to Bharti's comment that there is "imbalance of casteism in the BJP government".

During a press conference at her official residence in Bhopal on Friday, Bharti claimed that leaders from different castes and regions are not given the place they deserve and it may create a big problem for the BJP in the coming days. Taking a dig at



BJP, Kamal Nath said, "I agree with Uma Bharti's statement that

the imbalance of casteism in Madhya Pradesh. Social justice is

the need of the hour. This is just a beginning, the BJP will face more challenges of casteism in the coming days. I would welcome Uma Bharti if she joins Congress' 'Bharat Jodo Yatra'." The veteran leader added that the Congress has set up as many as 34 'prakosth' (departments) so that people associated with all religions and castes can be added to mainstream politics so that they get equal opportunity to represent their groups. Meanwhile, Kamal Nath also slammed the BJP for commenting on Rahul Gandhi's T-shirt. "Today BJP is looking at Rahul Gandhi's T-shirt...The day is not far when they (BJP leaders) will comment on his (Rahul Gandhi) shoes. They are not seeing the people supporting the 'Bharat Jodo Yatra'," Nath added.

PRIME MINISTER NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP FAIR WILL BE HELD IN 12 DISTRICTS FROM SEPTEMBER 12 TO 16

Bhopal: The Prime Minister National Apprenticeship Fair will be organised by the Skill Development Department from September 12 to 16 at Government ITIs Balaghat, Anuppur, Seoni, Chhindwara, Katni, Narsinghpur, Satna, Singrauli, Sidhi, Umaria, Divisional ITIs Jabalpur and Rewa. In these, recruitment of apprenticeship posts will be done by various establishments of the country and the state.

ITI Engineering and Non-Engineering Trade, Diploma, Engineering, Skill Certificate (PMKY/DDUGKY/MMKSY/MMKY/YSY) holders and other graduate passed male and female candidates can participate in the Apprenticeship Fair. Successful candidates will get stipend and other facilities as per Apprentice Act 1961.

Eligible applicants can register for the Prime Minister National Apprenticeship Fair on the online registration link <https://forms.gle/nwHQJc4TnSkPrj1x5> till September 12. Offers and contract letters will be given to selected candidates of PMNAM in the state level convocation ceremony for ITI trainees to be held on September 19.

"WORLD SUICIDE PREVENTION DAY 2022" was observed in AIIMS Bhopal

Team Absolute | Bhopal

World Suicide prevention day observed in AIIMS Bhopal. Prof. Dr Vijender Singh, Head Deptt of Psychiatry, shared the prevalent problems of mental health issues and suicidal behaviours in general public and medical students.

As a part of the event, there was a poster competition and Essay writing competition among students on the sensitive topics of Cultural aspects of suicide prevention and "Medical students as driver for change suicide behaviours".

Following unbiased and neutral judging, the best 3 entries were given awards during the event. Both these activities were aimed at changing the attitude of students towards suicide.

As part the event there was a



training workshop for students on topic "Gate keeper training for preventing suicide". This workshop was carried out by faculty of Department Dr Snehl Gupta, Dr Tamonud Modak and Dr Jyotsna Jain.

As part this workshop there was a role play about suicidal behaviour. This workshop aimed at providing hands on orienta-

tion and training to potential trainees of Institute (MBBS & Nursing students). Dr Mudda Sofia and Dr. Shweta Mishra from Dept. of AYUSH also conducted a Breathing and Relaxation Yoga session to emphasize the role of Yoga & meditation in mental health.

This workshop emphasized on need for creating knowledge,

appropriate attitude and right approach towards suicidal behavioral.

This event was concluded by Prof. Dr Vijender Singh with emphasis on 1. Involvement of all stakeholders in preventing suicide

2. Creating awareness, inculcating a positive attitude towards persons with mental illnesses and those with suicidal behaviours
3. Not to ignore warning signs/behaviours about suicidal behaviours
4. Need for inculcating healthy lifestyle, relationship, spending time friends and dear ones and discouraging excessive time spent with electronic gazettes like mobile phones
5. Need for students and stakeholders to be gatekeepers for preventing suicides.

Mineral Minister urges Central Government to restart Panna NMDC mine

Team Absolute | Bhopal

Mineral Minister Brijendra Pratap Singh has urged the Central Government to give permission to restart the Bunder Project and Panna NMDC mine in the state. Both these projects are pending for consideration before the committee of the Union Ministry of Forests as they are in the forest area. With the coordinated efforts of the Union Ministry of Mines and Coal and the Union Forest Ministry, many issues in the mineral sector can be resolved.

Mineral Minister Singh said that with the starting of Bunder Project and Panna NMDC mine, revenue of more than Rs. 23 thousand crore will be generated. Thousands of people will get direct and

indirect employment and many works of social welfare will also be done.

Singh said that the NMDC mine was operational since 1968. After many years it was closed as it came under the national park area of the forest department. This is a vertical mine, so there is no damage to the forest area. Approval has been received from the Centre and the Forest Department of Madhya Pradesh to start it again. The matter is pending before the Power Committee of the Centre. The NMDC mine can be restarted in coordination with the Union Ministry of Mines and Coal. Mineral Minister Shri Singh said that the royalty of limestone also needs to be updated. If it is upgraded then the government will get more revenue.



Los Angeles | Agencies

Reality TV star Kylie Jenner has been accused of poorly editing a photo for a new beauty campaign. Kylie has been slammed by fans for a "Photoshop fail" picture in which she posed with her mum Kris Jenner. The reality star was promoting a new addition to her Kylie Cosmetics skincare collection when she posted a photo to the brand's Instagram of herself in a black strapless top.

Her momager Kris was seen posing in a pair of black out sunglasses and a black turtleneck top which made her head look as though it was floating.

The pair's outfits were

Kylie Jenner slammed for 'photoshop fail'

barely visible as they posed with their impossibly smooth legs crossed as they blended into the solid black background. Their legs poked out from their invisible torsos and they both accessorised with stilettos. The post was captioned: "I have one word for tonight vodka. The snap has garnered over 145,000 likes but not everyone is impressed with the image.

"Kris' floating head though," one person commented disapprovingly. Another rolled their eyes and wrote: "The Kris legs for me."

It's not the first time Kylie has been accused of a photoshop fail.

A body part seemed to go 'missing' when the reality star was promoting another new addition to her skincare collection. However, some fans who saw the pictures were left distracted by Kylie's missing kneecaps in one full length photo, as they claimed the snap had been so over-edited that she was completely missing them all together.

Gay rom-com 'Bros' wins over TIFF

Billy Eichner thanks Toronto for 'letting comedy into a movie festival'

Los Angeles | Agencies

Billy Eichner's 'Bros' is breaking all kinds of barriers: It's the first gay rom-com ever made by a major studio, the first with an all openly LGBTQ cast and Eichner is the first openly gay man to ever write and star in a studio movie. Audiences finally got to see the movie for themselves in Toronto and, judging by the shrieks of laughter throughout the screening, it was a hit. "I want to thank TIFF for letting a comedy into a movie festival!" Eichner yelled to the audience before the film rolled, making a valid point about the dearth of studio comedies that world premiere at top international film festivals. Eichner stars in 'Bros' as Bobby, a frail museum head who's down on his luck with the complicated, modern dating world. That is, until he runs into Luke Macfarlane's Aaron, a buff lawyer who's the complete opposite of Bobby -- but changes everything for him. Like any rom-com, the two have their own meet-cute that turns into a whirlwind romance. Nicholas Stoller directs the film, which also features Bowen Yang, Jim Rash, Dot-Marie Jones, Harvey Fierstein and more hilarious cast members. In the Q&A, both Eichner and Macfarlane spoke to the wider significance of 'Bros' and what the movie will come to represent for the LGBTQ community. "I can't help but think of the journey Aaron goes on, and what I would be, watching this movie if I was 18, 19-years-old," said Macfarlane. Eichner added that the LGBTQ national history museum in the film is still very much a fictional concept and "exists in 'Bros' before it exists in real life in America".



Bella Hadid about having eating disorders

Los Angeles | Agencies

Model Bella Hadid says she wept "every day" and was stricken with eating disorders and chronic anxiety as a teen before she shot to fame as a model. In an interview with a magazine, the 25-year-old opened up about her youth as she said that she was smoking heavily from the age of 14 and suffered body dysmorphia after she found success. "Growing up, I thought it was normal that I had this chronic anxiety and this dissociation, crying every day and not knowing who I was," she recalled.

"Whether it was eating disorders or smoking a pack of Marlboros since the age of 14, I'm like, 'Oh, this is what all of the kids are doing'. I realised that maybe that was me trying to figure out why I felt that way. And in reality, all I needed was therapy." Hadid went on to talk about struggling with body dysmorphia in her early days as a model. "During that part of my life, I was so out of body, disassociating so much... I was so confused by what people saw of me," the younger sister of model Gigi Hadid added. She is now getting ready to make her acting debut in series 'Ramy', which tells of a first-generation American-Muslim torn between his family's traditional and modern American culture. Bella said about revelling in her Palestinian heritage during shooting.

"To go onto a set and see multiple Palestinians, Arabs, and people that are cut from the same cloth as me was really, really beautiful." She added about her belief speaking out for Palestinians amid the ongoing conflict with Israel previously costing her work. "A few companies won't work with me anymore, and a few people may think I'm crazy. But that doesn't bother me and it doesn't compare to what Palestinians suffer on a daily basis."



wants to direct movies: Taylor Swift

Los Angeles | Agencies

Singer Taylor Swift brought 'All Too Well: The Short Film' to the Toronto International Film Festival for a discussion in front of scores of fans. TIFF CEO Cameron Bailey asked if Swift would be interested in one day making feature films, and she said yes, if she could find the right material. "I'd love to keep taking baby steps forward," she said. "And I think that I'm at a place now where the next baby step is not a baby step. It would be committing to making a film. And I feel like I would just absolutely love for the right opportunity to arise because I just absolutely, absolutely adore telling stories this way." When questioned further about features, she said: "If it was the right thing, it would be such a privilege and an honour."

Discussing the types of narratives she wants to explore, Swift said: "I think I will always want to tell human stories about human emotion. I never say never, but I can't imagine myself filming an action sequence. If it happens one day, honestly, that'll be funny character growth, but at this point, I could see it going in a more comedic, irreverent place."

"I don't always see myself telling stories about extreme, guttural heart-break at your most formative age that debilitates you emotionally for years and then you have to develop the scar tissue in order to move on with your life, and limp your way to your typewriter and write a novel about it. I think I've done that."

Swift also discussed the films that influenced the 'All Too Well' project. "In my mind, there's this period of time in the '70s where we started seeing these romantic films where these two characters are so beautifully, intimately woven together and then they just unravel the braid right in front of you and you just can't believe it, like, 'Love Story.'" And so those are the ones that I think, because I love those films just hitting those emotional touchstones that those films just punch me in the stomach and hit."

ABSOLUTE PIC OF THE DAY



Khloe Kardashian

ARIANA DEBOSE TO STAR IN AN ANIMATED FEATURE

Los Angeles | Agencies

For decades wishes have been an important part of Disney history, as seen in songs like 'When You Wish Upon a Star' to 'A Dream Is a Wish Your Heart Makes'. Disney's upcoming movie, aptly titled 'Wish', is taking that concept to the next level, the company announced at the D23 Expo on Friday. The new, animated film takes place in Rosas, the kingdom of wishes, it was announced at the D23 Expo on Friday. The movie focuses on the power of wishes, and it blends the classic watercolour-esque Disney animation style with a newer, CGI look. Ariana DeBose will play Asha, the 17-year-old heroine and protagonist of 'Wish'. Jennifer Lee wrote the film, with Chris Buck, Fawn Veerashunthorn directing. DeBose treated the D23 audience to a live performance of 'More for Us', one of the songs from 'Wish'. DeBose recently won an Oscar for best supporting actress in 'West Side Story', which co-starred upcoming 'Frozen', 'Big Hero Six', 'Moana', 'Raya and the Last Dragon' and 'Encanto'. The actor will also portray the father Mr. Darling in the upcoming live-action Disney+ film 'Peter Pan and Wendy'. It follows the upcoming 'Strange World', a sci-fi adventure film starring Jake Gyllenhaal and directed by Don Hall. Other upcoming animated films distributed by Disney include the Pixar film 'Elemental', set for release in June 16, 2023.





SRI LANKA, PAKISTAN EYE WELL-CONTESTED ASIA CUP 2022 TITLE

Dubai | Agencies

Sri Lanka and Pakistan, who began their campaign with losses and later made remarkable comebacks, will take the field for the last time in the tournament, with an aim to win a well-contested Asia Cup 2022 title at the Dubai International Cricket Stadium, here on Sunday. Sri Lanka, who came to the tournament after a socio-economic crisis and turmoil in their country, suffered an eight-wicket loss against Afghanistan in their opening game. However, since then, the Dasun Shanaka-led side haven't lost a game and are on a four-match winning streak. On the other hand, Pakistan had lost a close game against their arch-rivals in their campaign opener. However, they also won the crucial games and managed to reach the finals. Sri Lanka, in their 11th final in this tournament, are aiming to take their Asia Cup title tally to 6 while Pakistan are looking to add their third to the trophy cabinet. Before the all-important final, both teams faced each other in a Super Four game on Friday where Sri



Lanka beat Pakistan by five wickets. It was a kind of dress rehearsal before the summit clash and they must have gotten a glimpse into each other's strengths and weaknesses. In the final, Pakistan will look to improve their batting effort against Sri Lanka's spin

potency. The top-six of Babar Azlam team folded at less than 120 against spinners in T20s since 2021 so the spin department led by Wanindu Hasaranga could define Sri Lanka's fate in this fixture. Pakistan batters clearly struggled against Sri

Lanka spinners on Friday. Even part-timer Dhananjaya de Silva had them on strings, finishing with a spell of 1 for 18 in which he didn't concede a single four. Pakistan have also repeatedly lost momentum in the post-PowerPlay phase of 7 to 10 overs -- a phase that Sri Lanka spinners could look to maximise. Also, they have tried different combinations in batting during the middle overs, which haven't allowed anyone to master the specific role. So, Shadab Khan, who was tidy with the bat at No. 5 in the thriller against Afghanistan, could once again counter Sri Lanka's spin threat. The bowling line-up have been Pakistan's strength in the ongoing tournament despite the absence of a few key fast bowlers. Naseem Shah and Shadab Khan, who were rested on Friday, should return to Pakistan eleven for the final. On the other hand, the toss could be an important factor for Sri Lanka. They have had the advantage of bowling first in each of their four victories, so the flip of fortunes at the toss could come as a stern test. Apart from their spin bowling, Sri Lanka also has had solid contributions from their top-five batters.



TEAM INDIA NEEDS MULTI-FACETED BOWLING LINE-UP WITH INJECTION OF PACE FOR MEN'S T20 WORLD CUP

New Delhi | Agencies

After a disappointing campaign at the Asia Cup 2022, Indian cricket team needs to rethink their strategy especially in the bowling lineup, which is lacking sheer pace and penetration, before leaving for Australia next month for the all important Men's T20 World Cup. At the Asia Cup, in absence of injured Jasprit Bumrah and Harshal Patel, the Indian fast bowlers looked flat, lacked that penetration and killer instinct -- required to seize crucial moments in a big game. Against slightly weaker opponents, they seemed to do a decent job but when quality batters put them under pressure, they faltered. As always, the experienced campaigner Bhuvneshwar Kumar looked lethal with the new ball in the Asia Cup except the one game against Sri Lanka. But, his poor

outing in the 19th over in the two consecutive games against Pakistan and Sri Lanka (he leaked 19 and 14 runs), cost India the game. There is no doubt that Bhuvneshwar has evolved as a death bowler over a period of time and also fetched success both in IPL and at the international level. But, the lack of pure pace does not make him as feared as someone like Bumrah, which will be a worry for India on true Australian pitches. During his five-wicket haul against Afghanistan, Bhuvneshwar showed his mastery with swing but as a senior bowler, he is expected to provide wickets with both new and old ball without being one-dimensional. On the other hand, young left-arm pacer Arshdeep Singh also did well in patches. He was accurate with his length and lines in the death overs but he also doesn't have that pace which can rattle batters at the tops.

SPANIARD CARLOS ALCARAZ SETS UP US OPEN TITLE CLASH AGAINST NORWAY'S CASPER RUUD

New York | Agencies

Spanish youngster Carlos Alcaraz made it to his maiden Grand Slam final, with the third seed battling past home favourite Frances Tiafoe 6-7(6), 6-3, 6-1, 6-7(5), 6-3 in four hours and 19 minutes to set up a winner-takes-all US Open clash against Casper Ruud of Norway on Saturday (IST). Ruud moved past Russia's Karen Khachanov 7-6(5), 6-2, 5-7, 6-2 to reach his second Grand Slam final, further boosting his chances of rising to No. 1 in the ATP Rankings. Alcaraz, who too is in line to become the new No. 1 should he win the summit clash, is the second teen to make the US Open final in the Open Era, joining the legendary Pete Sampras of the US. "To be honest in the semifinal of a Grand Slam you have to give everything... we have to fight until the last ball. It doesn't matter if we are fighting for five hours, six hours. It doesn't matter. You have to give everything on court," Alcaraz was



quoted as saying by ATP. "Frances (Tiafoe) gave everything on court. This is amazing. Alcaraz has now won three successive five-setters lasting a total of 13 hours and 28 minutes, and if the Spaniard wins the title on Sunday, he will become the youngest world No. 1 in the history of the ATP Rankings since 1973. "It's amazing to be able to fight

for big things. First time in the final of a Grand Slam. I can see the No. 1 in the world, but at the same time it's so far away," Alcaraz said. "I have one more to go against a player who is unbelievable. He deserves to play a final. He played the final of a Grand Slam in Roland Garros. This is my first time. "I'm going to give everything that I have. I will have to handle the nerves of being in a final of a Grand Slam, but obviously I'm really, really happy and as I said before every match, I'm going to enjoy. I'm going to enjoy the moment and let's see what happens

ODISHA CM LAUNCHES HOST CITY LOGO OF THE STATE

Bhubaneswar | Agencies

Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik on Saturday launched the official host city logo of the state for the upcoming FIFA U-17 Women's World Cup India 2022. Odisha is one of the three hosts for the World Cup, which is scheduled to be held between October 11-30 across Odisha, Goa and Maharashtra. This will be the first FIFA women's competition to be held in India and the first FIFA competition to be hosted by Odisha. Expressing delight at the launch event, Patnaik said, "Odisha is emerging as a leading sports destination and hosting the FIFA U-17 Women's World Cup India 2022 is a momentous opportunity for our state. "The official host city logo launch of Odisha is an important milestone which also signifies the progress of women's football, he said. "We are excited to host the best



young female footballers from across the world and especially, the Indian team who will be playing all their group stage games at the Kalinga Stadium," said the Chief Minister. As the Indian team makes its first appearance in a FIFA women's com-

petition, he encouraged the people of Odisha to show their support in strong numbers at the stadium. The official host city logo of Odisha is a composite that presents the official emblem of the FIFA U-17 Women's World Cup beside a specially-

designed artwork that showcases the rich cultural heritage, vibrant sporting ecosystem and overall splendour of the state. Project directors of the Local Organising Committee (LOC) for the tournament, Ankush Arora and Nandini Arora, also conveyed their sentiments of gratitude, while encouraging the people to visit the Kalinga Stadium in Bhubaneswar. On the occasion, a special initiative for school children called the 'Kick Off The Dream Football Carnival' was also inaugurated. This carnival, aimed at introducing football to children and leveraging its power to normalise gender-inclusive participation, features football-themed games and activities as well as one five-a-side football pitch and two three-a-side football pitches. The 'Kick Off the Dream Football Carnival' will engage nearly 60,000 school children over 35 days and conclude on October 17, 2022.

Virat Kohli's heartfelt message to Aaron Finch on his ODI retirement

Melbourne | Agencies

Former India skipper Virat Kohli on Saturday wished Australia white-ball captain Aaron Finch on his retirement from One-day International (ODI) cricket, saying it was great to play with and against him over the years. While Kohli and Finch were involved in several nail-biting matches between the two countries, the Australian was also a part of Indian Premier League (IPL) side Royal Challengers Bangalore (RCB) during the 2020 season where he played alongside the charismatic Indian cricketer. Finch will play his last ODI on September 11 when he will lead Australia in the third and final



game against New Zealand at Cairns. Australia have already taken an unassailable lead in the three-match series. Finch took to Instagram after announcing his retirement and thanked the cricketers' fraternity. "It's been one hell of a ride! To play with and against some of the greatest players of all

time has been a privilege. Representing Australia was my dream as a kid and to have been the opportunities I have is beyond anything I could've hoped for. Thanks so much for all of the kind words, messages and well wishes!" wrote the 35-year-old Finch. In response, Kohli wrote, "Well

done finchy. It was great to play against you all these years and with you as well at rcb. Enjoy the next phase of your life to the fullest." In a statement issued by Finch on Cricket Australia (CA) website on Saturday, Finch said, "It has been a fantastic ride with some incredible memories. I have been extremely fortunate to be a part of some brilliant one-day sides. Equally, I have been blessed by all those I have played with and the many people behind the scenes. "It is time now to give a new leader the best possible opportunity to prepare for and win the next (50-over) World Cup. I thank all of those who have helped and supported my journey to this point," added Finch.

OPENING BATSMAN TO SCORE 5,000 RUNS, IT'S A GREAT EFFORT: WATSON ON ELGAR MILESTONE

Dubai | Agencies

Former Australia all-rounder Shane Watson has lauded South Africa skipper Dean Elgar for being on the cusp of reaching the 5,000-run mark in Test cricket, saying that it is a great effort for an opening batter to score that many runs in the longest format of the game. Elgar needs 66 runs in the final Test against England at The Oval to get 5,000 runs in Test cricket. Currently in 78 Tests, Elgar has 4,934 runs at an average of 39.15, including 13 centuries and 22 fifties since his debut in the format in 2012. "It's a brilliant effort. For an opening batsman to score five thousand runs, it's a great effort. There's no question about that. He's a tough, gritty batsman, knows his game inside-out, knows how to be really effective, and 5,000 runs -- there's not a lot of people in the history of Test cricket who have not been able to do that," said Watson on The ICC Review show. With Elgar predominantly being a Test specialist for South Africa (he has just eight ODI appearances), Watson feels the free schedule allows the 35-year-old to preserve his body and continue piling up the runs in the longest format of the game,



possibly for next four-five years as well. "Only playing Test cricket, there's enough downtime to be able to stay fresh and keep that freshness for the next four-five years. I'm sure he'll be making the most of that. He certainly can play for another four, five years I think, with his performances still being very high, and he's a great leader around the group as you can see with his captaincy as well." "He's still got a fair way to go, I believe. It's a big series (against England away from home), and as captain of South Africa, he's doing a brilliant job.

LEGENDS LEAGUE CRICKET:

SEHWAG, KALLIS TO LEAD INDIAN MAHARAJAS, WORLD GIANTS IN BENEFIT MATCH



New Delhi | Agencies

The Legends League Cricket will kickstart with a benefit match involving Indian Maharajas and World Giants at the Eden Gardens in Kolkata on September 16. The Indian Maharajas will be led by India's most successful opening batter, Virender Sehwag, while the World Giants will be led by South African cricketer great and revered all-rounder, Jacques Kallis. Meanwhile, the countdown for the Legends League Cricket has started as the Cricketers greats from 10

nations are set to descend on Kolkata with the league. With the urge to watch the Legends in action again, there has been a demand for the tickets as fans are gearing up to watch their heroes dominate the 22 yards once again. Tickets for all matches are currently available on Bookmyshow. Raman Raheja, Co-Founder & CEO, of Legends League Cricket, said, "There has been huge demand from fans and we have already started feeling the excitement too. The numbers on Bookmyshow are fast picking up across all cities as well as inquiries for hospitality packages have been very very encouraging. We hope to give fans a world-class experience at every touch point whether on the field or digitally and that is the reason why we have handpicked our stakeholders too. "Delhi will be hosting three league stage matches, starting with India Capitals vs Bhillwara Kings on September 22 at the Arun Jaitley Stadium followed by Gujarat Giants and Bhillwara Kings and a marquee clash between the Giants and India Capitals at 4 PM, wherein both the Delhi Boys, Sehwag, and Gambhir will play against each other.

NATIONAL MOTORCYCLE RACING:

Schoolboy Shreyas Hareesh notches first win in Novice class

Chennai | Agencies

Bengaluru schoolboy Shreyas Hareesh (Rockers Racing) pulled off a sensational lights-to-flag victory, his first, in the Novice (Stock 165cc) category, defeating riders almost twice his age in the fourth round of the Indian National Motorcycle Racing Championship 2022 here on Saturday. Meanwhile, KY Ahamed led a 1-2-3 finish for the Petronas TVS Racing team in the Pro-Stock 301-400cc Open category while Pacer Yamaha enjoyed a double podium with Prabhu Arunagiri taking a win at the Madras International Circuit. His teammate Mathana Kumar finished third behind Idemitsu Honda SK69 Racing's Rajiv Sethu in the Pro-Stock 165cc Open race. Ahamed, Deepak Ravikumar and Jagan Kumar came home in that order in the premier Pro-Stock 301-400cc category with defending champion Rajini Krishnan (RACR Castrol Power1) limping home in seventh place after losing the gear shift lever in the second lap and the engine stuck in fifth gear. The



race itself fell flat after Ahamed, starting from pole position, opened a sizable gap ahead of Ravikumar and Jagan Kumar, and Rajini Krishnan, fading from the contest, and the rest of the pack unable to match the pace of the front-runners, the organisers informed in a release on Saturday. Later, in the Pro-Stock 165cc Open category race, Prabhu Arunagiri snatched a dramatic win, closely followed by Sethu and Mathana Kumar. The trio crossed the finish line almost locked together after championship leader Mathana Kumar conceded his track position in the last lap, running wide at Turn-11, to fall from first to third. The race was reduced to five laps due to a delayed start with pole-sitter KY Ahamed (Petronas TVS Racing) starting from the pit lane. Earlier, 12-year-old Shreyas, a sixth standard student of Kensri School in Bengaluru, started from P3 on the grid, but was in the lead even before Turn-1 and then hung on to notch his maiden win in the category. It was his first outing in the Novice class this season, having skipped the previous three rounds.



SUNNY LEONE TO PLAY QUEEN MAYASENA IN TAMIL HORROR COMEDY

Team Absolute | Chennai

The unit of director Yuvan's upcoming horror comedy, 'Oh My Ghost', featuring actor Sunny Leone in the lead, released the theatrical trailer of the film.

The trailer shows Sunny Leone playing a queen called Mayasena. It also shows her to be the ghost.

"You would have watched me singing and dancing. Have you watched me in action?" she asks as she delivers a powerful kick to a person.

Director Yuvan, in an

earlier interview, had said: "This is a fantasy film. So, the role that Sunny Leone plays is not representative of any region or time period."

The director had then explained that he was looking for a person, who could look supercilious and at the same time cool and that was when he realised Sunny Leone would be perfect for the character. Yuvan had also

disclosed that Sunny Leone had loved the script and that she laughed quite a lot during its narration.

Sunny Leone, for her part, had said: "There are some films that are able to make you chuckle at a script level. I enjoyed doing the film for just that reason."

Talking about the film, Sunny had said earlier: "It (The film) is scary in parts and so funny in others. I think that's such a clever combination. It's hard to make people laugh and I did put in the extra effort in nailing the timing."

"Besides that, I also learnt my dialogues with my diction coach. It's a special film and I can't wait for the world to see it."

Ramya Pandian unlocked new passion

Team Absolute | Chennai

Actress Ramya Pandian, known for her brilliant performance in critically acclaimed films like director Raju Murugan's 'Joker', has taken a fascination for the sport of shooting.

Taking to Instagram, the actress on Saturday posted a series of pictures of herself on a shooting range and said: "When unexpected things take you by surprise, there's nothing like it. Last weekend, I unlocked a new passion, thanks to Rajsekar Pandian sir."

"Thank you for having me in the range, teaching me and motivating me. My first time, that too with a gun -- Antonio Zoli, 175th anniversary edition, one of the only hundred guns in the world -- It's been a wonderful experience at the Royal Pudukkottai Sports Club, Trichy. Thank you Prithviraj Tondaiman for being a great host."

"And now, an Honorary member of the RPSC is beyond what I could've imagined. This chapter is to be continued in Chennai."

The actress also posted a video clip of her firing shots at the shooting range. Well-known producer Rajsekar Pandian is also seen in the video guiding the actress.

FASCINATED WITH SHOOTING



I am excited to play my dream Role: Karan Pahwa

And on how tough it was to shoot in a costume weighing 15 kg

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Actor Karan Pahwa is currently seen in the show 'Alibaba Dastaan-e-Kabul' playing an entirely different role from what he has done previously.

Though, he is happy to play his 'dream role' at the same point he found it challenging as well as he has to shoot wearing a heavy costume of nearly 15 kg of weight. He said: "It was my dream to play a costume drama character and when I heard about this role and I saw the look of my character, trust me, I became a fan of my look. I believe in versatility and here I am getting a chance to showcase my all emotions from action to big dialogues." And it takes hours to get into the look of my on-screen personality, he added.

Karan says: "Every day I took two to three hours to get into my look from makeup to costume and I'm wearing a very heavy costume whose weight is around 15 kg."

"It is very tough to wear such a heavy costume for an entire day shoot but yes to look real I do because I never compromise with my look. I'm getting a nice response from the audience and fans."



APARSHAKTI: I LOVE DOING LIGHTHEARTED ROLES

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Actor Aparshakti Khurana, who will be seen in 'Dhokha - Round D Corner' and 'Berlin', credits his lighthearted roles for teaching him about emotions and acting. In 'Dhokha - Round D Corner', he is playing a Kashmiri terrorist and will be seen doing an action sequence in the movie 'Berlin'. Aparshakti said: "Let me tell you first, I love doing all the lighthearted roles I have done. Those were the roles that taught me a lot about emoting and acting. But as an actor, I am a little greedy about trying out new stuff." He added: "I want to push myself out of my comfort zone to see myself doing something that has grey or a darker shade. I am also excited, not just for myself, but also because it will be something new for the audience."

"Dhokha - Round D Corner" is a suspense thriller directed by Kookie Gulati which also stars R. Madhavan, Khushali Kumar and Darshan Kumar in key roles. To prepare for the role, the actor went through an intense training to get his Kashmiri accent right. He was being trained by a Kashmiri tutor for it.

"Berlin", which also stars Ishwak Singh of Rocket Boys fame, is a spy thriller and is set in the early 90's in Delhi. It is written and directed by Atul Sabharwal of the Netflix crime thriller Class of '83 fame.

Lighthearted roles taught me about emotions



I am fitness freck: Reyhna Pandit

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Actress Reyhna Pandit, who is seen as Aaliya in her current show is a fitness freak, she never compromises and manages to follow her health regime despite a tight shooting schedule.

The actress has developed a new hobby of learning martial arts, for which she is putting in all efforts. She said: "I have been a fitness enthusiast for a long time now, be it a workout form or maintaining a style of diet, I have tried pretty much everything. Martial arts have been on my bucket list for a while now, and despite my busy schedule, I have always managed to take out time for it, because it's like a meditation for me."

She also spoke about the benefits of martial arts and why she thinks that it is good for everyone. "I must say that martial art is a great form of exercise as it has several health benefits. It helps us not only improve our physical health but also our mental health. It helps develop flexibility and lose weight, keeps blood pressure in check, and many more. I would personally recommend everyone to join martial arts to maintain a healthy lifestyle," she said, motivating others also to learn it.

WHAT I AM TODAY, I OWE IT COMPLETELY TO MY AUDIENCE: KAPIL SHARMA

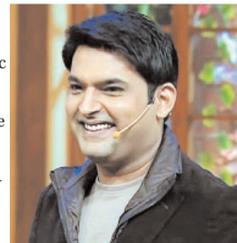
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That banter, tickling jokes, and comic acts are all set to return to the stage of 'The Kapil Sharma Show', and this time, as the host said, it is going to be more entertaining with some new and old faces, who are going to make everyone laugh with their hilarious performances.

Kapil gives credit for his success to the audience and also talks about what new he is going to bring this time on the show.

He said: "To begin with, what I am today, I owe it completely to my audience who have continued to support me in all my endeavours these years. I have always enjoyed making my viewers laugh and during the period that I was away, it gave me a lot of time to introspect on what new things I can bring this time around for them."

"All I can say is that we are ready with full force to bring some zabardast entertainment this new season."



INSTAGRAM PIC OF THE DAY



Shobita Rana