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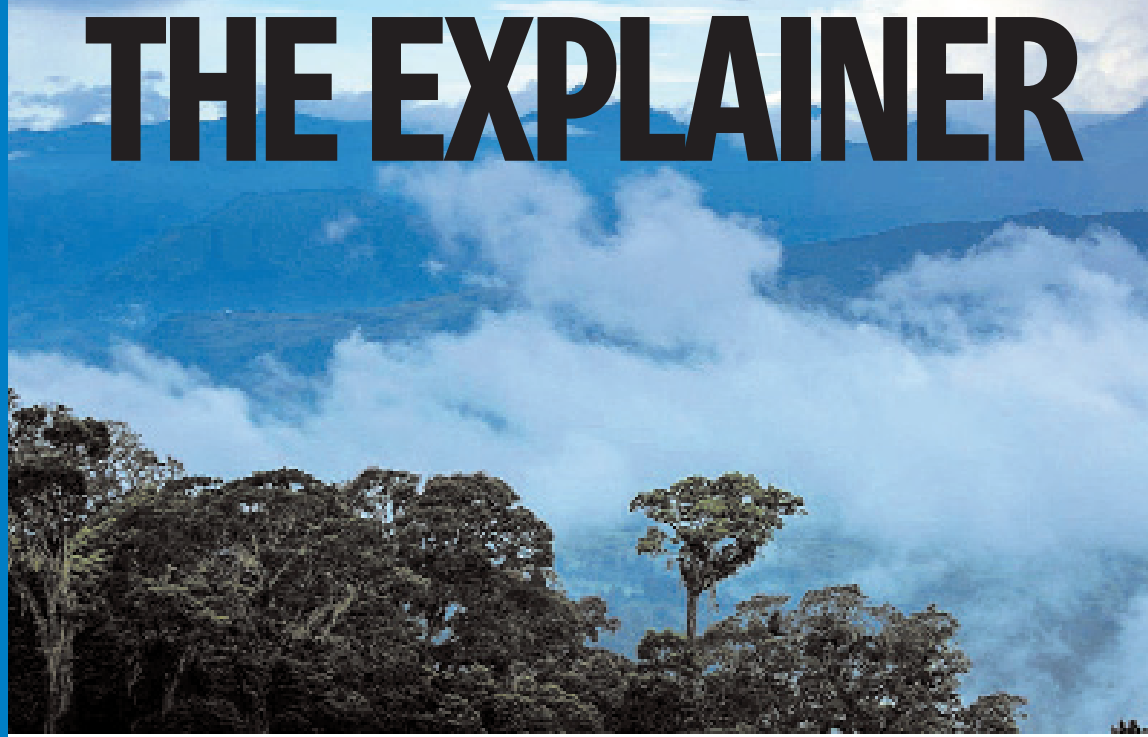
WHAT IS CLIMATE FUNDING AND WHY THE WORLD NEED \$30 TN TO GO GREEN BY 2030?

▶ To reduce emissions, suitable infrastructure needs to be built to promote green energy. For this purpose, according to World Bank data, all the countries need to make investments to the tune of \$90 trillion by 2030.

▶ These investments, the World Bank found, can be recovered through transition towards green economy. This transition can create newer economic opportunities and jobs.

▶ Among these concerted efforts, developed countries had committed to jointly mobilise \$100 billion per year by 2020, from a variety of sources, to address the pressing mitigation and adaptation needs of developing countries, the United Nations said.

THE EXPLAINER



Animesh Singh | New Delhi

As world leaders huddle together in Egypt's Sharm El-Sheikh to chalk out strategies to mitigate the impact of climate change by reducing emissions, financial support is needed to address these concerns.

This concept is known as climate funding and it is one of the significant agenda items of the ongoing COP27 summit.

Responding to the climate crisis requires collective action from all countries, cities, financial actors, businesses, and private citizens.

There has been a surge in interest from companies and some major investors in adopting sustainable business plans that are compatible with a 1.5 degrees Celsius future, as decision-makers recognise the vast growth opportunities ahead in the global transition to a decarbonized economy by 2050.

However, much wider progress is needed, and the journey of companies and investors, in aggregate, is only in its early stages, the UN further noted.

Major pensions funds and investments firms, who acknowledge that their portfolios are now more aligned with a 3.5 degree future, are now starting to move at scale by working with the asset managers and companies in their portfolios to decarbonise and align with net zero targets.

However, it is informed that most developed countries did not meet their commitment to mobilise \$100 billion per year by 2020 to support

COUNTRIES LAUNCH COLLABORATIVE ACTIONS TO SPEED UP DECARBONISATION

Sharm El-Sheikh (Egypt): Countries, including India, on Friday launched a package of 25 new collaborative actions to be delivered by COP27 to speed up the decarbonisation under five key breakthroughs of power, road transport, steel, hydrogen and agriculture. Under the Breakthrough Agenda, countries representing more than 50 per cent of global GDP, set out sector-specific 'Priority Actions' to decarbonise power, transport and steel, scale up low-emission hydrogen production and accelerate the shift to sustainable agriculture by COP28. The actions under each breakthrough will be delivered through coalitions of committed countries -- from the G7, European Commission, India, Egypt, Morocco and others, supported by leading international organizations and initiatives, and spearheaded by a core group of leading governments.

The Priority Actions include agreements to:

- * Develop common definitions for low-emission and near-zero emission steel, hydrogen and sustainable batteries to help direct billions of pounds in investment, procurement and trade to ensure credibility and transparency.
- * Ramp up the deployment of essential infrastructure projects, including at least 50 large scale net-zero emission industrial plants, at least 100 hydrogen valleys and a package of major cross-border power grid infrastructure projects.
- * Set a common target date to phase out polluting cars and vehicles, consistent with the Paris Agreement. Significant backing for the dates of 2040 globally and 2035 in leading markets will be announced by countries, businesses and cities on Solutions Day.
- * Use billions of pounds of private and public procurement and infrastructure spend to stimulate global demand for green industrial goods.
- * Systematically strengthen financial and technological assistance to developing countries and emerging markets to support their transitions backed up by a range of new financial measures, including the world's first major dedicated industry transition programme under the Climate Investment Funds.
- * And drive investment in agriculture research, development and demonstration (RD&D) to generate solutions to address the challenges of food insecurity, climate change and environmental degradation.

'Let's Bridge the inequalities'

● On November 15, the world's population is projected to reach 8 billion people, having grown by 1 billion since 2010, according to a recent policy brief by the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs.

UNITED NATIONS | Agencies

As the world's population is approaching 8 billion, UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres gave a review of the mixed implications, urging the world community to seize opportunities and take actions to bridge divides between the global haves and have-nots.

In an op-ed article published by the USA Today newspaper, Guterres called the milestone "a testament to scientific breakthroughs and improvements in nutrition, public health and sanitation".

The 8-billion-strong world could yield enormous opportunities for some of the poorest countries, where population growth is highest, he said, adding that within a few decades, today's poorest countries could become engines of sustainable, green growth and prosperity across



entire regions.

"But as our human family grows larger, it is also growing more divided," the UN chief warned.

He noted that billions of people are struggling, hundreds of millions are facing hunger and even famine, and record numbers are on the move seeking opportunities and relief from debt and hardship, wars and climate disasters. "Unless we bridge the yawning chasm between the global haves and have-nots, we are setting ourselves

up for an 8-billion-strong world filled with tensions and mistrust, crisis and conflict," wrote Guterres.

As the world has grown richer and healthier in recent decades, the inequalities have grown too, he pointed out, citing a handful of billionaires control as much wealth as the poorest half of the world, and people in the richest countries can expect to live up to 30 years longer than those in the poorest.

He called on wealthier countries to provide key emerging economies with financial and technical support to transition away from fossil fuels.

He also urged the upcoming G20 summit to be held in Bali, Indonesia, to adopt a stimulus package that will provide governments of the Global South with investments and liquidity, and address debt relief and restructuring.

At minus 10-degree C, world's highest polling station sees 100% turnout



Team Absolute | Shimla

At minus 10-degree Celsius, Tashigang, the world's highest polling station at a height of 15,256 feet in Himachal Pradesh's Lahaul and Spiti district, on Saturday saw a 100 per cent turnout. Tashigang, a village some 34 km from Kaza, is the highest settlement in the Spiti Valley close to the India-Tibet border. The village had 52 voters, most of them

reached the polling station donning traditional attire. "I am participating in the election every year to keep the democracy alive." 78-year-old Sonam Dolma told the media. First-timer voter Tenzin Nodan said she was enthusiastic about casting her first vote. "For me, voting was very important." In the 2021 parliamentary bypoll for Mandi, Tashigang saw 100 per cent polling.



Books can never be outdated: AWWA National president

Team Absolute | Jaipur

Books can never be outdated, go out of fashion or lose its charm, the Army Wives Welfare Association (AWWA) national president Archana Pande said here on Saturday.

"Though the world is turning digital, technology still faces challenges in different parts of the world. For example, when our officials are posted in far-flung areas, there is a connectivity issue, but books are their only partners and strength, Pande told reporter on the sidelines of the inauguration of AWWA Lit

Festival Abhivayakti Season 2.

She further said that Army wives are quite talented and AWWA Lit Festival plays a key role in bringing out their talent to the fore.

Aimed at promoting literary talent of Army wives and showcasing their artistic skills, AWWA

is organising the second edition of its literary event "Abhivayakti Season 2" at Jawahar Kala Kendra, Jaipur, from November 12-14.

Diya Kumari, MP, Rubal Shekhawat, Miss India first runner-up 2022, Rannvijay Singha of Roadies fame and theatre artiste Kumud Mishra will be among the guests.

Over 5,800 vehicles challaned for violating GRAP Stage 3

Team Absolute | New Delhi

Delhi Traffic Police on Saturday said that they have issued more than 5,800 challans to vehicles as part of restrictions on BS III petrol and BS IV diesel vehicles to fight pollution in the Capital.

"As part of restrictions on BS III petrol and BS IV diesel vehicles till November 13 to fight pollution, 5882 vehicles were stopped/challaned for violations till 6 a.m. on November 11. Emergency vehicles are exempted," said traffic police in a tweet.

With the aim to curb pollution levels in the Capital, recently in a review meeting, the city government's transport department decided to keep the Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP) in stage-III for the next few days.

On Monday, Delhi Environment Minister Gopal Rai had said that the ban has been removed from construction work related to



highways, pipelines etc.

"Except for the railway, Metro, airport, defence, hospital, etc., all other construction works will be banned under phase three of GRAP.

The ban on BS III petrol and BS IV diesel vehicles will continue," Rai had said.

Gopal Rai said the ban was imposed under Stage III of the GRAP and that it won't be lifted yet.

Rai's decision came after the Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM) revoked the GRAP 4 measures in the NCR region.

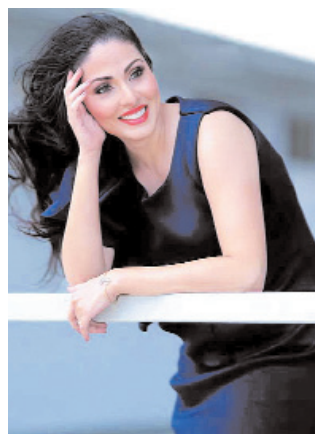
Choose solitude over forced connections: Sadaa

Team Absolute | Chennai

Actress Sadaa, who was among the top actresses of the Tamil and Telugu film industries a while ago, has said that it is better to remain alone than trying to be close to those that don't like you. Taking to Instagram, the actress penned a lengthy post on the topic.

She wrote: "Why is it that most of us are scared of losing people from our lives, even if that means being stuck in friendships/relationships that are either dead or toxic or are retained only for benefits?"

"What we fail to understand (is that) people are nothing but energies and if you don't get good vibes even if it's from someone who was once very close to you, then it's in the best interest of your own energy to cut the chord with them and move on." "When you know you have given it your all, but it still don't feel good or right within, then it's time to listen to your gut and choose yourself over a relationship that's sucking you out of your energy. After all, you only have yourself till the end of your life. People come and go!" "Don't clutter your life with people, trying to be close to those that don't like you or the ones you don't like. By being people's pleaser and pretending to be nice to someone whom you actually can't stand or someone who doesn't mean well for you, you are only harming yourself." "Once in a while, it's good to sit back and clean our lives of 'people' clutter for our emotional well being, just the way we clean our space of things that no longer serve us. "Life is too short to be wasted on wrong energies. Better to choose solitude instead of forced connections!"



'Aap mein aur hum mein fark yehi hai'

IRFAN PATHAN HITS BACK AT PAKISTAN PM FOR HIS CHEEKY TWEET ON TEAM INDIA

Team Absolute | New Delhi

Former cricketer Irfan Pathan on Saturday gave a befitting reply to Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, who had taken a cheeky dig at the Indian cricket team after its ten-wicket loss to England in the semifinal of the ICC Men's T20 World Cup, earlier this week.

Sharif on Thursday posted on Twitter referring to India's one-sided defeat in the semifinal to

England and their 10-wicket defeat to Pakistan in the Super 12 stage of last year's T20 World Cup while describing the line-up of Sunday's final in Melbourne. These were the only two matches India ever lost in T20 World Cup by 10 wickets.

"So, this Sunday, it's: 152/0 vs 170/0 #T20WorldCup," Pakistan PM had tweeted.

The post immediately went viral with Sharif receiving flak for his tweet.

On the eve of Pakistan's

World Cup final against England at the Melbourne Cricket Ground, former India all-rounder responded to Sharif's tweet.

"Aap mein or hum mein fark yehi hai. Hum apni khushi se khush or aap dusre ke taklif se. Is liye khud ke mulk ko behtar karne pe dhyan nahi hai (This is the difference between you and us. We are happy with ourselves, you look for happiness when others are in trouble. That is why you are not concentrating on your country's well-being),"

tweeted Irfan.

Earlier in the day, Pakistan captain Babar Azam too was asked about the tweet, during his pre-match presser in Melbourne, and whether such social media posts tend to put more pressure on the team. However, Babar said that he hasn't seen the tweet. "There is no pressure as such. But sorry to say, I didn't see this tweet so I have no knowledge of it. But yes we just try to give our best against the opposition," he said.

India-born Venki Ramakrishnan awarded British Order of Merit

London: Venki Ramakrishnan, Indian-born British and American structural biologist and Nobel laureate, has been appointed by King Charles III to the Order of Merit.

Hailing from the temple town of Chidambaram in Tamil Nadu, Venkatraman "Venki" Ramakrishnan, 70, has worked as a biologist for more than 30 years, with much of his research being focused on central problems in molecular biology. He was awarded the Nobel Prize in 2009. King Charles III made the appointments on Friday. The six new members were chosen by the Queen before her death. Ramakrishnan was conferred knighthood "for services to molecular biology" in the New Year Honours List 2012. He was awarded Padma Vibhushan in 2010.





SENSE OF COMPASSION, EMPATHY SUSTAINS JUDICIAL INSTITUTIONS: CJI CHANDRACHUD

Chief Justice of India, D.Y. Chandrachud, said on Saturday that he feels what sustains judicial institutions in the long run is a sense of compassion, empathy and the ability to answer the plaintive cry of a citizen in the wilderness.

Team Absolute | New Delhi

Speaking at a summit organised by a leading media outlet, Chandrachud said: "Technology, infrastructure, filling up vacancies... these are milestones in our mission. But above all, I think what sustains judicial institutions in the long run is your sense of compassion and empathy, and your ability to answer the plaintive cry of a citizen in the wilderness."

He added that when one has the ability to hear the unheard voices in the system, and then try and see where the balance between the law and justice lies, then "you can truly perform your mission as a judge".

Citing colonial era, he said sometimes law and justice don't necessarily follow the same linear trajectory.

"We know how in colonial times the same law as it exists in the statute books today was used as an instrument of oppression," he said.

The CJI added, "So how do we, as citizens, ensure that the law becomes an instrument of jus-



tice and not an instrument of oppression? I think the key is the way in which we handle the law, which includes all decision makers and not just judges." Chandrachud, who took charge as the 50th Chief Justice of India on Wednesday, also said

that the structure of legal profession is "feudal, patriarchal and not accommodating of women" and there is a need to have a democratised and merit-based process for entry of more women and marginalised sections of society into the legal system.

"One thing which we need to understand is that the judiciary has a feeding pool. The feeding pool which determines who enters the judiciary is largely dependent on the structure of the legal profession," he said.

"So when we talk of having more women in the judiciary, it's equally necessary for us to lay building blocks for the future by creating access to women. The first step is entering the chambers of senior lawyers which is an old boys' club," the CJI said.

"How do you gain access to chambers by tapping your connections? Until we have a democratised and merit-based access to the entry point in the legal profession, we will not have more women and will not have more people belonging to marginalised sections," he added.

Over 67% voter turn out in Himachal polls

Shimla | Agencies

Over 67 per cent of more than 55 lakh voters in Himachal Pradesh turned out on Saturday to elect 68 members of the BJP-ruled Assembly in the single-phase polling, officials said.

The percentage would rise as voters were lined up as the polling closed at 5 p.m. Women turned out in strength in rural areas despite cold climatic conditions in the morning, said poll officials.

Only 4 per cent voting was recorded in first hour of polling. It rose 18 per cent by 11 a.m. and 38 per cent by 1 p.m. Chief Minister Jai Ram Thakur, his wife and two daughters cast their votes at a polling booth in Seraj in Mandi district. From Seraj, the five-time lawmaker is in fray again. After casting his vote, Thakur urged the voters to come out in big numbers and enthusiastically participate in the "festival of democracy".

BJP national president Jagat Parkash Nadda, who cast his



vote in Bilaspur district, said the stakes are too high for the BJP.

"We are winning the state by breaking the tradition of no government repeating is the challenge that it faces. The BJP went into the polls banking more on PM Narendra Modi, considering the emotional connect he shares with Himachal, where he remained BJP in charge for seven years," he said.

Ninety-year-old Nazrim Mani and his 87-year-old wife cast their votes at a model polling booth in a school that was opened in 1890 in Kalpa village in Kinnaur district of Himachal Pradesh, election officials said. Government Primary School in Kalpa, some 275 km from the state

capital in the Kinnaur Assembly constituency, was the first school in the district.

He flashed his wrinkled inked finger after voting.

After casting the vote, Mani appealed to the voters in the state to participate in this festival of democracy with full enthusiasm.

At minus 10-degree Celsius, Tashigang, the world's highest polling station at a height of 15,256 feet in Lahaul and Spiti district, saw a 100 per cent turnout.

Tashigang, a village some 34 km from Kaza, is the highest settlement in the Spiti Valley close to the India-Tibet border. The village had 52 voters, most of them reached the polling station donning traditional attire.

"I am participating in the election every year to keep the democracy alive," 78-year-old Sonam Dolma told the media. First-timer voter Tenzin Nodan said she was enthusiastic about casting her first vote. "For me, voting was very important."

Big changes on the cards in Rajasthan Congress, says Acharya Pramod Krishnam

Jaipur | Agencies

Acharya Pramod Krishnam, a senior Congress leader, on Saturday said that major changes are on the cards in Rajasthan unit of the party.

Acharya Pramod, who had a detailed discussion with Assembly Speaker C.P. Joshi, for about two hours this morning here, told the media that soon, the Congress high command is going to take a big decision regarding Rajasthan.

The decision is being taken according to the sentiments of the people of the state. Every Congress MLA is standing by the decision of leadership, he said.

"Every MLA will accept the decision of the party leader-



ship. Whatever happened here happened in the presence of Kharge saheb. Observers had come here in which Kharge Saheb and Ajay Maken were there," he said.

Speaking on the resigna-

tion of pro-Gehlot MLAs, he said, "Only the Speaker will be able to tell you who all have resigned."

Acharya Pramod Krishnam has advocated making Sachin Pilot the CM many times before.

CORRUPT WILL NOT BE SPARED, SAYS MODI IN HYDERABAD

Hyderabad | Agencies

Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Saturday that those who looted the poor in Telangana will not be spared.

He stated this while addressing BJP workers at Begumpet Airport in Hyderabad soon after his arrival to inaugurate fertilizer plant at Ramagundam in Peddapalli district.

"I want to assure the people of Telangana that those who looted the poor will not be spared," he said while calling on people to end corrupt and family rule in the state.

Without naming Telangana Rashtra Samithi (TRS), Modi alleged that the corrupt were joining hands to escape action. "Attempts are being made by the corrupt to form an alliance," he said.

The Prime Minister remarked that the darkness of corruption, family rule and superstition is about to end in Telangana and exuded confidence that lotus (BJP's symbol) will bloom



everywhere in the state. "People of Telangana want politics of people first, instead of family first,"

he said in an attack on CM KCR. He called corruption and family rule the biggest enemy of poor and

development and said BJP was fighting against both and was committed to provide corruption-free governance to serve all families.

He said the party trusted by the people of Telangana committed the biggest betrayal to Telangana. "It is unfortunate that those who came to power in the name of Telangana themselves prospered but pushed back Telangana," he said.

Referring to the recent Munugode Assembly by-election, Modi claimed that people reposed faith in BJP.

"The BJP workers brought the entire Telangana government to one Assembly seat. They forced the big leaders to kneel down. This shows you have people's blessings and your hard work is showing results," he said.

He said all by-elections held in Telangana in recent times have given the same message. "There will soon be a sunrise. The darkness of Telangana will be over and lotus will bloom everywhere," he said.

Army Chief pitches for self-reliance in defence sector

Team Absolute | New Delhi

Army chief General Manoj Pandey said on Saturday that the ongoing war between Russia and Ukraine has highlighted the need to ensure 'Amanirbhar' (self-reliance) in the defence sector.

He was speaking at 'The Chankaya Dialogues' organised at India International Centre in Delhi.

"We have to be self-dependent. We will work to meet our need of operations and peculiar demand. India is a country of vibrant ecosystem and there are youngsters with brilliant mind and they should come forward and give their suggestions and ideas to make better personal, small range weapons, long range rockets, armoured vehicle and sea weapons," said the Army chief.

He further said that around seven to eight years ago, planning to become self-reliant was started and at that time, there was need for sources, policy, private players, market and



strategy. "But today, we have concept of spiral development on each stage."

"We are in touch with premier institutes and 20 projects worth in crores are under development. In IIT Delhi, we have started a pilot project and similar projects will be started soon in other institutes," General

Pandey added. "Technology development fund is available with DRDO and Army along with private players will work as partners not as buyer or seller," he asserted. The Army chief said that they are also trying to make the army most modern through the recently inducted 'Agniveer' scheme.

2 NON-LOCAL LABOURERS INJURED IN TERROR ATTACK IN J&K'S ANANTNAG

Srinagar: Two non-local labourers were shot at and injured by the terrorists in Rakh-Momin area of south Kashmir's Anantnag district on Saturday, Police said.

Two non-local labourers were shot at and injured by the terrorists in Rakh-Momin area of south Kashmir's Anantnag district on Saturday, Police said.

"Terrorists fired upon and injured two non-local labourers in Rakh-Momin area of Anantnag. Both the injured are being shifted to hospital for treatment. Area being cordoned off," Jammu and Kashmir Police said.

Police parties have reached the spot and an operation has been started to nab the terrorists.

There have been a series of terrorist attacks on non-local workers in Kashmir in the last few months.

Lingayat Mutt sex scandal gets more intriguing; victim's mother arrested

Chitradurga | Agencies

Karnataka Police have arrested the mother of the minor victim in second POCSO case against Lingayat seer Shivamurthy Murugha Sharanaru.

The arrest has been made in a case alleging conspiracy against the seer, police said on Saturday.

The accused, who worked as a helper in Chitradurga mutt's kitchen, was arrested by the Chitradurga Rural police. She is facing charges of playing into the conspiracy to fix an arrested seer through her daughter. The police had arrested two persons earlier in this connection. The in-charge seer of Murugha Mutt Basavaprabhu Swamiji had filed a complaint regarding hatching a conspiracy to frame arrested seer



Shivamurthy Murugha Sharanaru in POCSO and atrocity cases to make money. The complaint was lodged against Basavarajendra, a resident of Junjanawadi village in Belagavi district, the mother of the complainant in second POCSO case against seer and members of Odanadi NGO from Mysuru. The police had arrested Basavarajan, the former administrator of the Chitradurga mutt in this

case. Basavarajan had given shelter to the victims in the first case before lodging the complaint. The complaint by the in-charge seer demanded that the accused have entered into a conspiracy against the Shivamurthy Murugha seer to defame him to make money. The 14-minute audio clip allegedly showed the victim girls being tutored to lodge a case against Shivamurthy Murugha Sharanaru.

PRESIDENT MURMU TO LEAD CELEBRATIONS OF JANJATIYA GAURAV DIVAS

New Delhi: President Droupadi Murmu will lead the celebrations of Janjatiya Gaurav Divas this year.

Union Tribal Affairs Minister Arjun Munda on Saturday said that on the occasion of Janjatiya Gaurav Divas on November 15, the President will visit Ulihatu village in Khunti district of Jharkhand which is the birth place of Birsa Munda and pay floral tributes there.

The President will inaugurate projects of the Ministry of Road and Transport, and Ministry of Power and also lay the foundation stone of several Eklavya Schools virtually from Khunti.

She will also address women SHG members of TRIFED and NRLM in and around Khunti.

The Union Minister further informed that the Vice President will also pay floral tributes at the statue of Birsa Munda at Parliament complex, New Delhi on November 15 along with other Parliamentarians. Arjun Munda said that a large number of national and state level programmes are being organised to celebrate Janjatiya Gaurav Divas from November 15-22.

K'TAKA POLICE SUBMIT CHARGE SHEET IN 9 DAYS IN RAPE, MURDER CASE

Bengaluru | Agencies

Karnataka police have submitted a charge sheet in nine days in connection with rape and murder of a minor girl in Kalaburagi district, officials said on Saturday.

The swift action by the police in the case has been appreciated by the public and the state Home Ministry.

The police had arrested a 16-year-old accused in the case within 24 hours of the crime.

The police department had announced Rs 1 lakh reward for the team for swift action. The personnel have decided to give half of the reward amount to the family of the victim.

The police had submitted a charge sheet with all evidence to the Juvenile Justice Board against the accused.

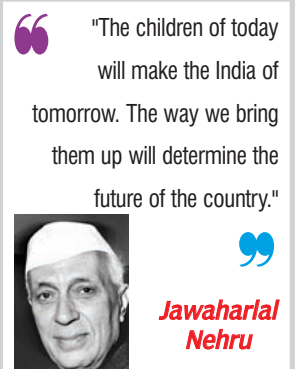
The shocking incident had come to light on November 1 after the 16-year-old girl who went out to attend the nature's call was found dead. The preliminary investigations suggested that the girl was gang raped and murdered.



A special team was formed by the Kalaburagi Superintendent of Police Isha Panth. The team cracked the case in 24 hours and arrested three minors. However, the investigations revealed that the crime was committed by a 16-year-old accused. The accused had dragged the girl into a sugarcane farm and sexually assaulted her. The accused had smashed her chest with a big stone and strangled her to death using her 'dupatta'. After committing the crime, the accused had disappeared.

According to the police, the accused had followed the victim when she stepped out of her home. He had killed her fearing that she might complain against him, police said.

The victim had gone out of the house to attend nature's call at 3 p.m. When the girl did not return home for a long time, the family members of the girl had started searching everywhere. Finally, the villagers noticed her sandals and the girl's body was found near a sugarcane farm. The girl was studying in ninth standard and was staying at her relative's place.



Alternatives like Tumblr, Mastodon see meteoric rise amid shakeup at Twitter

NEW SOCIAL STAGES

According to latest data provided by Season Tower, Twitter installs climbed 21 per cent, while alternatives like Mastodon grew 657 per cent in the 12 days -- from October 27 through November 7 -- after the Twitter acquisition was finalised.

► Mastodon saw approximately 322,000 installs from US app stores in the 12 days, more than 100 times the 3,000 it saw in the prior period (October 15 through October 26).

► Third-party Mastodon apps such as Metatext and Tootle also saw a bump when comparing the two periods, climbing from less than 1,000 installs each to 19,000 and 7,000 worldwide downloads, respectively, the report showed.

► Worldwide Tumblr installs, on the other hand, surged 77 per cent to 301,000 from 170,000.

► Globally, the app grew 657 per cent to 1 million in the 12 days following the handover from 15,000 in the prior period.



Tumblr — Culture, Art, & Community
Tumblr, Inc. Social
Mature 17+
Contains ads
This app is available for your device
Add to wishlist



Team Absolute | New Delhi

Alternative social media platforms such as Tumblr and Mastodon have seen a meteoric rise in adding new users amid the shakeup at Twitter that has led to a bump in installs, spending and usage for its mobile app.

Tumblr saw more growth in the US than globally, where the app saw

adoption climb 96 per cent to 92,000 from 47,000 when comparing the two periods.

Smaller alternative platforms such as CounterSocial also saw a bump in adoption. CounterSocial was No. 11 among the top social networking apps by growth during the week of October 31. Globally, the app saw approximately 33,000 installs in that period, up 3,200 per cent when

compared to the 12 days before.

Since the acquisition was finalised, Twitter's mobile app has seen 7.6 million worldwide installs and \$502,000 in consumer spending from across the App Store and Google Play in the 12 days.

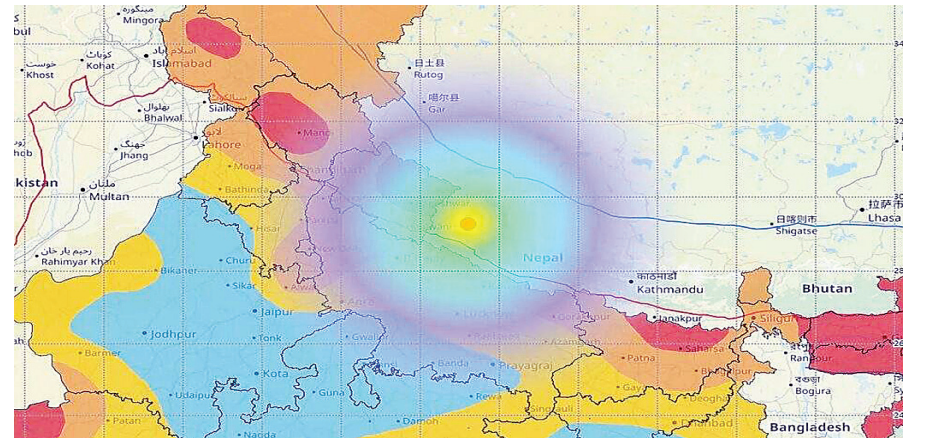
Daily usage of Twitter's mobile app also saw a slight uptick, climbing 2 per cent in the 12 days after the acquisition when compared to the prior period, said the report, something which new Twitter boss Elon Musk also posted.

"The upheaval of the last two weeks will likely continue in the short-term as Twitter rolls out features and policies at a rapid clip under its new leadership," said Stephanie Chan, mobile insights strategist at Sensor Tower.

However, the long-term impact is yet to be determined.

"Time will tell whether the trends observed so far will persist or normalise, whether that's the uptick in adoption and spending on the Twitter mobile app, or the surge in interest in alternatives such as Mastodon," she added.

Temblor felt in Delhi-NCR as 5.4 magnitude quake hits Nepal



Team Absolute | New Delhi

Tremors of an earthquake measuring 5.4 on the Richter scale that hit Nepal on Saturday evening were felt in Delhi-NCR as well.

"Earthquake of magnitude 5.4 occurred on November 12 at 7.57 p.m. Depth: 10 km, location: Nepal," the National Centre for Seismology tweet-

ed. There were no immediate reports on any damage to life or property.

Netizens soon took to Twitter to report the quake. "Earthquake in New Delhi for about a minute. This is second time within this week," a tweet read.

"Strong tremors being felt in Delhi right now," another user posted. "Earthquake in Delhi, Hope everyone safe!"

read another tweet on the micro-blogging site. The temblor was experienced in some areas of Uttarakhand as well. "There was an #earthquake in Haridwar," read a tweet. Earlier, an earthquake of 6.3 magnitude hit Nepal in the wee hours of Wednesday. The tremors of that earthquake were also felt in parts of the Delhi-NCR region.

7.0-magnitude quake hits east of Fiji Islands, no tsunami warning

Suva: An earthquake with a magnitude of 7.0 hit the eastern part of the Fiji Islands on Saturday, the US Geological Survey said. The epicentre, with a depth of 587.2 km, was initially determined to be at 20.116 degrees south latitude and 178.363 degrees

west longitude, reports Xinhua news agency.

No tsunami warning was issued after the earthquake, according to local media. There were no immediate reports of any damages or casualties.

Rajiv Gandhi assassination case: Six convicts released from prison

Chennai | Agencies

The six convicts who were jailed in the assassination case of former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi have been released from prison on Saturday, officials said.

The others who were released from the prison on Saturday are Shanthan, Robert Payas, Jayakumar and Ravichandran.

Nalini and Ravichandran are from Tamil Nadu while the four others are Sri Lankan nationals.

The Sri Lankan natives -- Shanthan, Murugan, Robert Payas and Jayakumar were shifted to the Tiruchi rehabilitation camp of Sri Lankan



refugees. S. Nalini who was on parole, was first taken to the Katpadi police station and then to Vellore central prison from where the formalities of her release were completed. The other prisoners were in Puzhal and Madurai

Central prison. Nalini's counsel Pugazhendi told media persons that it is yet to be decided whether she would stay in Tamil Nadu or shift to London where her daughter is staying.

LABOURERS HIRED FOR PM'S EVENT IN B'LURU ALLEGE NON-PAYMENT OF DUES

Bengaluru: Labourers who were hired to work for the unveiling of the 108-foot-tall statue of Bengaluru's founder Nadaprabhu Kempegowda by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on November 11 have lodged a police complaint alleging that they have not been paid their dues.

The complaint has been lodged by 40 labourers at Sidlaghatta police station in Chikkaballapur district against local BJP leader Nandeesh. According to the police, the workers were hired to work at the venue of statue in the premises of Bengaluru International Airport.

'Those promising restoration of Article 370 in J&K are deceiving people'

Srinagar | Agencies

Syed Altaf Bukhari, president of J&K Apni Party, said on Saturday that statehood to Jammu and Kashmir should be restored as promised by Union Home Minister Amit Shah on the floor of the Parliament.

Addressing a public rally at the S.K. Stadium in Sonwar area of Srinagar city, Bukhari said: "We demand the Prime Minister to restore statehood to us as promised by the Home Minister on the floor of the Parliament."

He said politicians have been responsible for getting people killed by selling them dreams.

"We formed this party to



tell people the truth. We only promise what we can achieve and for that, we are ready to fight. Graveyards have been filled with 2 lakh of our youth who were promised what was not achievable.

"We will engage the best

lawyers of the country and pay them crores of rupees to fight legally for the restoration of Article 370 and 35A in the Supreme Court because we have a strong case," he said. "Those politicians are telling you to vote for them so

that they can restore Article 370. Does anyone ask them as to how they can restore Article 370 by winning an election? Today, I appeal to all politicians to join hands so that we do healthy, violence free-politics in which our Kashmiri Pandit brothers will be equal stakeholders and in which Kashmir is not pitched against Jammu and vice versa," Bukhari added.

He said whenever there are sports events, local youth are arrested. "This is no democracy. We have decided to form a team of leaders who will visit various jails in and outside Jammu and Kashmir to collect details of youth under detention there.

Trinamool censures Bengal minister for comments on President

Kolkata | Agencies

After facing severe criticism from different quarters, the Trinamool Congress has censured its leader and West Bengal MoS in-charge of Correctional Services Department, Akhil Giri, for his derogatory remarks referring to the looks of President Droupadi Murmu.

Giri himself has also apologised for his comments referring to the President.

The Trinamool leadership on Saturday issued a statement condemning the remarks made by Giri and clarified that the party will not condone such statements. "We have utmost respect for the President of



India, Droupadi Murmu. Our party strongly condemns the unfortunate remarks made by MLA Akhil Giri and clarifies that we do not condone such statements. In the era of women empowerment, such misogyny is unacceptable," the party statement read.

Giri himself has issued a statement of apology on his behalf, saying, "I apologise if any statement made by me has insulted the respected President.

I am repentant for what I have said."

At a rally in Nandigram on Friday, Giri had reportedly said, "We don't judge anyone by their appearance... We respect the office of the President. But how does our President look?"

Woman held for kidnapping infant for human sacrifice; baby safe

Team Absolute | New Delhi

Delhi Police have arrested a 25-year-old woman, who had kidnapped a two-month-old boy for human sacrifice to 'revive' her dead father, an official said on Saturday.

The accused has been identified as Shweta, a resident of Kotla Mubarakpur. According to Esha Pandey, Deputy Commissioner of Police (Southeast), at about 4 p.m. on Thursday, information was received at the Amar Colony police station that an infant has been kidnapped by an unknown woman.

"During investigation, it was found that the family members of the infant had met a woman at Safdarjung Hospital who introduced herself as a member of an NGO working for child care. "She promised to provide free medicine and consultation for the mother and the

child. She also visited their house on the pretext of examining the infant," the officer said.

On Thursday, the woman came to their house for the second time and asked the child's mother if she could take the baby out for a while. The infant's mother asked her 21-year-old niece, Ritu, to accompany the woman. "The woman then took the baby and Ritu in her car for a ride. After a while, the woman offered a cold drink to Ritu, after drinking which she fell unconscious. The woman then dumped Ritu in Ghaziabad, who after gaining consciousness informed her family that the child has been kidnapped. Subsequently, a PCR call was made," the officer said.

After scanning CCTV footages, the vehicle of the kidnapper was traced and her address and other details were obtained, Pandey said.

The police then conducted a raid at the said location, but couldn't find the woman there. "Specific inputs were received that she would come near the Arya Samaj Mandir in Kotla Mubarakpur following which a police team raided the location and apprehended Shweta. The infant was recovered safely," said the DCP.

On interrogation, Shweta disclosed that her father had died last month. While performing his last rites, she came to know that human sacrifice of an infant of the same gender could revive her father and bring him back to life, the officer said. "To execute this superstition, she started searching for an infant boy in the area. For this, she went to the maternity ward of Safdarjung Hospital and introduced herself as a member of an NGO working for child care," the DCP said.

World's first 3D printer for implant-grade silicone housed at IISc

Bengaluru: Prayasta, winner of this year's National Startup Technology Award, on Wednesday launched the world's first 3D printer for implant-grade silicone that will be housed at the Centre for BioSystems Science and Engineering (BSSE), Indian Institute of Science (IISc). An MoU was signed earlier this year to formalise this partnership.

"We are excited to join hands with Prayasta as it offers a production-ready 3D printing technology for elastomers such as silicone, and can positively impact the quality of healthcare delivery," said Navakanta Bhat, Dean, Division of Interdisciplinary Sciences, IISc. Prayasta's specialised 3D printer, Silimac, can directly 3D print implant-grade sili-

cone material to make an implant within the hospital itself. 3D printing allows personalisation of implants on a one-to-one basis, which not only improves the outcomes of surgeries for the patients, but also reduces the average time a surgeon spends for achieving the same results using standard implants. 3D printed implants that are prepared using Silimac can be personalised not only in terms of shape, size and contour, but also in terms of weight, stiffness and touch and feel, making it a complete solution. As the world is moving towards personalised medicine, personalising implants makes even more sense as implants are going to be there in the patients' bodies permanently for the rest of their lives.

FOOD VOLUME DOWN IN LOW-INCOME COUNTRIES AS GLOBAL IMPORT RISES: FAO

► This is due to rising global food prices that are making countries more dependent on domestic production, and a trend that is seeing most currencies depreciating against the US dollar, the baseline currency for calculations.

► The FAO said most of the increase comes from high-income countries, but economically vulnerable countries are hurt more by the trend since they cannot afford to import adequate food due to higher prices.

► The aggregate food bill for low-income countries was more or less unchanged between 2021 and 2022, said the FAO, although the volume of imports was down by 10 per cent in the same period.

Rome | Agencies

The global bill for food imports is estimated to come in at \$1.94 trillion this year, according to the UN's Rome-based Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).

The figure is the highest ever recorded for this data point, and around 10 per cent higher than in 2021, Xinhua news agency quoted FAO.

However, despite the dramatic rise in the global food import bill, the Organization said the rate of increase



is likely to slow down going forward. "These are alarming signs from a food security perspective, indicating

importers are finding it difficult to finance rising international costs, potentially heralding an end of their resilience to higher international prices," according to the FAO Food Outlook report released on Friday.

The report breaks down food trade patterns by food groups, and warns that existing differences are likely to become more pronounced, with high-income countries continuing to import across the entire spectrum of food products, while developing regions are increasingly focused on staple foods.



INDIA'S FIRST ATMOSPHERIC LAB WILL GATHER DATA NEEDED TO FIGHT CLIMATE CHANGE

With the largest forest cover in the country, Madhya Pradesh where all three seasons -- summer, monsoon and winter -- complete their full circle, is going to hold centrestage in dealing with the challenges of climate change once the newly established 'Atmospheric Laboratory Centre becomes fully operational.

- Spread over 100 acres in Madhya Pradesh's Sehore district, the Atmospheric Laboratory Centre (ALC) will be the largest such centre in Asia.
- It is being established under the aegis of the Indian Institute of Tropical Metrology under the supervision of the Ministry of Earth Sciences.



The installation of a few radars. It will take one or two years to get the system fully functional. This centre will be equipped with advanced radars, which are not installed at one or two IMD centres. More than 20 state-of-the-art weather equipment will be installed here. For this, dual polarimetric C-band radars have been imported from Finland," said G. D. Mishra, a retired weather scientist in Madhya Pradesh.

The laboratory is located at Sealkhedha village in Sehore district, 15 km from Rajabhoj airport of state capital Bhopal. According to the project director, Dr Kundan Dani, the location was finalised after research reports

that the upper air cyclone to the low pressure area passes from the vicinity.

"The most suitable place for such a lab is the region of central India due to many reasons. And after the success of this experiment, there is a target to set up five such laboratories in the North, South East, West and North Eastern parts of India," Dani said. He informed that radars are currently installed at only two places in central India -- Bhopal and Nagpur. Both are S-band radars. This is just a cloud image (cloud position) radar. From this, it is known where the clouds are present and what types they are. But this does not give any information about hailstorms and the speed and

direction of the wind that causes the movement of the clouds.

Some advanced system radars will be installed at this centre such as 'wind profiler radar, which will give accurate information of both the wind direction and speed from the ground surface to a height of 12 km in the sky. With this, a thunderstorm forecast can also be issued.

- **Ku Band Radar:** In India, this type of radar is used only by ISRO or the Air Force. For example, if there is a monsoon system 300 km away, then the exact location can be detected with this radar.
- **It may also be known in which direction it is moving.**
- **C-band dipole radar:** It is a dipole radar, which emits two types of electromagnetic waves, vertical and perpendicular. With this, both the position and density of clouds can be accurately estimated.
- **Destrometer:** It is the most modern instrument to measure the rainfall rate. Through this, by measuring the droplets of water in the air itself during the rain, the water falling per minute can be estimated. This will give accurate information about the amount of rain.

Praveen Dwivedi | Bhopal

Madhya Pradesh based weather scientists associated with the mega project said that the development is a big achievement not only for the state but for the entire country because this Atmospheric Laboratory Centre will help to provide more authentic and accurate data on atmospheric changes in the state and adjoining states.

"The project is still underway, it has been partially made operational with

Specially-abled minor girl raped by neighbour in Kolar

Team Absolute | Bhopal

A five-year-old deaf and mute Dalit girl was allegedly raped by a man living in her neighbourhood in Madhya Pradesh's capital Bhopal, police said on Saturday.

The police have arrested the 56-year-old accused for the incident, which took place in Kolar area on Thursday evening, inspector Chandrakant Patel of Kolar police station said.

An offence has been registered against the accused under relevant provisions of the Indian Penal Code (IPC), Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act and Scheduled



Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, and he has been sent to judicial custody, he said. According to the police, a neighbour informed the girl's parents that their daughter's cries could be heard from the accused man's house on

Thursday evening. The child's mother immediately rushed to the man's house and was shocked to see him sexually assaulting her daughter, they said.

The police were immediately informed and the child through signs with the help of her mother narrated her ordeal to the police.

The victim has said that the accused took her into his house on the pretext of playing with her, police said.

On running a test, it was found that the accused was drunk when he committed the crime, the official said.

Meanwhile, the authorities demolished the accused man's illegally constructed house in Kolar area on Friday.

Action will be taken against those who create disturbances regarding fertilisers

Team Absolute | Bhopal

Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan has said that there is adequate arrangement of fertilisers for the farmers in the state. Continuous supply is being made. Some elements want to create an atmosphere of anarchy by spreading rumours of fertiliser crisis. Strict action will be taken against those who spread such rumours. Action will also be taken against those who create disturbance.

Chief Minister Chouhan assured the farmers that there would be no shortage of fertilisers in the state. Fertiliser rakes are coming continuously in the state. For a short time there was some problem due to technical reasons, which has been rectified. Farmers need not



worry. The state government is making fertilisers available to the farmers as per their requirement.

It is noteworthy that Chief Minister Chouhan has given instructions to make the

availability and distribution system of fertilisers smooth by continuously reviewing them. Officials of the concerned departments are also visiting the districts to see the arrangements.

CHIEF MINISTER RELEASED A BOOK ON CORNEAL EMERGENCY

Team Absolute | Bhopal

Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan released a book on Corneal Emergencies authored by Professor Bhavna Sharma, Head of the Department of Ophthalmology/Dean Examinations, AIIMS Bhopal, and Professor JS Titil, Chief RP Center, AIIMS, New Delhi. Today this book was released by the Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh, Shivraj Singh Chouhan in presence of Director AIIMS Bhopal Prof (Dr.) Ajai Singh, Deputy Director Col. Ajit Singh and Professor Bhavna Sharma. On this occasion Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan appreciated the works of AIIMS Bhopal.

It is a reference text book covering the diagnosis and management of all corneal emergencies, which is written by internationally acclaimed experts in the field of Cornea. The foreword is written by Professor Mark J M Ennis, one of the world's best and foremost corneal surgeons in the field of



cornea from UC Davis Institute, Sacramento, USA.

Corneal blindness is the second largest cause of preventable blindness in India, especially in the young age

group. This book is the first of its kind for ophthalmologists and students to address the issue of corneal blindness and its optimal management. It is also a best seller book published by

Springer Nature International. Its price is 108 pounds (about 12000 rupees). AIIMS Bhopal is feeling proud to release this book by Chief Minister.

Environment friendly use of natural resources is the need of this time : Governor Patel

Team Absolute | Bhopal

Governor Mangubhai Patel has said that it is the need of this time to ensure eco-friendly use of natural resources. There is a need to develop more efficient and cleaner processes for producers and consumers of conventional energy. Patel was addressing the 37th National Conference of Electrical Engineers organized by the Institution of Engineers virtually from Raj Bhavan in Bhopal Saturday.

Governor Patel has said that the concern for environment is not only the responsibility of the government, but also the responsibility of every individual. It is important that children, young and old are aware and active towards energy, environment-conservation. He hoped that the conference would become a forum for exchange of ideas among engineers for the development of energy technology. It will pave the



way for making the country more industrially advanced and building a healthy ecosystem for the future generations.

Governor Patel said that the country is moving fast towards the goal of 5 trillion economy by the year 2047 under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. India has joined the list of top 5 economies of the world. The central government is trying to boost the national economy through the fourth industrial revolution and to

provide electricity at affordable cost to the citizens. The government is working fast in this direction to ensure that the energy supply is environment safe. Our visionary Prime Minister Modi has resolved to reduce the emission intensity of GDP by 33 to 35 percent from 2005 level by 2030 for a clean environment.

Governor Patel said that by the year 2030, a target has been set to take non-fossil based power generation capacity to about 30 percent

of the installed energy production. Simultaneously, the work of creating an additional cumulative carbon sink through additional forest and tree cover is also going on at a fast pace. Central and state governments are giving special emphasis on renewable resources like solar and wind energy in energy supply.

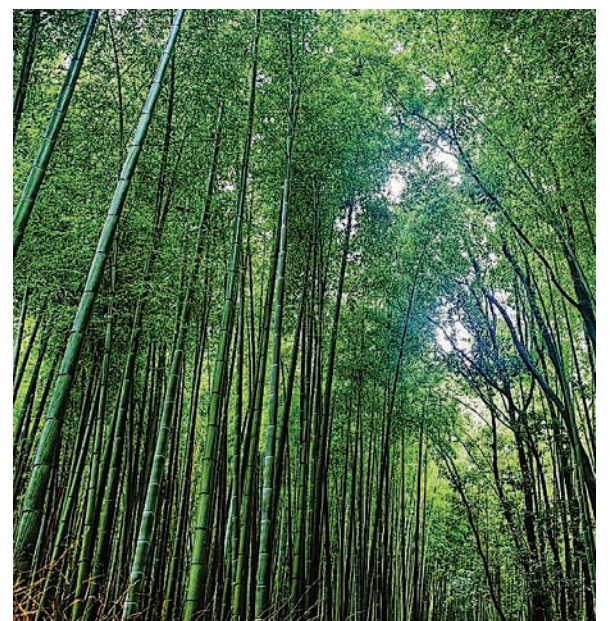
Professor Sudhir Kumar Calla, Chairman, Electrical Engineering Division Board, said that public is becoming more aware towards clean, green energy. Its market is also growing rapidly. He stressed the need for development of advanced technologies as per the demand of energy. The Governor of the conference, Dr. Vivek Chandra, said that energy use is the basis of quality of life, which is understood by per capita energy consumption. He introduced the theme of the seminar giving details of the work being done by the Central Government in the field of energy.

Bamboo plantation increased 5 times in the state

Team Absolute | Bhopal

Livelihood opportunities are being boosted through economic activities related to forest products. Madhya Pradesh State Bamboo Mission has directly linked more than 4500 women with bamboo plantation through self-help groups. Forest Minister Dr. Kunwar Vijay Shah has appreciated the efforts of the women who became allies in the Bamboo Mission. There has been a five-times increase in bamboo plantation in the state. Bamboo was planted on 2623 hectares in the year 2019-20, which has increased to 13 thousand 914 hectares this year.

Bamboo plantation has been done on 4511 hectare under MNRGA scheme. With this, more than 4



thousand 500 women have been linked, who are members of self-help groups. As soon as bamboo produc-

tion starts, the income of these families will increase. These families will come above the poverty line.

CM Chouhan plants Gulmohar, Karanj and Harsingar saplings

Team Absolute | Bhopal

Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan planted saplings of Gulmohar, Karanj and Harsingar along with the representatives of Helping Hands organisation in the Smart City Park. Rahul Sharma, Sarika Chaturvedi, Avi Udeniya of the organisation and child Astik participated in the plantation. The organisation is adopting poor children and taking responsibility for their education and other needs. Free medicines and food are regularly provided to the needy people. Along with this, the organisation is also active in activities like cleanliness and plantation.



motivation program of the field staff of women and child development.

Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan has said that we all together should accept this challenge that no child will remain underweight in the state in the coming one year. Every Anganwadi worker and helper should consider it their personal duty and not just a government job, to provide adequate nutrition to every child and woman in their area. Women and Child Development is not just a department, it is my own family. The all-round development of women and children and the hard work of the field staff of this department and the cautiousness and awareness of the departmental officers-employees for the improvement of social, economic, health and nutritional status are important in the development of society and the state. Today's programme is a programme on behalf of the people of the state to honour the services of the department and reward the committed workers and employees. Anganwadi workers, assistants and supervisors will be honoured every year by the state government. Along with this, they will also be awarded for best work every year at the district level. Chief Minister Shri Chouhan was addressing the guidance, encouragement and



The Chief Minister inaugurated the programme by lighting the lamp and distributed prizes to Anganwadi workers, helpers, supervisors and officials for excellent work. All the district offices of the state were connected virtually with the programme and departmental officers and employees also participated virtually. Chief Minister Chouhan said that it is the aim of my life to give rights to every mother, sister and daughter. I am committed to equalize the sex ratio in the state. The desire for a son has done a lot of injustice to daughters. Our government is committed to eliminate all the reasons for considering daughters as a burden. At the time of 2011 census, the child sex ratio of the state was 919. The sex ratio at birth increased from 927 to 956 as per NHFS-5 Giving information about the provisions of Ladli Laxmi Yojna-2, Chief Minister Shri Chouhan said that the fees of Ladli Laxmi who take admission in engineering, medical, CLAT and other institutions for higher education would be paid by the state government. All possible help and opportunities will be extended to daughters to move ahead in life.



RAHUL GANDHI, AADITYA THACKERAY ARE CAPABLE OF LEADING COUNTRY: SANJAY RAUT

▶ RAJYA SABHA MP SANJAY RAUT SAID CONGRESS LEADER RAHUL GANDHI AND SHIV SENA LEADER AADITYA THACKERAY ARE TWO "PROMINENT YOUNG LEADERS" CAPABLE OF LEADING THE COUNTRY.

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Thackeray participated in Gandhi's Bharat Jodo Yatra earlier in the day. "Two prominent young leaders, Rahul Gandhi and Aaditya Thackeray, will walk together for Bharat Jodo and this will give rise to new energy. The two young leaders are capable of leading the country," he said. Raut, who was released from the jail after getting bail in a



money laundering case, said the Shiv Sena was part of the Bharat Jodo Yatra. "They (Gandhi and Thackeray)

have a lot of energy to work for the state and the country," he said. Asked about the coming together of Uddhav Thackeray and Vanchit

Bahujan Aghadi leader Prakash Ambedkar, Raut said a bond existed between their respective grandfathers, and it has now percolated down the generations. "Babasaheb Ambedkar and Prabodhanakar Thackeray participated in the Samayukt Maharashtra movement. Babasaheb Ambedkar had strong views about Marathi pride. "Prabodhanakar Thackeray had requested Babasaheb Ambedkar to participate in the Maharashtra movement and he accepted it," he said. "Ambedkar and Thackeray are two forces and when they come together, you will see the politics of the country changing." Raut added. The prevailing atmosphere in the state will make the Shiv Sena led by Uddhav Thackeray a bigger force, he claimed. "Everyone trusts Uddhav Thackeray. The bubbles have started bursting, and I can see a Shiv Sena wave and this will have an impact on Maharashtra politics," he said in a veiled attack on the Shiv Sena faction led by Chief Minister Eknath Shinde.

Vistara announces non-stop flights between Mumbai & Muscat



Team Absolute | New Delhi/Mumbai

Vistara on Saturday announced non-stop flights between Mumbai and Muscat, the capital of Oman, starting from December 12. Vistara will operate daily flights between the two cities using its A320neo aircraft and will be the only airline to offer the choice of premium economy class on the route, in addition to Business and Economy Class. Vinod Kannan, Chief Executive Officer, Vistara, said: "We are excited to expand our presence in the Middle

East with the addition of Muscat as the fourth city in the region. Given the strong bilateral ties and the thriving trade and investment relations between India and Oman, this new route will further aid the growing traffic between the two countries." The capital city of Muscat continues to attract a significant number of expats, traders, business travellers, and high-end leisure travellers from India who will now have the choice of flying business class and premium economy on India's best airline complemented with Vistara's signature hospitality."

Bombay HC refuses Ex-ICICI Bank CEO Chanda Kochchar's post-retirement plea

Team Absolute | Mumbai

The Bombay High Court has refused to provide interim relief to former ICICI Bank CEO Chanda Kochchar's post-retirement plea. The single bench of Justice RI Gahla has also asked Ms Kochhar not to touch the 6.90 lakh shares she acquired in 2018, as per report. The Bench has said that Kochhar must disclose if she made any past dealings related to the shares. "If she has dealt with any shares, then she must disclose the same on affidavit in six weeks," the judge said. Justice Gahla also stated that Kochhar's termination was valid, the report added. "I have held the termination as valid termination," Justice Chagla said. Citing the reasons, Justice Chagla added, "ICICI Bank did not have complete knowledge of the facts, including the non-disclosures by Ms Kochhar (at the time of her resignation)...these facts were disclosed only on receipt of the inquiry report. I have held that the termi-



nation was a valid termination and Ms Kochhar didn't come to court with clean hands." Kochhar had requested special benefits from her employer in 2018, added the report. Back then, the Central Board of Investigation had accused Ms Kochchar of criminal conspiracy and cheating for alleged irregularities in a loan of Rs 3,250 crores in 2012 to the Videocon Group. This legacy firm has become a non-performing asset for the ICICI Bank. The ICICI bank had said that Kochchar violated the company's code of conduct and internal policies.

ROBBERS OPEN FIRE AT COURIER OFFICE IN PUNE, LOOT RS 25 LAKH

Pune: A gang of robbers opened fire and looted Rs 25 lakh from an angadia (courier) office in the Market Yard area in Pune on Saturday morning, police said. The incident took place around 11.30 am. Five people barged into the courier firm's office and when one of the owners of the firm tried to push an intruder out, his accomplice smashed the office's glass exterior and fired a round into the ground, said additional commissioner of police Namdev Chavan. The unidentified robbers decamped after looting Rs 25 lakh in cash, he added. CCTV footage showed five men entering the office and police have launched a manhunt, the official said. "We have formed teams to trace them. We are also checking CCTV footage along the route they took to escape," he added.

Shiv Sena (UBT) unfazed as MP joins Shinde side

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Five months after the erstwhile Shiv Sena (UBT) MP Gajanan Kirtikar abruptly switched over to the Balasahebanchi Shiv Sena led by Chief Minister Eknath Shinde. However, his son Amol G. Kirtikar has decided to remain with the Sena (UBT) instead of following his father to the BSS. The developments came late on Friday after which the Sena (UBT) promptly expelled the 79-year-old Kirtikar, once a trusted aide of Uddhav Thackeray and the late Balasaheb Thackeray, who became the 13th party MP to join the BSS. The much-leaking Sena (UBT) has taken the development in its stride with party MP Sanjay Raut saying "Kirtikar's exit will not make an iota of difference to



dissuade his father, but did not succeed," said Raut. Welcoming him to the party, Chief Minister Shinde lauded Kirtikar's contributions as a staunch associate of Balasaheb Thackeray and said he has joined BSS unconditionally to work for the state. Since the revolt led by Shinde in early-June, there was much speculation on Kirtikar's stance, but he stuck to the Sena (UBT) and defected only after almost five months to the BSS. "Why should we term it as unfortunate. He will need to get re-elected some time, people will decide then. But, tomorrow he will be erased from the public memory," claimed Raut. Kirtikar is the MP from Mumbai North-West seat since 2014 and was also the President of the powerful Shaniya Lokadhikar Samiti which fought for employment preference to local Maharashtra youth.

Vedanta Chairman on why firm chose Gujarat over Maharashtra for plant

Team Absolute | New Delhi/Mumbai

Vedanta Resources Chairman Anil Agarwal on Saturday said production at its semiconductor and display manufacturing unit in Gujarat will start within two and a half years of the groundbreaking ceremony. Semiconductor chips, used in cars, mobile phones and other electronics devices, are not manufactured in India at present. Speaking at the HT Leadership Summit, Agarwal said "My heart and soul is into it and the way the government is supporting, the state government is supporting... I have no doubt that within two and a half years (of the groundbreaking ceremony production will start)." A joint venture of the Indian conglomerate Vedanta and Taiwanese electronics manufacturing giant Foxconn signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Gujarat government earlier to set up a semiconductor and display manufacturing unit in the state. Vedanta-Foxconn would invest Rs 1,54,000



crore to set up the facility in Gujarat, which would create one lakh job opportunities, Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel had said after the MoU was signed. Out of the total investment of Rs 1,54,000 crore, Rs 94,000 crore will go into setting up the display manufacturing unit, while Rs 60,000 crore will be invested for the semiconductor manufacturing facility. Agarwal said that a scientific plan has been devised for the plant. Stating that an independent committee, comprising very good consultants, which went to five to six states to zero in on one site for the plant, found that Gujarat was the best option, as it has the right atmosphere and was also providing better facilities for the unit. "We are setting (the plant) there (in Gujarat)," he explained. "We had gone to Maharashtra... In Maharashtra downstream will be set up which will be bigger than Gujarat," Agarwal explained.

Shah Rukh Khan stopped at Mumbai Airport for hours over luxury watches

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Actor Shah Rukh Khan was stopped for hours by the Customs Department at Mumbai Airport last night over some luxury watches that he and those accompanying him were carrying in their baggage. Sources said he had to pay Rs 6.83 lakh in Customs Duty before being allowed to leave the airport. The Bollywood star was returning after attending an event in Sharjah and had landed at Terminal 3 of Mumbai International Airport on a private jet. The luxury watches were found in the baggage when Khan and those accompanying him were leaving the terminal. According to reports,



while Khan and his manager left the airport upon completion of Customs formalities, some members of his entourage, including his bodyguard, were allowed to leave only around morning. Reports said packaging for six luxury watches valued around ? 18 lakh were also found in the baggage of the star. Khan attended the Sharjah International Book Fair 2022 yesterday, where he was honoured with the Global Icon of Cinema and Cultural Narrative Award for his contribution to international cinema and culture.

BOY DIES IN WALL COLLAPSE AT BUS DEPOT

Palghar: An 11-year-old boy died and a teenager injured after part of a bus depot's compound wall collapsed on them at Jawhar in Palghar district of Maharashtra, police said on Saturday. The incident occurred around 8.30 pm on Thursday, when a bus being moved in a reverse direction hit the wall, an official said. A video of the mishap has gone viral on social media. "The driver was reversing the bus when it hit the compound wall of Jawhar depot, due to which a portion of the wall collapsed on those who were standing close to it. While an 11-year-old boy died, another boy aged 15 suffered injuries in the incident," inspector Sudhir Sankhe of Jawhar police station said. The boys had come to Jawhar from Rajkot in Gujarat to meet their relatives, he said. The body of the 11-year-old boy was sent to a government hospital for post-mortem, while the injured was undergoing treatment, he said, adding that no arrest has been made so far.

GASP! AS 2023 DAWNS, MAHARASHTRA SET TO CHOKE ON AEROSOL POLLUTION

Quaid Najmi | Mumbai

As the world's attention is riveted to the COP27 currently on in Egypt, it emerges that Maharashtra is likely to move from the Orange Zone to enter the Red Zone for aerosol pollution in 2023, sparking fresh concerns, researchers said here. The alarm signal is sounded in a study -- 'A deep insight into state-level Aerosol pollution in India', by Kolkata's Bose Institute Associate Prof. Abhijit Chatterjee and his doctoral scholar Monami Dutta, released by ASAR as part of a project under the Simplifying Science Programme. The study said that high aerosol amounts include particulate matter (PM2.5-PM10), comprising sea-salt, dust, sulphate, black and organic carbon. "If inhaled, the toxic fumes can be harmful to peoples' health, with increased morbidity rate and decreased life expectancy. Aerosol Optical Depth (AOD) is the quantitative estimate of the aerosol present in the atmosphere and can be used as a proxy measurement of PM," said Chatterjee. "The toxins are spewed into the air by 23 coal-based Thermal Power Plants (TPP) with 72 units, producing 23 GW of power. From these, only 14 units (4.5GW) have either installed pollution control technology, Flue Gas Desulphurisation or



claim to be sulphur dioxide limit compliant till August 2022," said an official from the Central Electricity Authority. A majority of the TPPs in Maharashtra are located in Nagpur, Amravati, Chandrapur, Akola, Jalgaon, Beed and Nashik. Currently, said Dutta, Maharashtra falls in the 'Orange Zone' which is a vulnerable zone with AOD between 0.4-0.5. "The rising aerosol pollution is likely to push the AOD higher than 0.5 to enter the 'most vulner-

able' or 'Red Zone,'" said Dutta. Explaining the value of the AOD range from 0 to 1.0, she said 0 indicates a crystal clear sky with maximum visibility and 1 shows a very hazy sky condition. "AOD value below 0.3 (Green Zone) is safe, 0.3-0.4 (Blue Zone) is less vulnerable, 0.4-0.5 (Orange Zone) is vulnerable, while more than 0.5 (Red Zone) is highly vulnerable," Dutta said. According to the study by Chatterjee-Dutta, the TPP in Maharashtra has affected air pollution the

most in the past, and the TPP capacity is increasing due to the higher demand for electricity. "If Maharashtra continues to install the TPP capacity as observed in the past, it will enter into the 'Red Zone', with a series of health complications for the people of the state. The state can witness an AOD rise of around 7 per cent between 2019-2023," cautioned Chatterjee. The duo's study identified the main sources of aerosol pollution with solid fuel burning and vehicular emissions besides the coal-based TPPs, in three phases -- 2005-2009, 2010-2014 and 2015, 2019. The TPP's contribution to the emissions shot up from 31 per cent to 39 per cent in the period 2005-2019, mainly due to increase in capacity and depending on the TPP. However, the contribution of solid fuel burning to aerosol pollution declined from 24 per cent to 18 per cent, and vehicular emissions remained constant at 14-15 percent during the same (2005-2019) period. "Accordingly, Maharashtra needs to reduce its TPP capacity by 41 per cent (10 GW), and not allow any new TPPs to come up to return to the safe 'Blue Zone' in public interest," the duo's study has recommended. The findings of Chatterjee-Dutta were published in August 2022 in the peer-reviewed journal Elsevier, headquartered in Amsterdam, The Netherlands.



Jennifer Aniston opened up about her past IVF attempts

Los Angeles | Agencies



Friends star Jennifer Aniston is in a happy phase. The Golden Globe winner recently opened up to Allure about her past infertility struggles and IVF attempts. However, the actress has always faced struggles with a smile on her face much like her character of Rachel from the iconic sitcom, where she took everything in her stride and charted her own course, says reports.

"She's always been happy, though," an insider told, "Her dogs are her kids to her and why she's always had them. Her IVF journey was private and hers and those close to her knew but never asked."

The source added: "But she's at peace and is very happy in her life. She's in a great place, and she knows that. Kids or no kids, it didn't change her."

Another insider told media why Aniston decided to share her journey now: "She's 53 now and knows the [children] ship has sailed, so why not?"

Aniston previously told Allure that she "was trying to get pregnant," adding: "It was a challenging road for me, the baby-making road."

"All the years and years and years of speculation, it was really hard," Aniston noted. "I was going through IVF, drinking Chinese teas, you name it. I was throwing everything at it. I would have given anything if someone had said to me, 'Freeze your eggs. Do yourself a favor.' You just don't think about it."

The 'Friends' alum also slammed the hurtful assumptions that she chose career over kids after her divorce from Brad Pitt in 2005. "It was absolute lies," said Aniston of the "narrative that I was just selfish... I just cared about my career." "And God forbid a woman is successful and doesn't have a child," she added. "And the reason my husband left me, why we broke up and ended our marriage, was because I wouldn't give him a kid."

Aniston said she has "zero regrets" about how her IVF journey worked out, explaining: "Here I am today. The ship has sailed. I actually feel a little relieved now because there is no more, 'Can I?' I don't have to think about that anymore."

Tom Holland has signed a new deal for another 'Spider-Man' trilogy

Los Angeles | Agencies



Hollywood star Tom Holland will likely return as Spider-Man as he has reportedly signed a new deal for another 'Spider-Man' trilogy, which will be developed at Sony Pictures in partnership with Disney and Kevin Feige's Marvel Studios. On 'The Hot Mic with Jeff Sneider and John Rocha' podcast, Jeff Sneider said that Holland "closed a deal" for the yet-to-be-titled 'Spider-Man 4', the follow-up to 'Spider-Man: No Way Home' (2021), says reports.

According to the reports, the British heartthrob's renewed contract includes another 'Spider-Man' trilogy and at least three more appearances, but it's not clear whether that means within the MCU or Sony's Spider-Man Universe.

"This is not the last movie that we are going to make with Marvel - (this is not) the last Spider-Man movie," Pascal told Fandango while promoting 'No Way Home'. "We are getting ready to make the next Spider-Man movie with Tom Holland and Marvel. We're thinking of this as three films, and now we're going to go onto the next three. This is not the last of our MCU movies." However, Sony insiders later refuted Pascal's claims, saying there were "no official plans" for "Spider-Man 4" or a second trilogy. Feige, meanwhile, reiterated Pascal's statement as he told The New York Times, "Amy and I and Disney and Sony are talking about - yes, we're actively beginning to develop where the story heads next, which I only say outright because I don't want fans to go through any separation trauma like what happened after 'Far From Home'. That will not be occurring this time."



Taylor Swift to have her biggest-ever US outing

Los Angeles | Agencies

Singer Taylor Swift announced on Friday morning that she has added 17 additional dates to her 'Eras Tour' of U.S. stadiums, bringing the total number of gigs to 52. That amended number makes it her biggest tour to date, and one that could easily break her own record for a gross in North America, reports. All of the newly announced gigs are in cities that were previously part of the tour, but with second or third nights added, and in one case, a fifth night. The tour's concluding stop at L.A.'s SoFi Stadium is now a five-night stand. That well eclipses the 38 dates that Swift did in the U.S. on her "Reputation" tour in 2018, which had a record gross of \$266.1 million on ticket sales of more than 2 million attendees. With this far bigger number of 52 shows, Swift is almost certain to break that "Reputation"-era record in 2023, even if she were to play at well under capacity, which probably isn't likely. Swift made Friday morning's announcement relatively quietly, by putting the amended graphic up on her Instagram Stories, although obviously it won't stay quiet for long. The opening night of the tour has now shifted, with the addition of a second date in Glendale, Arizona on March 17, 2023, just before the previously announced March 18 opener. What's remarkable is how Swift has accumulated a record number of dates for a stadium tour without expanding the original numbers of cities in the routing, and keeping the appearances more or less to one weekend at a time. The exception is her climactic stand in L.A. Aug. 3-9, where she takes a two-day break after the initial three nights before coming back for the final two shows at SoFi.



ACTRESS MEGAN FOX HAS SARCASTICALLY SLAMMED A RUDE TROLL

Los Angeles | Agencies

Actress Megan Fox has sarcastically slammed a rude troll who mistook her pelvic tattoo for an unshaved bikini line. On Friday, November 11, the actress turned to her Instagram account to share some photos of herself and her fiancé Machine Gun Kelly in 'The Legend of Zelda' costumes. The 'Transformers' actress dressed up as Princess Zelda while her soon-to-be husband opted for warrior elf Link, according to the reports. Fox's costume included dual sky-high slits that highlighted her long toned legs, but one appeared to reveal a faint shade just past the edge of the fabric. Some comments directed at the photos focused on the exposed skin on her hip. "All that money and she can't but a razor," wrote one troll in a comment, "She's now off my list." Upon learning of the rude and incorrect claims, Fox quickly shut it down, explaining that what the troll took to be her unshaved bikini line was actually a tattoo.

The dramatic cursive tattoo is her ex-husband Brian Austin Green's first name. "Are you mistakenly referring to my tattoo?" she wrote back, offering a sarcastic comment of her own. "Either way I'm devastated to be off your list," she quipped, "Was hoping you'd wife me." Prior to this, Megan, along with her fiancé MGK, also became the subject of troll over their racy Christian Halloween outfits.

At the time, MGK dressed as a priest in black and red robes. He's seen holding a leash around Megan's neck, with the actress also wearing black lingerie and fishnets. In one of the snapshots, MGK was snapped feeding Megan what appeared to be Sacramento bread. "On Sundays we take communion," the actress captioned a set of pictures of the couple in their costumes. "What the hell is wrong with you people," one angry critic commented. "Unacceptable," another added, "No one should ever mock someone else's religion."

A third wrote simply: "The humiliating and degrading things people do for social media."

Alec Baldwin filed a cross-complaint seeking to "clear his name"

Los Angeles | Agencies

Alec Baldwin filed a cross-complaint on Friday seeking to "clear his name" in the shooting death of 'Rust' cinematographer Halyna Hutchins, and said that blame for the tragedy lies with three crew members and with the man who supplied ammunition to the set. Baldwin named all four as cross-defendants in a lawsuit originally filed against him last year by Mamie Mitchell, the film's script supervisor. Baldwin said he relied on all four to do their jobs, and that Hutchins died as a result of their negligence, reports.

As a result, Baldwin said that he has experienced "immense grief" and suffered an "emotional, physical and financial toll." "More than anyone else on that set, Baldwin has been wrongfully viewed as the perpetrator of this tragedy," wrote Baldwin's attorney, Luke Nikas. "By these Cross-Claims, Baldwin seeks to clear his name and hold Cross-Defendants accountable for



their misconduct."

Baldwin was holding a Colt .45 revolver when it went off during preparation for a scene near Santa Fe, on October 21, 2021. He has said that he pulled the hammer back, though not far enough to cock it, and then released it - causing the gun to fire. He has said he did not pull the trigger. The Santa Fe County Sheriff's Office recently completed its criminal investigation, and local prosecutors are now considering whether to file charges against Baldwin or any of the crew members.

The document faults armorer Hannah Gutierrez Reed for having "failed to perform her job carefully and as a result a live round was loaded into the gun that she had negligently failed to identify." Baldwin has tried to throw out the suit, on the grounds that on-set accidents are the exclusive domain of New Mexico workers compensation system. A Los Angeles judge denied his motion on November 1.

ABSOLUTE PIC OF THE DAY



Amber Turner



T20 World Cup

A CONFIDENT ENGLAND AND SOLID PAKISTAN'S FINAL

Melbourne | Agencies

The final of the tournament has arrived. If the unpredictable weather of Melbourne permits a full match, then fans are in store for a blazing final between a confident England and solid Pakistan on Sunday.

With both teams on their quest to win just their second T20 World Cup title, the heavy rain predicted for the final showdown on Sunday as well as on Monday, the reserve day, the trophy could be shared between the two teams. Fans will be praying to the cricketing gods to conjure up miraculous circumstances for the match to be held, even if it is a 10-overs a side affair.

Their comeback in the tournament was led by strong new-ball bowling, led by left-arm pacer Shaheen Shah Afridi, while Mohammad Wasim Jr and Haris Rauf have supported him well. Their spin twins, leg-spinner Shadab Khan and left-arm spinner Mohammad Nawaz, have been extremely beneficial in stemming the run-flow in middle overs. With the bat, Babar and Rizwan were back in form by sharing a 105-run stand and reaching their respective half-centuries. Youngster Mohammad Haris has been a breath of fresh air with his fearless hitting in the middle order while Shan Masood and Iftikhar Ahmed have been decent, apart from Shadab hitting the ball well with the bat.

England, the current ODI World Cup holders, is looking to win a second T20



World Cup trophy after winning the 2010 edition in West Indies. A win over Pakistan on Sunday will make them the first team in men's international cricket to hold two World Cups at the same time and continue their white-ball transformation story.

Buttler had huge shoes to fill as a captain after Eoin Morgan's retirement, but has admirably led England from the front. His unbeaten 170-run stand with Alex Hales against India was beautiful and brutal to watch at the same time. They will also be hoping that Ben

Stokes, Phil Salt, Moeen Ali, Harry Brook, and Liam Livingstone fire with the bat on the big match day.

With the ball, England will be looking to strike early and will rely on Stokes as well as Chris Woakes to do the same. Sam Curran has been a revelation with the death-overs bowling though he did take some beating from India in the last five overs of the semifinal. Though Moeen hasn't been called in to bowl a lot of overs, Adil Rashid and Livingstone have been impressive in the spin bowling department.

BUTTLER, BABAR PICK SURYAKUMAR, SHADAB AS THEIR 'PLAYER OF THE TOURNAMENT'

Melbourne | Ahead of the final of the ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2022, England captain Jos Buttler and Pakistan Babar Azam on Saturday picked Suryakumar Yadav and Shadab Khan as their respective 'Player of the Tournament'.

Suryakumar made a massive impact for India in the T20 World Cup with his consistency clubbed with a more than healthy strike rate. Heading into the final, he is the third-highest run-scorer in the tournament with 239 runs that came at a strike rate of 189.68, the best in the tournament.

Buttler, who chose to go with Suryakumar, also highlighted the role of two England players who stood out in the tournament and didn't forget to mention that they had another opportunity to be strong contenders for the award. "I think Suryakumar Yadav. For me, he has been someone who's played with extreme freedom. He's been incredibly eye-catching to watch in such a star-studded line-up. To stand out the way he has is amazing," the England captain said in a video released by ICC ahead of the final. "Of course, there's a couple of our guys on that sheet as well -- Sam Curran and Alex Hales. If they put in a great performance in the final, they can be the Player of the Tournament for me," he added.

On being asked the same question to Pakistan skipper, he had no hesitation in picking Shadab Khan, whose all-round contributions have been pivotal in Pakistan's late surge to the final.

"I think it should be Shadab Khan for the way he is playing," Babar said. "While his bowling has been outstanding, his batting also improved quite a bit. His dominating performance in the last three games along with his outstanding fielding makes him a prime contender for the Player of the Tournament," he added.

NETHERLANDS UNVEIL SQUAD FOR 2022 FIFA WORLD CUP

The Hague | Experienced goalkeeper Jasper Cillessen was surprisingly left out of the Netherlands' squad for the 2022 FIFA World Cup, with Xavi Simons and Jeremie Frimpong receiving their first call-up.

Virgil van Dijk (Liverpool), Frenkie de Jong (FC Barcelona) and Memphis Depay (FC Barcelona) are the key players in the Dutch squad, which was announced late on Friday. Depay has not played for over a month due to a hamstring injury, but head coach Louis van Gaal opted to take the risk with his main striker.

"Depay has still not recovered completely, but he is medically fit now," Van Gaal said at a press conference in Zeist. "But he is so important that I decided to select him, although he cannot start in the first match. That's what I already said before. For players like Frenkie de Jong and Memphis Depay, I will save a place until the last moment."

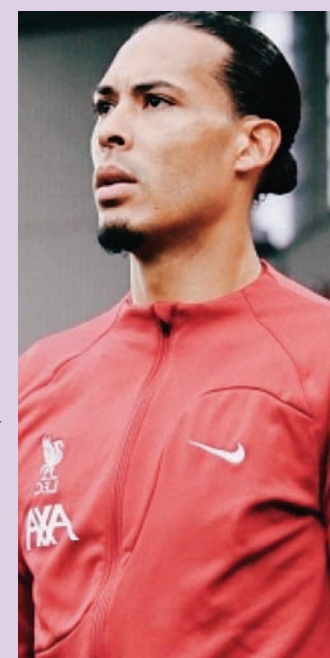
The Netherlands reached the World Cup final three times in 1974, 1978 and 2010, but lost on all occasions against West Germany, Argentina and Spain respectively.

Netherlands squad for 2022 FIFA World Cup: **Goalkeepers:** Justin Bijlow (Feyenoord), Andries Noppert (sc Heerenveen), Remko Pasveer (Ajax)

Defenders: Nathan Ake (Manchester City), Daley Blind (Ajax), Virgil van Dijk (Liverpool), Denzel Dumfries (Internazionale), Jeremie Frimpong (Bayer Leverkusen), Matthijs de Ligt (Bayern Munich), Tyrell Malacia (Manchester United), Jurrien Timber (Ajax), Stefan de Vrij (Internazionale)

Midfielders: Steven Berghuis (Ajax), Frenkie de Jong (FC Barcelona), Davy Klaassen (Ajax), Teun Koopmeiners (Atalanta), Marten de Roon (Atalanta), Xavi Simons (PSV), Kenneth Taylor (Ajax)

Forwards: Steven Bergwijn (Ajax), Memphis Depay (FC Barcelona), Cody Gakpo (PSV), Vincent Janssen (Antwerp FC), Luuk de Jong (PSV), Noa Lang (Club Brugge), Wout Weghorst (Besiktas).



Paulo Dybala named in Argentina's squad for the FIFA World Cup

Buenos Aires | Agencies

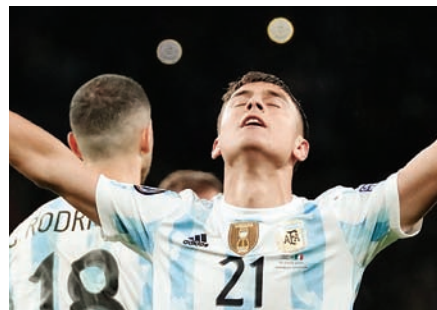
AS Roma forward Paulo Dybala has been named in Argentina's squad for the FIFA World Cup in Qatar despite a hamstring tear, the country's football association has said.

The player has not played since sustaining the injury in a 2-1 home win over Lecce in Italy's Serie A on October 9.

Local media reported on Friday the former Juventus star began light training this week and he will be in a race against time to be fit for Argentina's first match against Saudi Arabia on November 22. The Albicestse will also face Mexico and Poland in Group C, reports Xinhua.

As expected, Argentina's wealth of attacking options also include Paris Saint-Germain forward Lionel Messi, Manchester City's Julian Alvarez and Inter Milan striker Lautaro Martinez. Manager Lionel Scaloni also called up midfielders Leandro Paredes (Juventus) and Rodrigo De Paul (Atletico Madrid) in his 26-man squad.

But there was no place for Giovani Lo



Celso, who was left out after suffering a hamstring injury while playing for Villarreal.

"They are proud to be called up and wear this jersey, let's hope that you as fans are too. We're in this together," Scaloni said in an Instagram video. Argentina's defence includes Tottenham Hotspur's Cristian Romero, Manchester United's Lisandro Martinez and Benfica veteran Nicolas Otamendi.

Aston Villa's Emiliano Martinez is set to be the first-choice goalkeeper ahead of Franco Armani (River Plate) and Geronimo Rulli (Villarreal).

T20 World Cup MORGAN BACKS WILLEY TO PLAY AHEAD OF JORDAN IN THE FINAL

Melbourne | Agencies

Eoin Morgan, the former England captain who led the side to the 2019 ODI World Cup at home, said he would pick David Willey over Chris Jordan to play in the final of Men's T20 World Cup if Mark Wood is unavailable for the title clash due to general body stiffness.

Jordan had replaced an injured Wood in England's 10-wicket win over India in the second semifinal at Adelaide Oval on Thursday. He clinched figures of 3/43 in his four overs and was praised immensely by Captain Jos Buttler on bowling three of the last five overs.

But Morgan feels that the dimensions at the Melbourne Cricket Ground, where straight boundaries are shorter and square boundaries are longer than Adelaide Oval, may not suit Jordan and that left-arm pacer Willey could come into the side



to pick early wickets.

"If you look at conditions at the MCG, they just suit him, whereas they probably work against someone like Jordan at the death with his yorkers.

The MCG is so short straight and there is little margin for error so if Wood isn't fit you might even see someone like David Willey come in.

"Willey can swing the ball and then

you can bowl him and Chris Woakes at the death, bowling into the wicket, forcing Pakistan to hit it square and create catching opportunities. You have to have the ground dimensions working in your favour in big games as if you make basic mistakes and are hit to the short side, you are up against it," said Morgan on Sky Sports Cricket Podcast. With rain emerging as a huge threat for the England-Pakistan final to happen smoothly on Sunday as well as Monday, the reserve day, both teams will have to be ready for a Super Over. Morgan picked left-arm pacer all-rounder Sam Curran to bowl the Super Over for England if such a situation emerges in the final. "If you were to say flat wicket, everything set fair at the MCG, from afar it would be Curran. He would bowl into the wicket, wide so you can't get it straight. You would set an off-side field and make them hit to the long side."

Asian Elite Boxing Shiva Thapa signs off with silver

Team Absolute | New Delhi

Star Indian boxer Shiva Thapa capped off India's magnificent campaign by clinching a historic silver medal as the country concluded the 2022 ASBC Asian Elite Boxing Championships with 12 medals in Amman, Jordan on Saturday.

This is Thapa's third silver and sixth medal overall in the prestigious tournament, which makes him the most successful male pugilist in the event's history. His previous two silver medals came in 2017 and 2021. He also clinched the title in the 2013 edition and secured bronze medals in 2015 and 2019. Up against Abdullaev Ruslan of Uzbekistan in the men's 63.5kg final, Thapa made a cautious start and looked to grow in confidence as the bout progressed. However, his quest for a second gold in the Asian Championships was halted by an unfortunate injury that he suffered to his right knee in the second round of the bout. With the Guwahati-born boxer in no condition to continue, his Uzbek opponent was declared the winner by the referees with the RSC verdict. With this silver on the final day, India accumulated a grand total of 12 medals in the competition, which included four gold, two silver and six bronze.



Premier League: A worry in last round of matches

London | Agencies

The last round of Premier League matches before the World Cup is to be played this weekend and will make England coach Gareth Southgate nervous while leaving some coaches with a selection dilemma.

With just a week before the World Cup kicks off, any injury picked up this weekend, will mean missing out on the tournament, and Southgate will be hoping none of the 26 players he named in his squad on Thursday suffer any setbacks.

Meanwhile, some coaches might consider leaving out some of their internationals to save them from the risk of missing out on one of the highlights of their careers.

Manchester City coach, Pep Guardiola, will have no such dilemma about striker Erling Haaland for his side's home game against Brentford. The Norwegian won't be going to Qatar, but has recovered from his foot injury and will lead the City attack.

Southgate would probably be grateful for defender Kyle Walker to get some minutes under his belt before the World Cup, while Brentford striker Ivan Toney has a point to prove after failing to make the England squad.

In-form Newcastle United has climbed to third after recent results



and might take another step towards a Champions League place when they meet Chelsea. The Londoners make the long trip north after being outplayed by Arsenal in the league last weekend and by Manchester City in the Carabao Cup in midweek. New Southampton coach Nathan Jones makes his debut away to Liverpool, whose coach Jurgen Klopp has admitted he doesn't like facing new managers as he is never sure what tactics they are going to use, but Liverpool

are in good shape after beating Tottenham last weekend.

Tottenham are looking rocky with three defeats in five games despite sitting fourth in the table, and coach Antonio Conte this week admitted striker Harry Kane is "very tired" ahead of the World Cup.

Spurs are at home to Leeds United, who has moved away from the bottom three after winning at Anfield and in last weekend's 4-3 thriller at home to Bournemouth.

IPL 2023 Australia's Jason Behrendorff traded from RCB to MI



Team Absolute | New Delhi

Australia's left-arm fast bowler Jason Behrendorff has been traded from Royal Challengers Bangalore (RCB) to Mumbai Indians (MI) ahead of IPL season 2023. He was acquired by RCB in the 2022 IPL Auction for his base price of INR 75 lakh but did not feature in a single game throughout the competition.

In the 2023 edition of the IPL, he will be representing Mumbai Indians, for whom he had previously played in 2018 and 2019. Though he couldn't play in the IPL 2018 due to a back injury, Behrendorff returned for the 2019 title-winning season for MI and picked five wickets in as many matches, averaging 33.00 at an economy rate of 8.68. Behrendorff was previously a member of the Chennai Super Kings (CSK) during their run to the trophy in 2021 as a replacement for fellow Australian Josh Hazlewood. But he didn't get to play in the first half of the competition and when the second half of the tournament was held in the UAE, Hazlewood returned to the side. Behrendorff, 32, was then picked by RCB for IPL 2022, as a back-up to Hazlewood and England's left-arm fast bowler David Willey. He had played an important role in his BBL side Perth Scorchers winning the 2021/22 title, picking 16 wickets in 13 matches, averaging 19.06 at an economy rate of 7.32. The left-arm quick has played nine T20Is for Australia, picking seven wickets with the best bowling performance of 4/21, apart from 12 ODI matches too.



SRK HONORED WITH THE GLOBAL ICON OF CINEMA AND CULTURAL NARRATIVE AWARD

Team Absolute | Sharjah

Bollywood megastar Shah Rukh Khan attended the Sharjah International Book Fair (SIBF) 2022 where he was honored with the Global Icon of Cinema and Cultural Narrative award.

The actor, who was in an all-black avatar with a slick back-brushed hairdo, received the award for the act of "contribution to the cultural scene and reproductivity in the field of writing and creativity". For the megastar, whose fandom spreads across views in Europe, the Middle East, and the Americas apart from India, his presence at the fair marks the first conferment of the SIBF global icon of cinema and cultural narrative.

After receiving the award, the actor that "words, books and stories, these are the things which brings together. We are trying to bring humanity together through cinema, story-tellings, stories, through books and dance. Books are integral parts of our life, not only read, we should adopt the essence of it in our life". "All of us,



no matter where we live, what colour we are, what religion we follow or what songs we dance to, thrive in a

culture of love, peace and compassion," he added. Crowds cheered wildly and stood

up on chairs to catch a glimpse of their favourite actor inside the ballroom of the SIBF. He blew kisses and waved at the hundreds of people, as screams of 'I love you Shah Rukh' rang through the hall.

There were crazy fan moments outside the Sharjah expo centre. Some of those in the audience had begun queuing up at early as 12 p.m. for the event that was scheduled to begin at 6 p.m.

Indian student Rashid Khan, who arrived at 2 p.m. with his younger brother and mother to catch a glimpse of his favourite actor, said: "I am not well but it was a lifetime opportunity for die-hard fan like me, so I was here for the last four hours waiting to get in. I was amazing to see your icon speaking, dancing, and interacting live."

The multifaceted actor, producer, and businessman, SRK or King Khan, as he is popularly known, has appeared in more than 80 films over a three-decade-long career and enjoys a fan following that cuts across ages and races.



Urvashi Rautela poses with Cheeranjeevi

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Actress and model Urvashi Rautela has shared a picture with megastar Cheeranjeevi on social media. Urvashi took to Instagram, where she shared the picture. The actress is seen looking all bright in a flaming orange shirt paired with bright pink pants while Cheeranjeevi looked comfortable in a white T-shirt and black jeans.

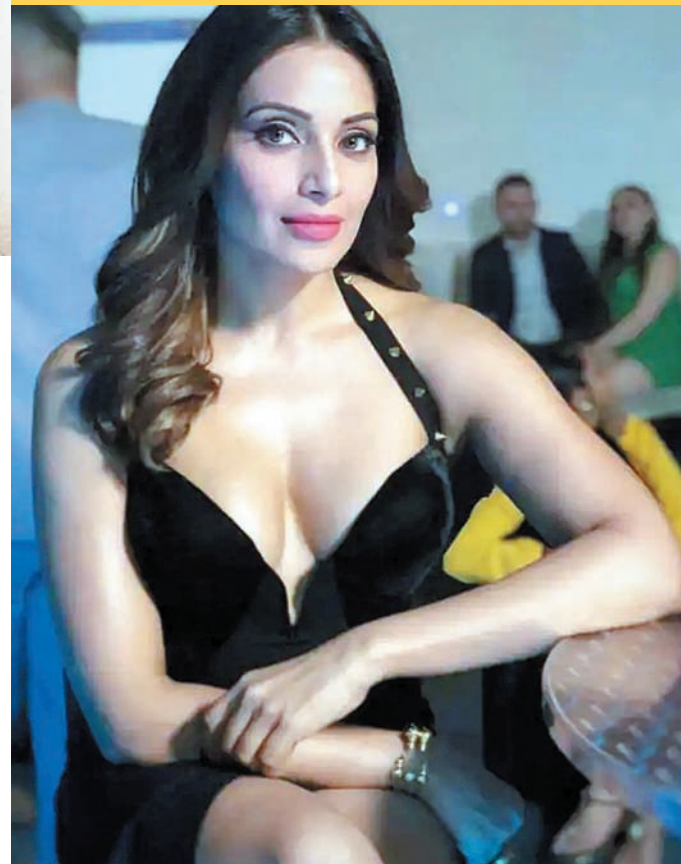
"When I win awards, I think of my parents. To me, being the best means proving it in different countries & universe. Grateful Megastar chiranjeevi konidela garu, #BobbyKolli @mythrioofficial #WaltairVeerayya," she wrote as the caption. Urvashi will be seen in director

Bobby Kolli's upcoming action entertainer 'Waltair Veerayya', featuring Chiranjeevi and Ravi Teja in the lead. The film will have a special song featuring Urvashi.

Billed to be a mass-action entertainer laced with all the commercial ingredients, the film is produced on a grand scale by Naveen Yerneni and Y. Ravi Shankar, while G.K. Mohan is the co-producer.

Arthur A. Wilson cranks the camera, whereas Niranjana Devaramane is the editor and A.S. Prakash is the production designer. Sushmita Konidela is the costume designer.

While the story and dialogues are written by Bobby himself, Kona Venkat and K. Chakravarthy Reddy have penned the screenplay. The writing department also includes Hari Mohana Krishna and Vineeth Potluri.



Team Absolute | Mumbai

Bollywood couple Bipasha Basu and Karan Singh Grover has announced the arrival of their first bundle of joy, a daughter and have named her Devi Basu Singh Grover. Bipasha and Karan took to Instagram to make the announcement. They also shared a picture of their daughter's little feet.

A small note too was attached with the picture, which read: "12.11.22, Devi Basu Singh Grover. The physical manifestation of our love and blessings of Ma is here now and she is divine."

Alongside the post, they wrote: "Blessed."

Taking to Instagram, Bipasha penned a post announcing her pregnancy: "A new time, a new phase, a new light adds another unique shade to our prism of life. Making us a little more whole than we used to be. We began this life individually and then we met each other and from then we were two. Too much love for only two seemed a little unfair for us to see...so soon, we who once were two will now become three. A creation manifested by our love, our baby will join us soon and add to our glee," she wrote.

Bipasha and Karan first met on the set of Bhushan Patel's film 'Alone' in the year 2015, and they tied the knot after a year of dating, in April 2016.



Ranveer performs 'Gully Boy' rap at Marrakech opening night

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Bollywood livewire star Ranveer Singh took centre stage at the opening night of the Marrakech International Film Festival on Friday evening, treating spectators to dancing and an impromptu rap session as he received a tribute award. The 'Gully Boy' and '83' star, who is one of Bollywood's highest-paid actors, bounded onto the stage in the opening ceremony performing one of his characteristic energy dances, reports. "This is the darkest period. When I look at the world around me, I see all sorts of pain and suffering. I feel that in my capacity as an entertainer, the best thing I can do is lighten people's burden," said Singh as he received Marrakech's Etoile d'Or trophy.

Marrakech has a long history of celebrating Indian cinema. The festival previously honored Amitabh Bachchan, Shah Rukh Khan and Amir Khan and in 2012, it ran a special sidebar to mark 100 years of Indian cinema. After his appearance at the official opening ceremony, Ranveer high-tailed it to Marrakech's famous Jemaa El Fna Square to introduce an open-air screening of Sanjay Leela Bhansali's 2015 multi-award-winning 18th costume drama Bajirao Mastani, in which the actor had one of his breakout roles. He treated the crowd to a rendition of the rap number from Gully Boy and danced again.

"You put me on a stage and give me a mike, and I feel compelled to sing you a song, or do you a dance, or show you a movie, or tell you a story," he said. The Competition Jury also took the stage at the opening ceremony.

You didn't let me give up: Samantha Ruth Prabhu to trainer

Team Absolute | Chennai

Actress Samantha Ruth Prabhu has penned a post of gratitude to her trainer Junaid Shaikh for not letting her give up during testing times. Taking to Instagram, the actress wrote: "Junaid Shaikh has never ever thought I did enough to deserve my favourite Jalebi. But today, he did, to celebrate Yashoda's success and especially the action scenes. "The last few months you have been among the few people who have seen it all... my lowest of lows, through the weakness, through the tears, through the high dose steroid therapies, through it all. "You didn't let me give up and I know you won't let me ever give up. Thank you," she wrote. Samantha is currently undergoing treatment for an auto-immune condition called Myositis. Myositis is a condition wherein one's own immune system attacks one's own muscles.



Anushka Gupta