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WORD'S WAR

Congress was unaware about existence of tribals in India: PM Modi

Team Absolute | Jambusar

Prime Minister Narendra Modi today took a swipe at Congress saying its leaders remained oblivious to tribals for a very long time even though tribals have been living in the country since the days of Lord Ram and Lord Krishna.



Canvassing for Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) in Jambusar town in tribal-dominated Bharuch district in poll-bound Gujarat, the prime minister also said leaders of Congress mocked him for wearing traditional tribal attire at public functions.

"For a very long time, Congress leaders remained unaware of the existence of tribals in India. Weren't they living here since the days of Lord Ram and Lord Krishna?.. Weren't they part of the 1857 mutiny? Tribals did so many things for this country. But, Congress leaders never knew that Adivasis exist."

"Otherwise, why was there no separate ministry for tribals until Atal Bihari Vajpayee became prime minister? It was Ataljee's government at the Centre which carved out a separate ministry and allocated a budget for their welfare. Even today, Congress leaders make fun of me for wearing tribal attire," Modi said while addressing a poll rally. The prime minister, who is campaigning in his home state

"I have no aukat. Let's discuss the issue of development and make Gujarat develop. Come to the field. Let this be a face off. The Congress leader walked with a woman who tried everything to derail the Narmada Project putting hands on the shoulders of the people who made Gujarat 'thirsty'. You should ask them with what face are they coming to seek votes from you. They did everything to stall the Narmada project for decades together and ensured that no money including that from World Bank was able to come over to Gujarat," PM said at rally in Surendranagar.

since November 19, said Adivasis cannot expect Congress will improve their condition because leaders of Congress mock tribal outfits and insult tribals at regular intervals.

"You are the first owners of India": Rahul Gandhi to tribal community



lems during the Bharat Jodo Yatra.

In his first election rally in poll-bound Gujarat, Gandhi while addressing a gathering of tribals at Mahuva in Surat district said they are the first owners of the country and claimed the BJP was working to take away their rights.

"They call you 'vanvasi'. They do not say you are the first owners of India, but that you live in the jungle. Do you see the difference? It means they do not want you to live in cities, they do not want that your children become engineers, doctors, learn to fly planes, speak English," he said.

"They want you to live in the jungle, but do not stop there. After that, they start taking the jungle from you. If it continues like this, then in another 5-10 years, all the jungles will be in the hands of two-three industrialists, and you will have no place to live, and won't get education, health and jobs," Gandhi said.

He said during the Bharat Jodo Yatra, which was for the unity of the country, he felt the pain of farmers, youth and people from the tribal community after listening to their problems.

"When journalists asked me what I think about the Morbi tragedy... I said around 150 people died and this is not a political issue and so I would say nothing on this. But the question arises today as to why no action was taken against those who were behind this (tragedy), why no FIR (has been filed against them)?" Will nothing happen to them because they share a good relationship with the BJP? They arrested chowkidars (watchmen) and put them behind bars, but no action has been taken against the real culprits," Congress MP said at Rajkot.

Mahuva, Gujarat: Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Monday said he felt the pain of farmers, youth and tribals after meeting them and listening to their prob-

162 killed In Indonesia earthquake, hundreds injured



▶ THE EPICENTRE OF THE 5.6 MAGNITUDE QUAKE WAS NEAR THE TOWN OF CIANJUR IN MOUNTAINOUS WEST JAVA, ABOUT 75 KM (45 MILES) SOUTHEAST OF THE CAPITAL, JAKARTA. THE REGION IS HOME TO OVER 2.5 MILLION PEOPLE.

▶ INDONESIA STRADDLES THE SO-CALLED "PACIFIC RING OF FIRE", A HIGHLY SEISMICALLY ACTIVE ZONE, WHERE DIFFERENT PLATES ON THE EARTH'S CRUST MEET AND CREATE A LARGE NUMBER OF EARTHQUAKES AND VOLCANOES.

Cianjur, Indonesia | Agencies

A powerful earthquake killed more than 160 people in Indonesia's West Java province on Monday, with rescuers searching for survivors trapped under the rubble amid a series of aftershocks.

West Java governor Ridwan Kamil said on Instagram that 162 people had been killed and 326 were injured.

Indonesia's disaster mitigation agency (BNPB) still placed the death toll at 62 and rescuers were searching for 25 believed to be trapped under rubble and its spokesperson said the search would continue through the night.

Ridwan told reporters that given many buildings have collapsed, the death toll could

rise. "There are residents trapped in isolated places... so we are under the assumption that the number of injured and deaths will rise with time."

The BNPB said more than 2,200 houses had been damaged and more than 5,300 people had been displaced. Ridwan put that number at 13,000 and said they would be spread out at various evacuation centres across Cianjur.

Electricity was down, disrupting communications, authorities said, while landslides were blocking evacuations in some areas.

Hundreds of victims were being treated in a hospital parking lot, some under an emergency tent. Elsewhere in Cianjur, residents huddled together on mats in open fields or in tents while buildings around them had been reduced to rubble.

Ambulance were still arriving at the hospital late into the night, bringing more people to the hospital.

Officials were still working to determine the full extent of the damage caused by the quake, which struck at a relatively shallow depth of 10 km, according to the weather and geophysics agency (BMKG).

In Jakarta, some people left offices in the central business district, while others reported buildings shaking and furniture moving, Reuters witnesses said.

In 2004, a 9.1 magnitude quake off Sumatra island in northern Indonesia triggered a tsunami that struck 14 countries, killing 226,000 people along the Indian Ocean coastline, more than half of them in Indonesia.

Turkey to launch 'Ground Operation' in Syria: Erdogan

Istanbul | Agencies

President Recep Tayyip Erdogan on Monday said that Turkey could launch a ground operation in Syria, following deadly strikes by Ankara and Kurdish militants in northern Syria. "There is no question that this operation be limited to only an aerial operation," Erdogan told reporters as he returned to Turkey from Qatar. "Competent authorities, our defence ministry and chief of staff will together decide the level of force that should be used by our ground forces," Erdogan said.

"We have already warned that we will make those who violate our territory pay," he said.

Erdogan spoke after a strike from Syrian territory killed at least three people, including a child, in a border Turkish town. The strikes came a day after Turkey carried out air strikes against the bases of outlawed Kurdish militants across northern



Syria and Iraq, which it said were being used to launch "terrorist" attacks on Turkish soil. The overnight raids in northern and northeastern Syria killed at least 31 people, said the British-based monitoring group the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights. They were mainly against positions held by Syrian Kurdish forces.

Gujarat Bridge Collapse was an "Enormous Tragedy": Supreme Court

New Delhi | Agencies

The Supreme Court on Monday said that the Morbi Bridge collapse incident in which 140 were killed was an "enormous tragedy" and asked the Gujarat High Court which is already hearing a suo motu case on the same issue, to hold periodical hearings. "It is an enormous tragedy and this will require weekly monitoring to see the award of contract, credential of the party awarded the contract, attribution of responsibility for those guilty," observed a bench of Chief Justice DY Chandrachud and Justice Hima Kohli.

The top court noted that a division bench headed by the Gujarat High Court Chief Justice has already taken a suo motu note of the incident and has passed three orders, it will not hear the petitions as of now. It asked petition-



ers to approach the High Court with their pleas seeking an independent probe and award of dignified compensation to those who lost their family members.

The British-era bridge on the Machchhu river in Morbi collapsed on October 30 leaving over 140 dead including 47 children. The top court was hearing a

plea filed by the person who lost his two relatives in the incident, seeking a CBI probe, award of dignified compensation to those who lost their family members, the need to fix responsibility against officials of the Nagar Palika and that the agency entrusted to maintain the bridge is held accountable.

MOTHER DAIRY MILK IS COSTLIER IN DELHI, NEARBY CITIES

New Delhi: Mother Dairy full-cream milk and token milk will be costlier by Rs 1 per litre and Rs 2 per litre respectively across the Delhi-NCR (National Capital Region) from Monday.

The price of full cream milk has been increased to Rs 64 per litre from Rs 63 per litre. However, the company has not revised the prices of full-cream milk sold in 500 ml packs. The token milk (bulk-vended milk) will be sold at Rs 50 per litre.

The company made the announcement on Sunday. This is the fourth hike in milk prices this year by Mother Dairy.

A Mother Dairy spokesperson said that the decision was taken because of the hike in its procurement cost of raw milk from dairy farmers.

"This year, the entire dairy industry is witnessing a huge gap in the demand and supply of milk. Raw milk availability has been impacted due to the increased cost of feed and fodder, erratic monsoon, etc, putting stress on raw milk prices. The outgoing consumption due to a boost in demand this year has led to much higher usage of commodities," the spokesperson said.



Mangaluru blast: Identity of suspected terrorist confirmed, police continue raids

Dakshina Kannada | Agencies

The identity of the terror suspect Mohammad Shariq has been confirmed by his family members on Monday. Summoned by the police department, Shariq's sister and his aunt came down to Mangaluru and police sources confirmed that they identified him.

The 25-year-old Mohammad Shariq's family members had come from native Thirthahalli in Shivamogga district. Mohammad Shareeq carried a fake Aadhaar card with a Hindu name when the cooker-bomb exploded in an auto on Saturday.



Meanwhile, the police sources explained that Mohammad Shariq and Coimbatore blast accused Jameesha Mubin knew each other. Shariq had met Mubin in Bengaluru and both

planned to carry out explosions. Shariq took the responsibility of carrying out blasts in communally sensitive coastal region and Mubin went ahead with Coimbatore blast.

Karnataka police teams are conducting raids on the residence of Shariq at his native place Soppugadde near Thirthahalli in Shivamogga. His relatives' houses are also being raided.

The police suspect that accused in custody is a suicide bomber and carried the cooker bomb from Mysuru to Mangaluru city in a bus. The police have launched a search for another suspect, who was with Shariq at the time of boarding the auto.

Shariq was arrested and released on bail for writing threatening graffiti in Mangaluru city. After being released on bail, he was involved more in the terrorist activities and upgraded himself as bomb maker.

NEW RULES FOR INTERNATIONAL PASSENGERS ARRIVING IN INDIA

New Delhi: The self-declaration forms for Covid vaccination that had to be filled in by incoming international passengers on the Air Suvidha portal, will no longer be necessary, the government has said. The decision will come into effect from midnight.

A notice from the Civil Aviation ministry this evening read, "In the light of sustained declining COVID-19 trajectory and significant advances being made in COVID-19 vaccination coverage both globally as well as in India, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare has issued revised 'Guidelines for International Arrivals'." Under the revised guidelines of the health ministry, the submission of self-declaration form on the online Air Suvidha portal stand discontinued, the aviation ministry said. It, however, added a statutory warning: The rule could be reviewed if needed in view of the Covid situation.

The form on the aviation ministry's Air Suvidha portal was mandatory for incoming international passengers. In it, passengers had to declare their vaccination status, including the number of doses received and their dates.

Maha gov withdraws plea against Arnab Goswami from SC

Team Absolute | New Delhi

The Supreme Court on Monday allowed the Maharashtra government to withdraw its appeal - filed during Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray's tenure - challenging a 2020 Bombay High Court order suspending the probe in two FIRs filed against Republic TV Editor-in-Chief Arnab Goswami for allegedly making inflammatory comments.

The Maharashtra government counsel submitted before a bench headed by Chief Justice D.Y. Chandrachud that the order of the high court is an interim order and he has instructions to withdraw the appeal. The bench, also comprising Justice Hima Kohli, ordered: "Dismissed as withdrawn".

The state government had moved the apex court when the Maha Vikas Aghadi government led by Thackeray was ruling the state. The Thackeray led government was



replaced by the NDA government led by Chief Minister Eknath Shinde on June 30.

In 2020, the high court had stayed the investigation into two FIRs filed against Goswami for allegedly making inflammatory comments during news programmes.

The FIRs were connected with Goswami's comments in TV programmes about the Palghar lynching incident and migrants gathering in large numbers at Mumbai's Bandra area during lockdown to curb the spread of Covid.



MAN SHOT DAUGHTER IN DELHI, WIFE HELPED PACK BODY IN SUITCASE: COPS

A 22-year-old Delhi woman, whose body was found inside a suitcase near the Yamuna Expressway in Uttar Pradesh's Mathura last week, was killed by her father, Uttar Pradesh police said today.

Team Absolute | New Delhi

Aayushi Chaudhary's parents have been arrested for her murder, according to the Mathura Superintendent of Police.

Nitesh Yadav allegedly shot his daughter dead, furious that she had "gone out for some days" without telling him. He was also enraged that she had married a man from a different caste, and that she often stayed out till late night, sources said.

Aayushi Chaudhary was pursuing a Bachelor of Computer Application in Delhi.

After the police recovered the suitcase, they began tracing phones, checked CCTV footage, used social media, and also put up posters in Delhi to identify the woman.

Concrete information about her,



however, was received from an unknown call on Sunday morning, and later, her mother and brother identified her through photographs.



The father, who lives in Badarpur in south Delhi, was arrested after the police questioned him when he went to identify the body. According to the

police, Aayushi had married a man named Chhatrapal, from another caste, without telling her family.

Her parents were angry at what they believed was her defiance and 'stubborn' attitude.

After shooting Aayushi with his licensed gun, Nitesh Yadav allegedly packed her body in a suitcase and dumped it in Mathura.

Aayushi's body was found wrapped in plastic in a large red suitcase near the Yamuna Expressway in Mathura last Friday. There was blood on the face and head and there were injury marks all over the body, the police had said. The suitcase was spotted by labourers, who then called the police.

The family is a native of Baluni in Uttar Pradesh's Gorakhpur and migrated to the national capital after Nitesh Yadav found a job there.

If one party in Muslim marriage is a minor, offence will come under POCSO Act: Kerala HC

Kochi | Agencies

The Kerala High Court ruled that if one of the parties in a Muslim marriage is a minor, the offence will come under the POCSO Act.

In his ruling related to a case, Justice Bechu Kurian Thomas said that in a marriage between Muslims, if a minor is there, it cannot be excluded under the Pocsso Act.

The judge is the son of retired Justice K.T. Thomas who had turned down the bail plea of a 31-year-old Muslim man from West Bengal in a case registered against him by the Thiruvalla Police in August this year where he was alleged to have "kidnapped" a 14-year-old girl.

The case surfaced when the local health authorities at Thiruvalla registered a complaint that a girl nearing 16 years (as per Aadhaar Card records) had come for an injection and



was found out to be pregnant.

But Rehman claimed that the wedding took place at his home state in March 2021 under the Muslim law, but the police informed the court that according to her parents no such marriage had taken place.

However the court, which pointed out that

Muslims who attain puberty were allowed to marry under their traditional law, but it was questionable if the personal law would prevail over a special legislation like the POCSO Act.

Under the Act, sexual exploitation in any manner against a child is looked up as an offence and is not excluded from the sweep of the statute.

"Playing Defame To Inflamm Politics": Congress on PM Modi's remark

Team Absolute | New Delhi

The Congress on Monday hit back at Prime Minister Narendra Modi over his dig at Congress leader Rahul Gandhi undertaking the Bharat Jodo Yatra, claiming the PM is "rattled" and indulging in his typical "defame to inflame" brand of politics.

In an apparent reference to Gandhi during an address in Surendranagar town of poll-bound Gujarat, Modi said those who have been thrown out of power were taking out foot marches to get back to power.

Responding to this, Congress general secretary in-charge of communications Jairam Ramesh said the Bharat Jodo Yatra aims to awaken the nation's conscience to growing economic inequalities, social polarisation and political authoritarianism. Anyone who shares these concerns, believes in the Gandhian way and is committed to the Constitution in letter and spirit is welcome to join the Yatra, he said.

"The PM is indulging in his typical 'defame to inflame' brand of politics while criticising the Yatra. He is clearly desperate and rattled by the response over the past 75 days. How can anyone whose organisation actively opposed Bharat Chhodo in 1942 understand Bharat Jodo in 2022," the Congress leader said on Twitter.

In his Surendranagar address, Modi said,



"Some people are doing foot march to get back to power. They are also taking along those who had stalled the Narmada project for 40 years through litigation and kept Gujarat thirsty for 40 years." "In this election, the people of Gujarat will punish those who are doing this padyatra. People will also punish those who were against the Narmada project," he said, without taking any names. Modi was referring to Narmada Bachao Andolan spearhead Medha Patkar joining the Rahul Gandhi-led Bharat Jodo Yatra in Maharashtra recently.

4 K'TAKA COPS SUSPENDED FOR EXTORTING GOLD MERCHANT

Bengaluru | Agencies

Four Karnataka policemen have been suspended for extorting Rs 5 lakhs from a gold merchant and threatening to frame him under a smuggling case in Chikkamagalur district, officials said on Monday.

The four were identified as Sub-Inspector Lingaraju, constables Dhanapal Nayak, Omkarmurthy and Sharat Raj, attached to the Ajjampura police station.

On May 11, the accused policemen stopped gold merchant Rohit Sankla's car in Davanagere. He was carrying 2.450 kg of gold which he was taking to Belur.

Upon finding the gold, they threatened him that a case of smuggling would be lodged against him if he doesn't give a Rs 10 lakh bribe.

Later, they extorted Rs 5 lakh from Sankla and let him go.

The gold merchant had lodged a complaint with senior police officers in this regard and the department had taken action after departmental inquiry.

Indian captains react as Air India plans to hire foreign pilots for Boeing 777 fleet

Team Absolute | New Delhi

Air India has planned to hire foreign pilots to meet its requirements on the Boeing 777 fleet through a placement firm.

Documents regarding recruitment showed that these pilots are being offered better pay, lucrative terms, generous benefits and many other perks that have hardly been offered to Indians.

However, many senior Indian pilots termed the move as a "crazy initiative" when India already has efficient and experienced pilots for Boeing 777.

Reacting on the move, Capt. Shakti Lumba said on Twitter: "Thru #PaxtonAviation @airindiain B777 EXPAT CAPTAIN 1yr contract is \$156,000 NET pa assured 4?(70/hr/mo)&6On2OFF rotation i.e only 40 working weeks:6 week will be lost on FATA&AEP leaving 34week for flying ie CTC 6,148+/- week: This boss must be crazy."

Another senior pilot requesting anonymity claimed that Air India is now hiring foreigners with lucrative benefits while Indian pilots are barely given leave and paid well below global



standards. "Why should a recruitment firm be required when Air India has the in-house facilities to select pilots on their own just as they had recently done for Indians," he added.

Response of Air India was awaited till Monday late evening.

Air India in September unveiled its comprehensive transformation plan, to establish itself as a world-class global airline with an Indian heart -- the absolute best in class in customer service, in technology, in product, in

reliability and in hospitality. The plan is titled Vihaan.AI with identified objectives for Air India over the next 5 years. After 69 years as a government-owned enterprise, Air India and Air India Express were re-acquired by the Tata Group in January 2022.

Post acquisition, time-bound transformation milestones have been laid out and a series of steps have been initiated towards achieving the same in order to ensure Air India once again emerges as a world class airline.

Low-pressure area in South Bay of Bengal to bring heavy rains in Chennai, North TN

Chennai | Agencies

The Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) has said that low pressure over the central parts of the South Bay of Bengal has turned into a depression and would lead to heavy rains in isolated areas of Chennai and North Tamil Nadu, Karaikal, and Puducherry.

Certain areas of South Tamil Nadu is also expected to receive light to moderate rains with thunderstorms and lightning. The IMD said that on November 21, Villupuram, Chengalpattu, Kancheepuram, Chennai, Ranipet, and Tiruvallur districts of Tamil Nadu will receive heavy rains while on November 22 Tiruvallur, Kancheepuram, Ranipet, and Vellore districts may receive heavy rains.

A senior official with the IMD told reporter that rains will occur in



Chennai and adjoining districts with thunder and lightning. The maximum and minimum temperatures are likely to be around 28 degree Celsius and 22-23 degrees Celsius respectively.

Fishermen are advised not to venture out into the sea on November 21 and November 22. It may be noted that since the arrival of the northeast monsoon, Tamil Nadu has received

copious rains and most of the water tanks in the state are full. Some lakes have discharged water as the rains in the catchment areas were bringing in more water to the tanks.

Ten held for assaulting BJP MLA in K'taka village

Chikkamagalur | Agencies

Ten villagers were arrested on Monday on charges of assaulting BJP MLA from Mudigere Assembly constituency M.P. Kumaraswamy after a woman died in elephant attack in the district.

The arrests were made from Hullemane Kunduru village in Mudigere taluk, where the incident had taken place on Sunday.

According to sources, the villagers were protesting with the body of a woman who died in elephant attack. BJP MLA Kumaraswamy had visited the spot late in the evening.

The villagers vented out their ire on BJP MLA, for not



doing anything regarding elephant menace and arriving late, though they were protesting since morning. They started questioning him in singulars, then hurled abuses, tore his clothes and started beating him up. Later, they chased him.

Amid stone pelting, the MLA was rescued and escorted to his vehicle by police. The villagers had also damaged vehicles.

In order to quell the mob surrounding MLA Kumaraswamy, the police had to resort to lathi charge.

3 killed as bus rams into tractor in Telangananaa

Hyderabad | Agencies

Three persons were killed when a bus ramed into a tractor on Hyderabad-Bangalore highway in Telangana's Wanaparthy district, early on Monday.

Garuda bus of Telangana State Road Transport Corporation (TSRTC), which was on its way from Hyderabad to Bangalore, collided with a sugarcane-laden tractor from the rear side near Mummalalpalli in Kottakota mandal.

Two persons died on the spot while one succumbed to his injuries at the government hospital at Wanaparthy.

According to police, the bus driver, cleaner and a passenger were killed while 15 others were injured.



The deceased were identified as Anjaneyulu (42), Sandeep (35) and Shivanna (56). The injured were undergoing treatment at Wanaparthy hospital.

A total of 48 passengers were travelling in the bus belonging to Miyapur depot

in Hyderabad. Such was the impact of the collision that the front portion of the Volvo bus was badly mangled. The police had a tough time in removing the vehicle from the road. The accident led to a nearly four kilometre long traffic jam on the highway.

CCI order in Google case may have financial implications for local developers

Team Absolute | New Delhi

The recent order by the Competition Commission of India (CCI) in the Google case may appear developer friendly but in practice, it may have a practical and financial impact on the developers, especially the startups, legal experts said on Monday.

The CCI fined Google Rs 936.44 crore on October 25 for abusing its dominant position with regards to its Play Store Billing and payment policy, a few days after the regulator slapped a fine of Rs 1,338 crore for abusing its dominant position in multiple markets with its Android mobile operating system (OS).

According to Gowree Gokhale, Partner, Nishith Desai Associates, from the order, at least, it does not appear that there was enough evidence on the effects of Google's practices on end consumers and the Android ecosystem. "In the absence of anti-fragmentation obligations, if multiple incompatible Android OS versions are developed by OEMs, then the developers may have to customise their apps for each version. This may delay market entry and enhance the cost," Gokhale told reporter.

This, in turn, may further lead to the disparity of



opportunity between small and large developers.

"The overall value of the Android ecosystem as a whole may get eroded. It seems highly improbable that baseline compatibility standards across such fragmented ecosystems would emerge, based solely on market forces," said Gokhale.

Google has been given a time of 30 days to provide the requisite financial details and supporting documents in the CCI order. Hit by two back-to-back fines by the CCI, Google said it was reviewing the decision to evaluate the next steps. In a statement, Google said that the Indian developers have

benefited from the technology, security, consumer protections, and unrivaled choice and flexibility that Android and Google Play provide.

"And, by keeping costs low, our model has powered India's digital transformation and expanded access for hundreds of millions of Indians. We remain committed to our users and developers and are reviewing the decision to evaluate the next steps," a Google spokesperson said.

According to Gokhale, one of the benefits of anti-fragmentation obligations on the OEMs by Google is standardising security implementation within the overall Android ecosystem, across all devices. "In the absence of this obligation, OEM may develop an OS version that is not secure or interoperable with other versions. Consumers may not be well aware of the differences in the OS versions and may simply rely on the Android brand," she emphasised.

She said that since the personal data of users get collected across various apps, it is very important that all devices have equal security standards. That also helps consumers to have a wider choice of devices. "The CCI does not seem to have considered this aspect in detail at all," Gokhale told reporter.



MOVE HIM OUT: TEAM SHINDE MLA ON GOVERNOR AFTER SHIVAJI COMMENT ROW

Team Absolute | Mumbai

After three days of radio silence from Shinde Sena, an MLA from Maharashtra's ruling Sena faction spoke up today against Governor Bhagat Singh Koshiyari's remarks on Chhatrapati Shivaji. Ship him out -- was the unambiguous message from Sanjay Gaikwad to the BJP, heaping embarrassment on the ruling ally which has been caught in the political firestorm over Koshiyari's remark.

"The Governor should understand that the ideals of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj never age and he cannot be compared to any other great person in the world," Sanjay Gaikwad said.

"I request all the central leaders of BJP that a Governor who does not know the history of this place or how it functions - there will be no benefit in keeping such a person. That's why it is our demand that a person from the Marathi soil be made the



Governor. Send Koshiyari wherever you want," said the MLA, who represents the Buldhana Assembly constituency. He even made it clear that this issue, if not addressed, might

become the nucleus of a rift between the ruling allies. "Central seniors should take note that due to governor, differences will be created between the two parties," Chhatrapati Shivaji,

the 17th Century Maratha ruler, is an emotive issue in Maharashtra and Koshiyari's remark that he is "an icon of olden days" has incensed many.

Key Uddhav Thackeray aide Sanjay Raut claimed the Governor has insulted Shivaji four times in one year. "Still, the government is silent. Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah consider Shivaji Maharaj an idol and their national spokesperson said that Shivaji Maharaj apologised to Aurangzeb five times. Is this the BJP's official stand? BJP should apologise to Maharashtra and remove the Governor right away," he added.

As the controversy threatened to boil over, BJP's Nitin Gadkari, who the Governor has named as the idol of recent times while speaking of Shivaji, ended his silence today. "Shivaji Maharaj is our god...We revere him even more than our parents," he said in what was seen as an attempt at troubleshooting.

Concerned, Rahul Gandhi calls to enquire after Sanjay Raut's health

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Casting aside their political disagreements, Congress MP Rahul Gandhi called up Shiv Sena (UBT) MP Sanjay Raut and enquired after his health and well-being.

Confirming, Raut said that Gandhi had taken time off his busy schedules in the Bharat Jodo Yatra (BJY) to call him up late on Sunday and speak very warmly with him.

"We were worried for you," Gandhi told Raut, who was released on bail last week after spending around 110 days in jail.

"In spite of strong differences of opinion on some issues, inquiring on your political colleague is a sign of humanity. During his busy schedules of BJY, Rahulji Gandhi called yesterday to inquire about my health," a visibly touched Raut said on Monday. The Sena (UBT) leader observed that "in times of political bitterness, such gestures are becoming rare", referring to the current scenario that has caused concerns among all sections of the polity.

"I appreciate his empathy of feeling the pain of a political colleague who has spent



110 days in jail," acknowledged Raut, and pointed out - barring the leaders Sena (UBT) or allies like Congress and Nationalist Congress Party - "how many of the others even bothered to ask think of me or ask about my family when I was in jail on a false case".

He said that since "Rahul is focussing on love and compassion in his BJY, its getting a massive response", with thousands of people, including elderly men and women, youth and others flocking to meet him en route the march every day.

Soon after his release on bail, Raut had expressed inability to join the BJY owing to health conditions, though the Sena (UBT)'s senior leaders like Aditya Thackeray and Ambadas Danve and others joined Gandhi in Nanded, walking with him on November 11.

Land acquisition completed on entire line except Godrej and Boyce plot: Govt to Bombay HC

Mumbai | Agencies

The Maharashtra government on Monday informed the Bombay High Court that the land acquisition process on the entire line of the Mumbai-Ahmedabad bullet train project has been completed except the plot owned by Godrej & Boyce Manufacturing Co Ltd at suburban Vikhroli.

The state government and the company are embroiled in a legal dispute since 2019 over the acquisition of the company-owned land in Vikhroli for the bullet train project.

Of the total 508.17 km of rail track between Mumbai and Ahmedabad, about 21 km is to be underground. One of the entry points to the underground tunnel falls on the land at Vikhroli (owned by Godrej). The company had last month filed a petition challenging an order passed by the Maharashtra government on September 15 awarding compensation to it for land acquisition for the bullet train project.

On Monday, a division bench of Justices R D Dhanuka and S G Dige said it would commence hearing on the petition from



December 5. Advocate General Ashutosh Kumbhakoni, appearing for the state government, said the matter was urgent as the project is being held up.

The entire land required for the project is from Mumbai to Ahmedabad. The entire acquisition of land has been completed except for this patch (owned by Godrej)," Kumbhakoni said.

He sought that the court begin hearing on the plea at the earliest, as the state government has completed all formalities for acquisition and now only taking possession of the land remains. Godrej's land was the only portion which was not in the state's possession, and all the other land has already been acquired, Kumbhakoni said.

Cocaine worth Rs 20 crore meant for festive season seized by NCB, two foreign national women held

Team Absolute | Mumbai

The Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) has successfully busted an international drug trafficking syndicate and has seized a consignment of cocaine worth Rs 20 crore, the officials said. The NCB also arrested two foreign nationals from Mumbai, they said.

According to an official statement issued by the NCB, Mumbai, in its ongoing heightened operations, information about supply of consignment of drugs to Mumbai by an international syndicate was gathered by NCB-Mumbai. Accordingly, the officers of NCB-Mumbai worked out and after diligent analysis, an actionable input was generated wherein a South African lady named Marinda S. was identified. Immediately, sources were contacted after which it was analysed that the carrier was to air travel from Addis Ababa, Ethiopia to Mumbai on November 20.

It said, The NCB-Mumbai officials immediately moved to Mumbai International Airport and set up a layout to apprehend the woman. A search in accordance of legal procedure led to a recovery of 2.8 kg of fine quality cocaine from her belongings



which were meticulously concealed among unsuspecting items. The contraband in 8 packets of different sizes was concealed in 2 pair of shoes and 2 purses in crafted special cavities.

The NCB further said, "During the course of interrogation, she revealed that she was to deliver the consignment to a person in a hotel located at Andheri. Immediately, a team reached the hotel

and mounted a discreet surveillance. In a while, a woman of African origin arrived and waited in the area with suspicious movement. As the lady was about to leave, she was intercepted and questioned." The woman, H. Musa, a Nigerian national, could not reply satisfactorily to the questions of the officials. Upon strict questioning, she confessed that she was to receive the consignment from the South African national, Marinda S. and further distribute it in Mumbai, the NCB said. Corroborative evidences with incriminating data were recovered from the ladies which indicate their alleged association with the international drug trafficking syndicate, it said.

The agency said that it has been learnt that the drug was sourced from South America which is hotbed for the illicit production of cocaine. The seizure of the consignment is a notable achievement as the local drug trafficking circuits are interested to supply the party drugs for the forthcoming festive season in Mumbai, Goa and nearby areas. The apprehended women are being interrogated to gather further details about the local peddlers and the kingpins based in offshore countries.

Ready to join hands with protectors of freedom: Uddhav Thackeray

Uddhav hints at alliance with Prakash Ambedkar

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Former Maharashtra chief minister Uddhav Thackeray, who heads a faction of the Shiv Sena, on Sunday, alleged that the country was moving towards dictatorship and said he was ready to join hands with anyone who protects freedom.

Thackeray said this during an event, where he shared the stage with Dr B R Ambedkar's grandson Prakash Ambedkar, chief of the Vanchit Bahujan Aghadi (VBA), for the first time, and hinted at joining hands with him.

The two leaders were together at the launch of Prabhodhankar.com, a digital platform to highlight the work of Thackeray's grandfather 'Prabhodhankar' Keshav Sitaram Thackeray.



Speaking on the occasion, Thackeray said, "The country is moving towards

dictatorship. There is a need to throw out people who are greedy for power. I am willing to join hands with those who want to protect freedom." "At present, the British policy of divide-and-rule is being followed," he said.

Thackeray described Prakash Ambedkar as a person full of knowledge and information. Thackeray said he and Ambedkar were ideologically on the same platform and would work together. "If we don't come together, we have no right to take our grandfathers' names," he said.

Targeting the BJP, Thackeray said, "In the present times, lynching takes place if cow meat is found, but at the same time, rapists and murderers are acquitted and felicitated after release and given tickets to contest elections. This is not Hindutva."

THREE HELD FOR STABBING MAN TO DEATH IN VASAI

Palghar: The police have arrested three persons in connection with the murder of a 21-year-old man in Vasai of Maharashtra's Palghar district, an official said on Sunday. Based on a tip-off, the police on Saturday apprehended the accused from Surat in neighboring Gujarat, senior inspector Kailas Barve said.

The trio had allegedly beaten and stabbed their colleague Jaynato Mandal on November 17 after an argument at their quarters provided by a construction firm in Kaman area of Vasai, he said.

The accused had fled the scene after attacking the victim, who died on the spot. The trio, who were planning to escape to Bihar, were nabbed in Surat, the official said.

A case under section 302 (murder) and other relevant provisions of the Indian Penal Code has been registered against the trio, he added.

SRK's bungalow Mannat gets a diamond-studded nameplate

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Superstar Shah Rukh Khan, who is known as the king of Bollywood, has added more jewels to his crown - quite literally. His bungalow, Mannat in one of the iconic places in Mumbai, and now he has cranked it up a notch by getting a diamond-studded nameplate for his residence.

Several fan clubs of the star recently shared the pictures of the nameplate on their social media as they swarmed to the King's castle to take a glimpse of the shimmering nameplate, which surfaced roughly two months after the previous nameplate.



In the pictures, two diamond nameplates could be seen with Mannat written on the left side and Landsend written on the right. Previously, it was a blackboard with Mannat

Landsend embossed on it. Landsend because the sea-facing bungalow is situated in the land's end part of Bandstand in Bandra.

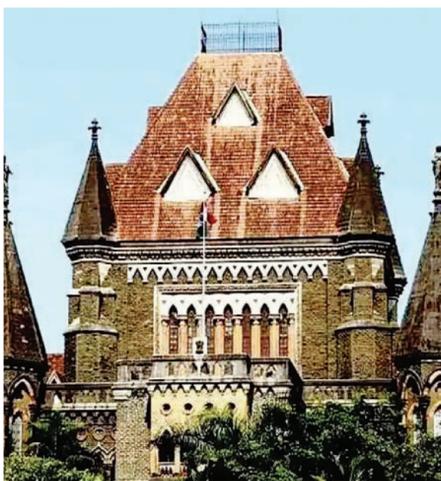
NUMBER OF CARS INCREASING IN MUMBAI, DESIGNATED PARKING NEEDED, SAYS HC

Team Absolute | Mumbai

The Bombay High Court on Monday said there has to be designated parking spaces due to the increasing number of cars in the metropolis and asked the Maharashtra government and the civic body what steps it proposes to take on the issue. A division bench of Chief Justice Dipankar Datta and Justice Abhay Ahuja was hearing two pleas seeking a comprehensive parking policy and its implementation to prevent unorganised traffic causing difficulties for fire engines to approach an affected structure or building.

The court on Monday sought to know from government pleader Purnima Kantaria if there was a parking policy in place.

When Kantaria replied in the affirmative, the bench said the authorities also need to identify narrow roads in the city and see how parking spaces could be made available there. The court said the government and the BMC has to come up with a plan.



"There are so many cars in Mumbai. There is no designated parking space in Mumbai. Where else will they park? Not everybody can afford a chauffeur," CJ Datta said.

The bench directed the state government and BMC

to file a comprehensive affidavit within four weeks on steps taken to earmark parking spaces in the city as well as further steps proposed to be taken.

The court said it would hear the pleas in January 2023.

Mental health awareness must start from schools, says experts

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Against the backdrop of the brutal killing of a Palghar woman Shradha Walkar by her live-in partner in Delhi and chopping her body into multiple pieces, a prominent Mumbai psychiatrist has urged the government to start mental health courses and awareness among children right from the school level.

"To begin with, there can be a chapter in the Science subjects on mental illnesses, their types, how it can be dealt with, etc. It will remove the stigma associated with mental illness in India. Here, such patients are simply ridiculed as paagal (lunatics), which is absolutely wrong," said psychiatrist Dr Sajid Khan.

Referring to the Delhi murder, Khan said while one or both could have had some mental issues which needs to be assessed professionally, he cautioned against giving any label to the action of the accused Aftab A. Poonawala to avoid giving him any benefits.

Psychiatrist at Healthspring Dr Sagar Mundada feels that the reports citing Poonawala as being very confident, appeared normal, not per-



turbed' are 'indicators of a psychotic personality', though reports suggest that the real motive behind his action eludes the investigators.

"It was probably an impulsive act or even a ruthless one they must have quarrelled bitterly first, then got into a physical fight and he being stronger, may have killed her on the spur of the moment. Only later he must have realised his action and

then meticulously planned' how to erase the crime by buying a huge fridge, cutting her into pieces and disposing them in installments," avers Khan.

On his apparent normalcy, Mundada feels it points to mental health issues which may need a full-fledged diagnosis as many such patients seem very charming, with a kind of charismatic attraction' that

can fool others. "So despite their macabre acts - cold-blooded' so to say - they seem unaffected as their emotions work differently' from the normal people," said Mundada.

Prior to the Shradha killing in Delhi, Maharashtra has been rocked by several such instances in recent years, in some cases even jilted women have been the culprits.

In February 2020, a spurned lover allegedly poured petrol and burnt a 24-year-old junior college lecturer Ankita Pisudde on the road in full public view, in Wardha. She died after a week and the accused Vikesh Nagrale was arrested.

In Aftab's case, mental health experts are not willing to risk calling him a psycho-killer' or anything that could favor him during the trial and are awaiting the full police investigation and a proper medical examination on him, before authoritatively commenting on it.

According to the Delhi police version, Aftab - now in their custody - still seems unrepentant, eats and sleeps well in the cell, which experts said are signs of deep mental issues that need to be probed in depth.



EDITOR'S SPECS

Satyapal Malik attacks Central Govt

Former Governor Satyapal Malik on Sunday made a scathing attack on the Narendra Modi government at the Centre. "The situation of the country will worsen in the coming times as there will be multiple battles coming and only the Modi government will be responsible for this." (Prime Minister Narendra) Modi should not forget that power comes and goes. Do not put the country in such a bad condition that it cannot be improved again." Malik also targeted the Rajasthan government on the issue of OBC reservation, saying: "The government which tampers with the OBC reservation will go." He was speaking after attending the swearing-in ceremony of Rajasthan University Student Union President Nirmal Chowdhary. During this, Ladnun MLA Mukesh Bhakar, former Union President Anil Chopra, and Vice Chancellor Prof. Rajeev Jain were also present. Malik said: "In some time, many types of battles are going to start in the country. Farmers will again start agitation against the government. At the same time, the youth will also open a front against the government." The Agniveer scheme of the Central government is just a conspiracy to destroy the Kisan community, because the children of farmers used to go to good positions in the army after being educated. Those people used to give opportunity to the children of other farmers to join the army after being educated. Now the youth will not be able to do anything in the army job which will be only 3 years. I have come to know that youth with Agniveer will not be allowed to even touch weapons. In such a situation, the Central government is engaged in destroying the army." Malik earlier this year said that if the law on MSP is not made in time, there will be a fierce fight between the farmers and the government.

IDENTITY POLITICS REACHES G20

D.C. Pathak

In a first of its kind event, Indonesia, hosting the G20 Summit this time, prefaced it by organising a global meeting of religious and intellectual leaders called R20 - short for G20 Religious Forum - in Bali purportedly to decry radicalism and extremism and 'promote moderate Islam' and to help ensure that in the 21st century, religion becomes part of 'global solutions rather than problems'. In keeping with the origin of R20 as an adjunct of G20 that focused on climate change issues, the Bali meet on November 2-3 was also called 'Spiritual Ecology Movement' to which leaders of all faiths were invited for joining in the efforts to solve global economic, political and humanitarian problems including poverty, Covid-19 and the ongoing Russian-Ukraine war.

R20 was jointly sponsored by Nahdlatul Ulama, the leading Islamic organisation of Indonesia, and the Mecca-based Rabitae Alame Islami (Muslim World League). Incidentally, the well-known Nadwatul Ulama Darul Uloom in India was also largely funded by Saudi Arabia. The invitees included leaders of Catholic church, Anglican denomination, World Evangelical Forum, Chief Rabbi of UK as also the RSS from India, which is known to be the world's largest Hindu cultural organisation. The preamble of R20 spelled out that the forum will mobilise diverse religious, political and economic leaders from G20 Member States and elsewhere throughout the world, to 'prevent the weaponisation of identity, curtail the spread of communal hatred, promote respect among the diverse peoples and cultures and work for a world order upholding the equal rights and dignity of every human being'. Nahdlatul Ulama, said to be the world's largest Muslim organisation, spearheaded the idea of R20 as the 'first inter-faith communication group in the history of the world's most powerful economies', in collaboration with Muslim World League headquartered at Mecca. Together they represent the predominant part of Sunni Islam covering all the sects - from Hanafi to Hanbali - and seek guidance and support from Saudi Arabia which leads the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) too. Ever since the rise of Islamic radicals such as Taliban, Al Qaeda and ISIS subsequent to the victory of Afghan Jihad against the Soviet army - that led to the collapse of USSR as a superpower - there has been an escalation of conflict within the Muslim world between the radicals who consider US-led West as their prime enemy and the Saudi-led fundamentalists who believe in the Islamic State but who also want to be on the right side of the US



politically. R20 marked the centennial anniversary of Nahdlatul Ulama whose chief, Yahya Khalil Thaouf, invited Shaykh Mohammad bin Abdul Karim Al-Issa, Secretary General of Muslim World League, to be the Chairman of the R20 conference. The whole show helped demonstrate unity of the Muslim world and assert the credence of Islam as a religion of peace in a world currently getting destabilised because of the global terror unleashed by radicals. Saudi Arabia, though subscribing to the extreme puritanical line of Ahle Hadis, has been at the receiving end of violence of Islamic radicals because of its traditional closeness to the US. R20 thus had a political message too for the G20 summit led by the world's most developed countries. President of Indonesia, Joko Widodo, in his inaugural address emphasised that 'unity in difference' is what had brought together Indonesians as one nation despite the country's multiple religions, languages and tribes and added that 'activities in mosques, churches and temples are needed for national unity'.

Al Issa, Secretary General of Muslim World League, envisaged R20 as a forum for building bridges 'between East and West' and establishing peace and declared that the 'text of Islam refuted clash of civilisations'. Yahya Thaouf, chief of Nahdlatul Ulama, stressed that the G20's R20 initiative stemmed from the faithful's sincere concern for the future of humanity and hoped that it would make important contributions to the global efforts to solve multifarious problems.

Sheikh Muftah Al Akhyaar, Chairman of the Indonesian Scholars Council, wanted R20 to present religious values as a solution to global conflicts and help build a global civilisation based on respect for human rights and human dignity of all.

It may be mentioned that the Muslim World League, which is represented in the UN

as an observer member for economic and social council, works for defining Islam and explaining its pure values as revealed in the Holy Quran and Sunnah, pays special attention to Muslim minorities and their issues and utilises the Hajj season for interaction with Muslim scholars and chiefs of Muslim organisations for the purpose of 'elevating the status of Muslims in the world and safeguarding the identity of Muslim societies'.

The Mecca Declaration of 2019 had called for addressing the practices of 'injustice, aggression and racist slogans' and favoured a civilised dialogue to reach just and comprehensive peace. The Muslim World League has warned against diversity being turned into 'fear, hatred and conflict'. It has since established a Council for Southeast Asia under its umbrella to promote 'tolerance and respect for the rights of others'.

Pointing out that R20 was held in a province of Indonesia with 83.5 per cent Hindu majority in a country with over 86 per cent Muslim population, he declared that there cannot be a better country than India - a mosaic of religions and the mothership of spiritualism - to carry the Bali mission forward. Referring to the fact of India having the second largest Muslim population in the world, Ram Madhav stated upfront that far from the baseless propaganda about persecution, India 'has always sheltered the persecuted' and installed Muslims as Presidents, Vice Presidents and Chief Justices.

He summarised India's concerns in today's world when he said that 'not just the traditional challenges of hatred, disharmony, terror and war, but also the new age challenges like climate change, healthcare crises, over-powering technologies and woke social ideologies are posing a serious threat to mankind in the 21st century'.

The final communique of R20 issued on behalf of the religious leaders of member countries and elsewhere expressed deep concerns over global challenges such as environmental degradation, natural and man-made disasters, poverty, unemployment, displaced persons, extremism and terrorism and held that the situation has been rendered more difficult because of rivalry among major powers, resurgence of identity-based conflict world wide and erosion of public commitment to ethical and spiritual values.

It declared its resolve, among other things, to develop concrete initiatives for building bridges between nations and civilisations, prevent the political weaponisation of identity, curtail the spread of communal hatred, safeguard human beings from violence and suffering precipitated by conflict and foster the emergence of a truly just world order founded upon respect for equal rights and dignity of every human being.

All of this is unexceptionable and it is expected that the Islamic states would begin by putting all their citizens, regardless of faith, on the same footing, giving everybody freedom of worship and in fact treating all religions at par with their own - beyond of course presenting the universally applicable precepts of morality and human values embodied in Islam. The pull of exclusivism originating from the claims of a religion of being the only 'perfect' faith and that too the 'last one' - since Prophet Mohammad was the 'Khatimul Anbia' - has to be understood.

In today's world, a democratic secular state - deemed to be the best system of governance - has to rest on 'one man one vote', equal opportunities to all as well as the same protection of law for everybody and avoidance of putting a religious stamp on the state.

India is the perfect example of a state that has secularism built into its Constitution. India's approach to domestic governance and international relations reflects this outlook. India opts for bilateral relations that brought in mutual gains for both security and development and adhered to the cause of global peace.

The summit reiterated the call for a peaceful resolution of the Ukraine-Russia conflict through diplomacy and dialogue and endorsed Prime Minister Modi's stand that 'this must not be the era of war'.

(The writer is a former Director of Intelligence Bureau. The views expressed are personal)

international

ASEAN PARLIAMENT CHIEFS GATHER TO PROMOTE SUSTAINABLE, INCLUSIVE, RESILIENT REGION

Phnom Penh | Agencies

Parliament leaders of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) met here on Monday to discuss ways to help promote a sustainable, inclusive and resilient region.

In a message to the opening ceremony of the 43rd General Assembly of the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly (43rd AIPA), Cambodian King Norodom Sihamoni said inter-parliamentary diplomacy, partnership and cooperation are crucial to contribute to promoting long-lasting peace and prosperity in the region, reports Xinhua news agency.

"The gathering of the 43rd General Assembly of AIPA



this week reflects a true spirit of solidarity, unity and commitment to overcoming the current challenges to achieve a more peaceful and prosperous future for our region," the monarch said.

"To attain that future, we must ensure that national and regional development efforts are well aligned with

and natural disasters.

Hun Sen said the 43rd AIPA provides an opportunity for participating delegates to join discussions on a wide range of topics with the common objective of strengthening cooperation into a unity and identifying policy recommendations for the interests of people in the region.

Cambodian National Assembly President Heng Samrin said the gathering reflected a strong spirit of solidarity, friendship and close cooperation among the ASEAN parliaments amid obstacles and challenges faced by the region.

ASEAN groups Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.

RUSSIA LAUNCHED 4,700 MISSILES ON UKRAINE SINCE START OF WAR

Kiev: Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky said that Russia has launched more than 4,700 missiles on his country since Moscow started its ongoing invasion against Kiev on February 24.

In a video address on Sunday, the President said: "Russia has used more than 4,700 missiles in 270 days of the full-scale war. Hundreds of our cities are simply burned."

"Thousands of people died. Hundreds of thousands were forcibly deported to Russia. Millions left Ukraine for other countries fleeing war."

He also said that more than 20 million people were left without electricity on November 8 when Russia carried out over a 100 missile strikes in what is believed to be Moscow's biggest wave of missile strikes since the invasion began, Ukrayinska Pravda reported.

"Do you know what this missile strike is? It's more than 20 million people without electricity. Such was the damage to the power system, such was the urgent emergency blackout."

"The reactors at two of our nuclear power plants also shut down due to the damage to the energy sector caused by the missile," he was quoted as saying. Russian attacks have damaged almost half of Ukraine's energy system and millions of people are without power as temperatures drop for winter.

5 dead, 25 injured in US nightclub shooting, suspect held

Denver | Agencies

At least five people were killed and 25 others injured when a gunman, currently in police custody, opened fire inside a gay nightclub in the US state of Colorado, authorities said. The incident took place late Saturday night at Club Q in the city of Colorado Springs, located about an hour away from the state capital Denver.

Police received calls at 11.56 p.m. on Saturday night about an active shooter, the Colorado Springs Police Department said in a statement on Sunday.

The first officer arrived at midnight and the suspect, identified as Anderson Lee Aldrich, 22, was detained two minutes later, police said.

Aldrich, who is also being treated for injuries, immediately started shooting as he entered the club with a rifle, Colorado Springs Police Chief Adrian Vasquez told a news conference on Sunday.

"Initial evidence and interviews indicate that the suspect entered Club Q and immediately began shooting at people inside as he moved further into the club."

"While the suspect was inside of the club, at least two heroic people inside the club confronted and fought with the suspect and were able to stop the suspect from continuing to kill and harm others. We owe them a great debt of thanks," he was quoted as saying.

Two firearms were found at the scene, and the shooter is thought to have used a long rifle.

The police have not suggest a motive for the shooting but said the investigation would consider whether it was a hate crime, and if more than one person was involved.

A statement on the Club Q Facebook page thanked "the quick reactions of heroic customers that subdued the gunman and ended this hate attack".

N.KOREA VOICES 'STRONG REGRET' OVER UN CHIEF'S CRITICISM OF ITS ICBM LAUNCH

Seoul: North Korea's Foreign Minister Choe Son-hui on Monday voiced "strong regret" that the head of the United Nations condemned Pyongyang's recent intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM) launch, according to its state media.

"I express my strong regret over the fact that the UN secretary-general has taken a very deplorable attitude, oblivious of the purpose and principles of the UN Charter and its proper mission which is to maintain impartiality, objectivity and equity in all matters," Son-hui said in a statement carried by the official KCNA.

"We recently warned the UN secretary-general to consider the issue of the Korean peninsula on the basis of impartiality and objectivity," he was quoted as saying by Yonhap news agency.

In a statement released on Friday, UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres strongly condemned North Korea's firing of an ICBM earlier that day.

In a first, turbaned Sikh appointed Dy Mayor of Canada's Brampton

Toronto | Agencies

Harkirat Singh has become the first turbaned Sikh to be appointed as Deputy Mayor of Canada's Brampton city for a four-year term period from 2022-2026. He has served as Brampton's City Councillor for Wards 9 and 10 from 2018-2022. As a Deputy Mayor, Singh will preside at Council and other Committee meetings and assume ceremonial and civic event duties on behalf of the Mayor if the Mayor is absent or unavailable. "I am proud to have Councillor Harkirat Singh serve as this Term of Council's Deputy Mayor. He is a dedicated, hard-working Councillor with proven results in delivering what is best for Brampton," said Brampton Mayor Patrick Brown.

"Entering his second term as Councillor, and holding a School Trustee role before that, he is a known and trusted elected official to many who I am confident will represent and serve the City of Brampton well in this role," Brown said in a release by Brampton City Council.

Prior to his role as City Councillor, Singh served a four-year term as School Trustee at the Peel District School Board.

As a Trustee, he sat on the Audit Committee, Instructional



Program/Curriculum Committee and Physical Building and Planning Committee.

"It is an honour to be appointed by my Council colleagues as this Term of Council's Deputy Mayor. With the opportunity that lies ahead of us in Brampton, I am excited and proud to support Mayor Brown and Councillors in prioritizing the community while we move our City forward," Singh said. The position of Deputy Mayor was established by the City of Brampton in April 2022, and was divided into East and West parts. Singh was also the regional representative at the Ontario Public School Board Association (OPSBA).

Protesters block highway leading to Gwadar port

Islamabad | Agencies

Tens of thousands of protesters, including women and children, blocked an expressway leading to the Gwadar port in Balochistan after what they said was the Pakistan governments failure to meet a November 20 deadline to implement their demands.

The rally participants, fishermen, students and labourers led by Gwadar Haq Do Tehreek's leader Maulana Hidayatur Rehman, marched towards the port and raised slogans against the government, reports Dawn news.

Among the movement's demands are stopping illegal fishing by trawlers in Balochistan's maritime boundaries, recovery of missing persons, maximum concessions in border trade with Iran, end to narcotics and other Gwadar-related



issues, Dawn reported.

This new series of sit-ins and protests, which began on October 27, entered 25th day on Sunday and came after similar month-long rallies last year, some of the largest the port city of around a hundred thousand residents ever witnessed.

Speaking at the rally, Maulana Rehman and other speakers strongly condemned the federal and provincial governments for not

implementing the agreement reached with the movement leaders last year.

"The struggle of Haq Do movement will continue until the problems are solved," Maulana Rehman said on Twitter.

"Today, once again the people of Gwadar have given a clear message to the ruling classes. If attention is not given, the public will have no choice but to close the port."



CONGRESS MLA CHARGED FOR WIFE'S RAPE AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

She wanted 10 crores: The MLA denied the charges and claimed that his wife had been blackmailing him

Team Absolute | Bhopal

Madhya Pradesh Congress MLA Umang Singhar, a former state minister, has been charged for rape and domestic violence, based on a complaint by his wife.



frame me in a false case and demanded ? 10 crore. A case has been lodged,"

MLA said. State Home Minister Narottam Mishra said the MLA has had "other wives" in the past. Former minister Umang Singhar's wife has accused him of rape on the pretext of marriage and mental harassment.

POLITICAL BATTLE FOR TRIBAL VOTES IN MP

Team Absolute | Bhopal

Before the next year's Assembly elections in Madhya Pradesh, the political battle has intensified and everyone's eyes are on the tribal vote bank.



Jodo Yatra and is going to enter Madhya Pradesh on November 23 after passing through four states.



dominated areas and Rahul Gandhi will also try to woo this class.

been implemented to make the tribals more powerful. Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan and BJP State President Vishnu Dutt Sharma are going to tribal areas and even Khatla panchayats have been started.

Youth killed by stabbing with sharp weapon in Betul

Team Absolute | Betul

In Betul district, a young man was brutally murdered by more than a dozen stabs with a sharp weapon.



Hamlapur on Monday morning in an open ground near the crematorium behind Manjhi Nagar hostel.

to the police, the deceased was murdered with a sharp weapon. 16 to 17 wound marks have been found in the head, face, chest and back of the deceased.

MoU with country's leading companies to empower MSMEs and startups: CM

Team Absolute | Bhopal

Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan will be the chief guest during the MoU with 10 prestigious government and non-government organisations of the country under the startup policy at the Brilliant Convention Centre in Indore on November 22.



hotel booking and travel. It aims to create new opportunities, curb digital monopolies, support micro, small and medium enterprises and small traders and helps to bring them on the online platform.

able on the ONDC network. The network will also have the facility to connect with other existing participants. As a result of the policies of the state government, a favourable atmosphere has been created to enable startups and MSMEs in the state.

ARMED BIKERS BRAZENLY LOOT RS 1.2CR FROM TRADING FIRM EMPLOYEES

Gwalior: In a shocking incident caught on camera, two bike-borne miscreants looted Rs 1.2 crore from employees of Harendra Training Company at gun point here.

Reports claim Sunil Gurjar and Pramod Gurjar, two employees of the trading company were on their way to the bank to deposit cash when the criminals ambushed their vehicle and committed the robbery.

The robbers used a country-made revolver and pointed it on the vehicle driver's forehead and threatened to kill him if they did not try to resist.

A CCTV video of the whole incident also surfaced showing the criminals stopping the car and leaving with the cartons of cash.

Learning about the incident, Additional Superintendent of Police Rishikesh Meena Senior Police Officer immediately reached the spot and launched an investigation.

As the vehicle reached the near Rajiv Plaza Parking, suddenly two bike-borne miscreants stopped the vehicle from the front and looted all the money kept in the vehicle and left.

MLC CANDIDATE ASSAULTED IN THE MIDDLE OF THE ROAD; SHOTS FIRED



Team Absolute | Gwalior

An independent MLC candidate, Punjab Yadav was attacked in the middle of the road in Gwalior on Monday morning.

open shots were fired at him. The spectators managed to snatch the pistol from the accused and handed it over to the Gwalior police.

Punjab Yadav had fought the MLC elections from ward 14. He was reportedly attacked by his neighbour Rajneesh Sharma and his supporters over issues of supremacy in the area.

According to police, the injured have been admitted to Trauma Centre of Jaya Arogya Hospital, Gwalior, while further investigations are underway.

MINOR GIRL RAPED BY GRANDFATHER GIVES BIRTH TO BOY

Chhindwara: In a shocking incident, a 14-year-old girl in Chhindwara allegedly impregnated by her father delivered a baby boy on Sunday.

The cops registered a case of rape against the victim's maternal grandfather who is still at large.

Two held with heroin worth Rs 70 lakh

Team Absolute | Gwalior

Police have seized heroin worth around Rs 70 lakh and arrested two men in this connection in Gwalior, an official said on Monday.

Acting on a tip-off, the police increased surveillance and intercepted a car with two men at MH crossing in Murar area late Sunday night.

During checking, packets containing 370 gm of heroin were found in the vehicle, Superintendent of Police Amit Sanghi said.

The police arrested the two accused - a local resident and another one hailing from adjoining Bhind district - and booked them under provisions of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act.



"We will produce them in court and seek their remand to get to the bottom of the case," he said.

The official claimed brown sugar brought from Uttar Pradesh had been seized in

Gwalior earlier, but it was for the first time in the recent past that heroin worth lakhs was seized here.

"We have to find out from where it was sourced to MP," he added.

PARENTS OF RAPISTS, MURDERERS SHOULD ALSO BE PUNISHED: AKASH VIJAYVARGIYA



Indore: Madhya Pradesh Bharatiya Janata Party MLA Akash Vijayvargiya has demanded punishment for the parents of rapists and murderers claiming they were responsible for ensuring their children have "good character and culture".

Addressing a program of meritorious students of the 'Phool Mali Samaj' on Sunday, the Indore MLA said, "If a person rapes, then in my opinion, not only should he get punishment, but his parents too for at least one or two years.

Medicos to hold protest over government bill appointing IAS in medical colleges



Team Absolute | Bhopal

MP Medical Teachers' association and Junior doctors' association (JUDA) will protest a bill to be tabled in cabinet for appointing administrators in 13 government medical colleges.

doctors are appointed as dean and medical superintendent to run the administration in medical colleges as well as hospitals attached to colleges.

Medical Teachers' Association General Secretary of the association Dr Rakesh Malviya said that rather than improving the condition of medical colleges such appointments would spoil the system.

CM Chouhan plants saplings

Team Absolute | Bhopal

Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan along with the members of Deepanjali Creations, an organisation dedicated to creation, art and protection of cow progeny, planted saplings of Kachnar, Vilayati Imli (Jungle Jalebi) and Pithoriya in Smart City Garden.

The organisation is active in making jewellery from cow dung and encouraging handicrafts. The organisation has bagged many awards in the field of eco-friendly activities and environment.



National Newborn Week 2022 was celebrated at AIIMS Bhopal

Team Absolute | Bhopal

National Newborn Week 2022 was celebrated at AIIMS Bhopal from 15th November to 21st November 2022 where various activities were performed by doctors, students and nursing officers with an aim to create awareness about the newborn among health care workers in the facilities and the community.



(Dr.) Ajay Singh emphasized on training and education among all health workers. He also said that AIIMS Bhopal will further improve the treatment facilities for

sick newborns. He also told that there is a need for more neonatal services so that we can improve neonatal survival in MP.



Taylor Swift won Artist of the Year Award

Los Angeles | Agencies

Singer Taylor Swift won maximum honors at the American Music Awards 2022 taking home six awards, including Artist of the Year. "In the past few years, I have released more music than I did in the entire decade preceding that," she said during her acceptance speech. "I really feel that's down to the fact that you, the fans, made it clear that you wanted to hear lots of music that I would make - you encouraged me," reports.

Swift said that the more music she put out the happier she felt and thanked the fans for her happiness as they were the motivators. The New artist of the year was won by Dove Cameron. Elton John & Dua Lipa, 'Cold Heart - PNAU Remix' was honored with the Collaboration of the Year award. Favorite Touring Artist award was taken home by Coldplay. Harry Styles was named the Favorite male pop artist while Swift won in the Female category. The Favorite pop duo/group was won by the K-pop superband BTS. Favorite pop song was Harry Styles' 'As It Was'. Kendrick Lamar took home the Favorite Hip-hop artist and in the female category rapper Nicki Minaj lifted the trophy.

The film 'Elvis' which was competing alongside Encanto, Sing 2, and Stranger Things: Soundtrack from the Netflix Series, Season 4 and Top Gun: Maverick won the Favorite soundtrack. Other winners of the night included Beyonce, who took Favorite R&B Artist and Bad Bunny, who managed to take two, including Favorite Make Latin Artist. Harry Styles, BTS, Morgan Wallen, Tems, Wizkid and Kendrick Lamar each took two awards.



BTS'S JUNGKOOK HAS SET A NEW US RECORD

Los Angeles | Agencies

K-pop superband BTS member Jungkook has set a new US record and swept iTunes charts with his World Cup song 'Dreamers'. Being tapped to perform at the opening ceremony in Qatar, the 'Euphoria' singer debuted the full-English song on Sunday, ahead of his live performance of the song. As soon as the song was released, it shot to the top of iTunes charts in numerous countries all over the world, reports.

Just 13 hours after it first dropped, the single had already reached No. 1 on iTunes Top Songs charts in at least 102 different regions, including the world's eight biggest music markets, the United States, the United Kingdom, Japan, France, Canada, Australia, Germany and Italy.

Additionally, 'Dreamers' set the new record for the fastest official FIFA World Cup song to hit No. 1 on the iTunes Top Songs chart in the



United States.

The song took only 2 hours and 11 minutes to top the chart, according to South Korea's News Herald.

Jungkook later performed 'Dreamers' at Albatre Stadium in Alcor, Qatar. Kicking off the performance solo, he was joined onstage Qatari singer Fahad Al Kubaisi halfway through the song.

Clad in a sparkly black jacket, he showed off his energetic dancing moves along with a bunch of backup dancers.

"Look who we are, we are the dreamers/ we make it happen, 'cause we believe it," he sings in the motivational single.

"Look who we are, we are the dreamers/ we make it happen 'cause we can see it."

Besides Jungkook, who was billed as the main act, and Fahad Al Kubaisi, the World Cup opening ceremony featured Hollywood actor Morgan Freeman, who delivered a speech about the "emotions that connect us all now."

He added: "We gather here as one big tribe and Earth is the tent we all live in."

Jennifer Lawrence owned the red carpet at Governors Awards

Los Angeles | Agencies

Jennifer Lawrence looked flirty in floral at the 13th annual Governors Awards, which were held at the Fairmont Century Plaza in Los Angeles on Saturday night. The Academy Award-winner, modeled a black tulle halter dress by Dior that contrasted beautifully with her sun-kissed complexion. It was covered in off white floral embroidery from the bust to the hem of the floor-length number. The Hunger Games star's signature blonde tresses cascaded down her back in uniform waves stemming from a precise middle part. Her striking blue eyes were lined with black eyeliner and her pout was doused in a milky pink gloss.

Jennifer's cheeks were dusted with a luminous pink blush and her eyebrows were filled in with a taupe-toned pencil for some soft definition. The beaming beauty often posed for photographers with one hand on her hip as she made her way down the red carpet.



MEGHAN TRAINOR LOOKED LIKE A REAL-LIFE BARBIE

Los Angeles | Agencies

Meghan Trainor showed off her incredible figure in a hot pink look at the 2022 American Music Awards held at Microsoft Theater in Los Angeles on Sunday. The All about That Bass singer, looked like a real-life Barbie in a plunging neon sequin pantsuit, after recently revealing that she lost 60 pound following the birth of her son last year.

The hitmaker continued with the pink theme, pairing the vivid outfit with platform heels.

The blonde beauty wore her tresses parted on the side and cascading down her shoulders in gentle curls.

The Massachusetts-born star further sparkled up her look with a diamond necklace and silver rings.

As for glam, Meghan drew attention to her magnetic eyes with a touch of pink eyeshadow.

Trainor mingled with a number of other stars on the red carpet, including former child actor Chris Olsen, who looked dapper in a black suit. She was also spotted chatting with country music singer Jimmie Allen, who looked cool as ever in a military-style jacket, cheetah-print pants and a wide-brim black hat. Meghan continued to make the rounds and was later pictured with actress Niecy Nash-Betts, who was an eye-turner in a form-fitting low-cut black dress and leather gloves.

Rapper Kanye West is officially back on Twitter

Los Angeles | Agencies

On Sunday, the 'Donda' artist made his first tweet since November 4, days after it was reported that his account was restored following Elon Musk's takeover, as per the reports. "Testing Testing Seeing if my Twitter is unblocked," the Yeezy designer wrote to his 31.9 million followers. Hours later, he said in a separate tweet: "Shalom :)."

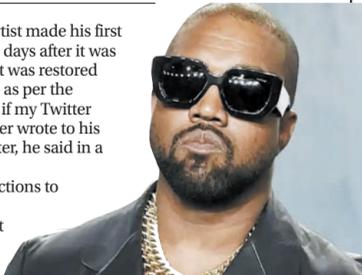
Internet users had mixed reactions to Ye's return to the platform.

"He coming to start some S**t Lmaooo," one person joked. Another user predicted that the Chicago artist "finna be writing thesis statement."

Anticipating more drama from the 'Gold Digger' spitter, one person penned in an Instagram comment: "If I don't want peace was a person. Popcorn."

Meanwhile, defending Kanye, a fan wrote: "Only the real ones know what Kanye is trying to do. Our culture is so sheep minded though, the masses are clueless the man isn't crazy, he's trying to warn us that we are being controlled."

Prior to this, Kanye's Twitter account was suspended following his threat to go "death (sic) con 3 on Jewish people." The app cited "violation of Twitter's policies" as the reason of the hip-hop star/designer restriction. In addition to You, Elon reinstated Donald Trump's Twitter account on Saturday.



ABSOLUTE PIC OF THE DAY



Emmy Rossum

The ensemble is just "one of many extraordinary looks": Greta Gerwig



Los Angeles | Agencies

When the first look of the 'Barbie' film showed off Ryan Gosling's chiseled six-pack, orange spray-tan and platinum mop-top, the internet went gaga for his look as Ken. Director Greta Gerwig revealed the ensemble is just "one of many extraordinary looks" fans can look forward to from the actor Ryan Gosling.

"I'm thrilled," Gerwig told Variety's Marc Malkin on the red carpet for the Academy's Governors Awards on Saturday evening, speaking about the public's fascination with Gosling's costume. "That is how I felt and how Margot felt and I'm thrilled that everyone shares that feeling." Some images from the production, featuring Gosling and co-star Margot Robbie in costume, leaked on social media shortly after the first looks were released, and featuring the

actors garbed in neon, tie-dye spandex. Even still, Gerwig said fans are "not even close" to having seen all of the outfits Ken will be wearing in the film, reports.

"I really, I couldn't say, but it's a lot - it's a lot, it's a lot," Gerwig answered to the question of how many different Ken looks were created for Gosling. The upcoming release marks the first live-action movie 'Barbie' features. When asked if the project would be the start of a series, Gerwig said: "I don't know. I mean, it would certainly be exciting if it was." Gerwig, best known for writing and directing 2019's 'Little Women' and 2017's 'Lady Bird', helms 'Barbie' and co-writes with her partner and frequent collaborator Noah Baumbach. The comedy will feature a star-studded cast of comedic actors that includes Will Ferrell, Kate McKinnon, Michael Cera and Issa Rae. 'Barbie' is set to hit theatres on July 21, 2023.



IND VS NZ T20 SERIES

TEAM INDIA WILL LOOK TO CLAIM THE SERIES



New Delhi | Agencies

Hardik Pandya's Team India will look to claim the series in the third and final T20I against New Zealand at McLean Park, Napier on Tuesday. After the first match of the series was washed out, Team India bounced back with a thumping 65-run win over the Blackcaps in the second game. Suryakumar Yadav continued his purple patch in the international T20Is as he scored his second ton in the shortest format of the game. Another major positive from the second game for India was the bowling on

Deepak Hooda and Yuzvendra Chahal. Indian leg-spinner took the vital wickets in the second game while Deepak, who did not bowl in the T20 World Cup 2022, proved that he can bowl and take wickets as well. India captain Hardik Pandya also mentioned him in the post-match presentation saying that he expects batsmen to chip in with the ball in hand. If India wishes to make a change then they might rest someone like Suryakumar Yadav, who has been playing international cricket continuously now and he might use the rest to come up fresh in the ODI series after this game. Sanju Samson can replace SKY in the batting order.

WILLIAMSON TO MISS THIRD T20I FOR MEDICAL APPOINTMENT

Napier: New Zealand skipper Kane Williamson will miss the third T20 International at Napier on Tuesday (November 22) to attend a pre-arranged medical appointment, said New Zealand Cricket (NZC) on Monday.

Williamson will rejoin the squad on Wednesday when the One-day International squad assembles in Auckland ahead of the series opener at Eden Park on Friday.

Coach Gary Stead said the medical appointment had nothing to do with Williamson's historic elbow complaint.

"Kane's been trying to get this booked in for a while now, but unfortunately it hasn't been able to fit into our schedule," Stead said.

"The health and well-being of our players and staff is paramount, and we look forward to seeing him in Auckland."

Stead said Chapman was excited to be back with the squad after featuring in the recent T20 World Cup and Tri Series in Christchurch. "He's a quality player who offers good versatility in

the order."

Stead confirmed Tim Southee will captain the side for the third and final match at McLean Park here.

On Sunday, India middle-order batter Suryakumar Yadav had whipped up a storm at a sell-out Bay Oval ground to help the visitors crush New Zealand by 65 runs and take a 1-0 lead in the three-match T20I series. The opening game of the series was abandoned because of rain.

Against a New Zealand bowling attack that were far from their consistent best, Suryakumar put out yet another 360-degree astonishing masterclass in T20I batting with an unbeaten 49-ball century to propel India to victory.

On a sluggish pitch where almost all Indian as well as New Zealand batters found it tough to time the ball, Suryakumar, the top-ranked T20I batter, hit 11 fours and seven sixes all over the park at a strike-rate of 217.65 to be unbeaten on 111 off 51 balls, which Virat Kohli aptly called on Twitter "another video game innings".

FIFA World Cup

ENGLAND BEAT IRAN BY 6-2



Qatar | Agencies

England produced a clinical performance in the first half of their opening FIFA World Cup 2022 match and completely dominated Iran through goals from Jude Bellingham, Bukayo Saka and Raheem Sterling.

England scored their fourth, courtesy of Bukayo Saka's solo effort in the second half before Mehdi Taremi pulled one back for Iran. Marcus Rashford then came off the bench to score England's 5th in the 71st minute before Jack Grealish scored the 6th in the 90th minute. Taremi did score his second in the injury time but that wasn't enough to deny England a 6-2 win.

In the first half, Jude Bellingham opened the scoring for England with a terrific header in the 35th minute, courtesy of a Luke Shaw cross. Bukayo Saka then doubled the scoring for England

in the 44th minute. Two minutes later, Raheem Sterling scored the third for England. Earlier, Gareth Southgate handed Bukayo Saka a place in England's starting line-up and kept faith with struggling defender Harry Maguire as the Three Lions kicked off their World Cup campaign against Iran in Doha on Monday.

Arsenal forward Saka, who missed the decisive penalty in England's Euro 2020 final shoot-out defeat against Italy, got the nod from Southgate instead of Manchester City's Phil Foden and Manchester United's Marcus Rashford. Iran were without key striker Sardar Azmoun after the Bayer Leverkusen star failed to recover from a calf injury that has kept him out since October. Mehdi Taremi, the Porto striker who has impressed on the Champions League stage, was partnered by former Brighton forward Alireza Jahanbakhsh in the Iran attack.

I talk when I want to: Cristiano Ronaldo

Qatar | Agencies

Portugal superstar Cristiano Ronaldo made a surprise media appearance in which he hit back at criticism over his explosive Manchester United interview insisting "I talk when I want to". Portugal will open their 2022 World Cup campaign against Ghana on Thursday.

The five-time winner of the Ballon d'Or, who has had a frustrating season at Manchester United doing regular bench duty, started the world with a series of videos in which he took aim at the Manchester United board, manager Erik ten Hag, and former players like Wayne Rooney. With the revelations, he appears to have ended his second stint at Old Trafford, though it has been questioned whether the timing of that interview could have an effect on the Portugal team as they get set to launch their World Cup campaign. Ronaldo, who has offered no apologies after



making an impromptu appearance at a press conference in Qatar, was quoted as saying, "Timing is always timing. From your side, it is easy to look at how we can choose timings. Sometimes you write truths, and sometimes you write lies. I don't have to worry about what others think. I talk when I want to. Everybody knows who I am, what I believe in."

ATP Finals

Rajeev Ram-Joe Salisbury clinches men's double title

Turin (Italy) | Agencies

Second seeds Rajeev Ram and Joe Salisbury produced an impressive performance to defeat Nikola Pietrangeli and Mate Pavic and clinch the men's double title at the ATP Finals, here on Sunday.

In a high-quality final, the American-British tandem was sharp from the first to the last point, overcoming the Croatians 7-6(4), 6-4 to end their season in style in northern Italy.

"That's probably up there with one of our best matches, one of our best matches as a team. I think we're so proud of everything we've done this week. We've come through some tough situations, but we've stuck

together the whole way. (I'm) so happy, I can't believe we've achieved this," Salisbury said.

"I don't know what to say. My partner played out of this world today, but I guess that's what you've got to do and that's why he's one of the best around. He saves his best for the biggest moments. I'm so proud of us as a team for sure," Ram said.

With their 85-minute victory, Ram and Salisbury have improved to 3-4 in their ATP Head to Head series against Pietrangeli and Pavic, having also defeated the fourth seeds in the semi-finals in Turin last year.

"I didn't think about that too much," Salisbury said on becoming the first British champion at the season finale.



"Obviously, that's a nice thing to achieve, but it was mainly about us as a team, the pair of us and everyone that supports us. We've got so many people behind us. It's just a massive team effort and we're just so happy with everything we've done this week," he added.

Ram is the 18th American to win the doubles title at the year-end

event, joining Stan Smith, Arthur Ashe, John McEnroe, Peter Fleming, Bob Bryan and Mike Bryan.

"It's certainly pretty cool. There's been so many great American doubles players and so many great players that have won this. It's an honor to be on that trophy with them for sure," Ram said when asked about joining the list of American champions.

CRICKET'S SHORTEST FORMAT T10 LEAGUE ARRIVES IN SRI LANKA

Colombo | Agencies

Cricket's fastest format, the T10, is spreading their wings far and wide, as they make touchdown in Sri Lanka. The tournament will be called the Lanka T10 League and is expected to attract plenty of fans with their dynamic brand of cricket.

The journey of T10 in Sri Lanka was kicked off with Sri Lanka Cricket's Honorary President, Shammi Silva and Honorary Secretary, Mohan de Silva, making the official announcement. Also present on the auspicious occasion were the Chairman of TTen Global Sports Shaji Ul Mulik and the COO TTen Global Sports Rajeev Khanna.

"The introduction of the fastest cricketing competition in Sri Lanka is definitely a great addition to our



cricketing calendar, and we are happy to be a part of the forward journey of the game, which continues to evolve to be on par with the changing dynamics in the global sporting arena, and I wish to commend TTen Global Sports for its role in this latest initiative," said Shammi Silva, Honorary President, Sri Lanka Cricket.

"We are extremely happy to announce the launch of the Lanka T10 League, which is the shortest format of the game, and I am confident that this competition will provide entertainment and excitement to the fans, quality competition for the players, and valuable exposure for the stakeholders," said Mohan de Silva, Honorary Secretary of Sri Lanka Cricket.

Suryakumar Yadav Not yet the best T20 Player from India: Tim Southee



Napier | Agencies

Suryakumar Yadav's 111 against New Zealand on Sunday added to his rising stock as a top T20 batter but veteran pacer Tim Southee said he will have to prove himself consistently to become India's best in the shortest format. "There have been a number of great T20 players from India, so many great cricketers. Surya has been having a great 12 months and it is for him to continue to do what he has been doing (for over a period of time)," Southee said when asked if Suryakumar is the best ever T20 player from India he has bowled to.

"He (Suryakumar) is a player who can hit in a number of ways. He has been in great form in the last 12 months -- IPL and international cricket. He came up with a very impressive knock today," said Southee who returned with figures of 3/34 from his four overs.

Iran team refuses to sing National Anthem in World Cup

Qatar | Agencies

Iran's players did not sing their national anthem before their first game of the World Cup against England on Monday, in apparent support for anti-government protesters in their homeland. Ahead of the game in Qatar, captain Alireza Jahanbakhsh said the team would decide together whether or not to refuse to sing the anthem in a show of solidarity for demonstrations that have rocked the regime in Iran. The Iranian players stood impassively and grim-faced as their anthem rang out around the Khalifa International Stadium in Doha. Iran has been shaken by two



months of nationwide protests since the death of Mahsa Amini in morality police custody on September 16. Amini, an Iranian of Kurdish origin, died three days after her arrest in Tehran over an alleged breach of the Islamic republic's dress code for women, which includes the mandatory

hijab headscarf. Some Iranian athletes have chosen not to sing the national anthem or celebrate their victories in support of the protesters. Jahanbakhsh, who used to play for English club Brighton, was angered last week by a question from a British journalist about the anthem issue.

Bangalore, Hyderabad, Kochi to host Prime Volleyball League's 2023

New Delhi | Agencies

Top volleyball players from the country will once again get a chance to showcase their skills in front of thousands of fans as the second edition of Prime Volleyball League will begin from February 4, 2023. The Prime Volleyball League 2023 season will be held across Bengaluru, Hyderabad, and Kochi.

All eight franchises -- Calicut Heroes, Kochi Blue Spikers, Ahmedabad Defenders, Hyderabad Black Hawks, Chennai Blitz, Bengaluru Torpedoes, newbies Mumbai Meteors, and defending champions Kolkata Thunderbolts -- will play in a



round-robin format. The top four teams in the

league stage will qualify for the semifinals. From there, two teams

will contest in the final of the tournament to be played in Kochi. Overall, the season will feature 31 matches as the Mumbai franchise joins the league from 2023 season. "We are thrilled to announce the dates and venues for the Season 2 of RuPay Prime Volleyball League powered by A23. After the successful completion of Season 1, we are sure that this year's competition is going to be even more thrilling and evenly contested. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the partners, franchisees, and players for their support," said Joy Bhattacharya, CEO, RuPay Prime Volleyball League, in an official release.



There is no truth: Hrithik Roshan of moving in with Saba Azad

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Hrithik Roshan and Saba Azad, the new love birds in B-town, always manage to steal attention with their cute social media PDA. They have been dating for a while now. There have been rumours doing rounds on the internet that have decided to take their relationship a step further by moving in together and will be staying together. However, the Vikram Vedha has quashed the rumours as clarified that there is no truth to it. In a tweet, he said, "As a public figure, I understand I'll be under the lens of curiosity, but it's best if we keep misinformation away, especially in our reportage, which is a responsible job." Reports were rife that the two will be staying together in an apartment of worth Rs 100 crore. Meanwhile, on the work front, Hrithik is currently busy with the shoot of Fighter with Deepika Padukone. The film is slated for release in January, 2024. Saba recently wrapped the second season of Rocket Boys.

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Miss World, Manushi Chhillar recently made her Bollywood debut opposite Akshay Kumar in Samrat Prithviraj. However, many details about her personal and dating life are under wraps.

But now, if recent reports are to be believed, the actress is dating businessmen named Nikhil Kamath. Reportedly, the two have been seeing each other since 2021. The lovebirds, who have kept their affair under wraps, often go on trips together.

Manushi Chhillar may be dating businessman Nikhil Kamath

A source close to the development, shared with a leading portal that, "The two have been going quite strong. They have even moved in together. Currently, Manushi is focused on her Bollywood career, thus she doesn't wish to talk about her love life as it might take away the attention. Their friends and family are well-versed with each other and the two wish to keep it low-key." For those unaware, Nikhil is co-founder of Zerodha. Meanwhile, on the work front for Manushi Chhillar, the diva will next be seen in action film Tehran opposite John Abraham.



It was a great experience: Jaideep Ahlawat on working with Kareena

Aakruti Bagla | Mumbai

Jaideep Ahlawat is one of the brilliant actors in the industry and has proved his versatility with an impressive body of work. He is currently gearing up for the release of An Action Hero which also stars Ayushmann Khurrana. Ahead of the film's release, the actor divulged in a freewheeling chat with the media.

On doing diverse roles Be it web series or films, recently multiple projects Jaideep Ahlawat released showed various shades of him. Talking about why he yearns to pick a different role, the actor said, "I have been fortunate enough to get the chance of playing roles. It allows discovering oneself. As actors, we are prone to be bored by repetition, so whenever I have the chance, I eagerly anticipate trying something new. I don't wish to revisit my roles as I get out of it to look forward to something new."

On the surge of OTT The actor further shared his thoughts on actors getting due and parallel stardom offered



due to OTT platforms. Said "The pandemic catalyzed an upsurge in OTT, which led to the opening of numerous doors for opportunity. Many excellent performers who were unable to play lead roles back then are now able to do so because of this medium. Pankaj Tripathi, Manoj Bajpayee, and Nawazuddin Siddiqui, among others, who were previously minor players in huge films, now have a legacy of their own", shares Jaideep.

On judgements due to social media Jaideep also spoke about how social media has become a factor in deciding films' and actors' fates. He quipped, "I don't post much on social media. But the problem arises when people assume you are a bad actor because you have fewer followers. The current generation is wary of these things. Everyone seems to be happy when you look at someone's reel or post. But the truth is rather different."

On his upcoming projects On a parting note, the actor shared about his upcoming projects and said, "We are currently shooting for Pataal Lok season 2. As far as Devotion of Suspect X is concerned, it's in the post-production stage. It was a great experience shooting with Kareena Kapoor Khan. It was also surreal uniting with Vijay as we started our acting journey together at FTII."

IFFI 2022

No one can give any advice to anybody: Ajay Devgn

Team Absolute | Panaji

The 53rd edition of International Film Festival of India (IFFI), kicked off in Goa on Sunday with pomp and fervor. The event was attended by Union Minister Anurag Thakur, Goa Chief Minister Pramod Sawant, and other high-profile dignitaries. Along with them, Ajay Devgn, Varun Dhawan, Sara Ali Khan, Paresh Rawal, Suniel Shetty, Kartik Aaryan, Aparshakti Khurana, and Mrunal Thakur, among others, graced the event.

Whereas The Satyajit Ray Lifetime Achievement award was presented to celebrate Spanish film director Carlos Saura at the 53rd IFFI. On Sunday, his daughter Anna Saura accepted the award on behalf of the renowned filmmaker. Carlos Saura expressed his gratitude for receiving the prestigious Award in a video message. He said, "I could not come to the ceremony personally since I am recovering from Bronchitis." Furthermore, Ajay Devgn has had a memorable year. He won the National Film Award for Best Actor this year. In total, he has appeared in six Bollywood films, including Rudra, Runway 34, Gangubai Kathiawadi, RRR, Thank God, and Drishyam 2. Devgn said at the IFFI opening ceremony, "No one can give any advice to anybody. Follow yourself, and believe in yourself, that is the most important thing." For those unaware, IFFI is a nine-day film festival that began on November 20 and will end on November 28.



Naga Shaurya marries with Anusha Shetty

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Popular Telugu actor Naga Shaurya took to his social media handle to share a picture of him tying the mangalsutra on his longtime girlfriend and interior designer Anusha N. Shetty as they tied the knot on Sunday in a private ceremony in a Bengaluru hotel.

The pictures and videos of their pre-wedding festivities and wedding ceremony are doing rounds all over social media.

In the picture, the couple looked stunning in traditional wedding attire. The actor wrote in the caption: "Introducing My Lifetime Responsibility." As soon as the videos went viral on social media, congratulatory messages poured in for the

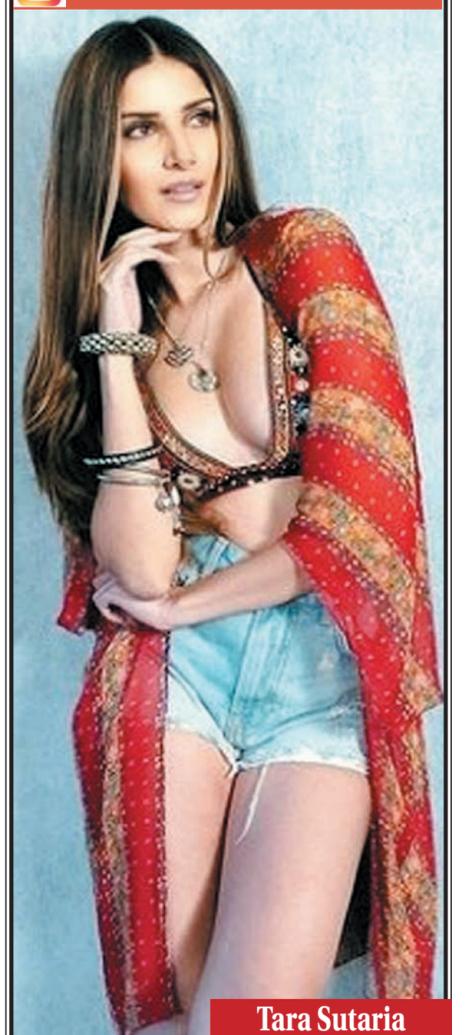
couple from his fans and friends.

Their pre-wedding celebration happened on November 19 including mehendi ceremony and cocktail party. Naga can be seen in the pictures wearing blue kurta outfit, while Anusha wore a floral, embroidered lehenga.

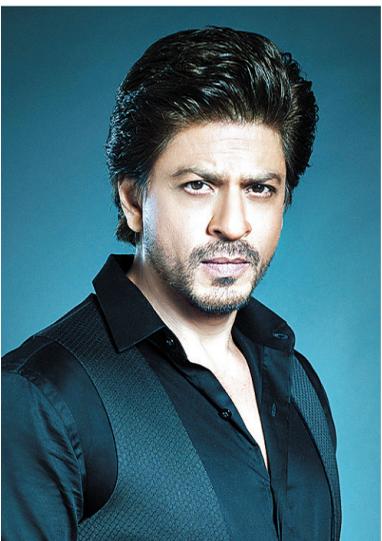
For the wedding ceremony, he wore a white kurta with a dhoti and Anusha can be seen in traditional style golden embroidered sari, heavy jewellery and gajra in her hair. They will be organising a reception for industry friends and family members.

On the work front, Naga was recently seen in "Krishna Vrinda Vihari". He will be next seen in an action entertainer "Rangabali" for which shooting has already started.

INSTAGRAM PIC OF THE DAY



Tara Sutaria



SRK to Be Honored by Red Sea International Film Festival

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Bollywood megastar multi-hyphenate Shah Rukh Khan, one of Indian cinema's global icons, will be celebrated with an honorary award by Saudi Arabia's Red Sea International Film Festival.

Khan - affectionately called King Khan - has won most popular actor accolades three times at the Central European Bollywood Awards. A thriving actor-producer, Khan has been making his mark for decades: his romance "Dilwale Dulhania Le Jayenge" has been playing nonstop for 24 years, and "Dil Se" was the first Indian film to break into the U.K. top 10. More recently, in 2018, he co-produced "Zero" through his VFX house Red Chillies Entertainment, but it underwhelmed.

"We are thrilled to be honoring Shah Rukh Khan, who is a remarkable talent and global superstar," said Red Sea fest CEO Mohammed Al Turki, who added that Khan "has captivated audiences since his earliest performances and is one of the world's most renowned actors working today." Khan commented: "I am truly honored to receive this award from the Red Sea International Film Festival. It's wonderful to be here among my fans from Saudi and the region who have always been huge supporters of my films. I'm looking forward to celebrating the region's talent and being a part of this exciting film community." The Red Sea fest's second edition will run Dec. 1-10 in Jeddah, on the eastern shore of the Red Sea.