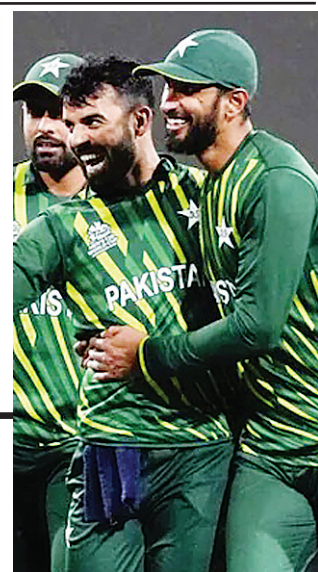


absolute india



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PUBLISHED SIMULTANEOUSLY FROM NEW DELHI, MUMBAI AND BHOPAL

NATION > 02

Rahul Gandhi turns Potharaju during Bharat Jodo Yatra ...



HOLLYWOOD > 06

'The Devil Wears Prada' sequel is 'tempting': Anne Hathaway ...



SPORTS > 07

T-20 WC: Pakistan's slim semifinal hopes alive with...

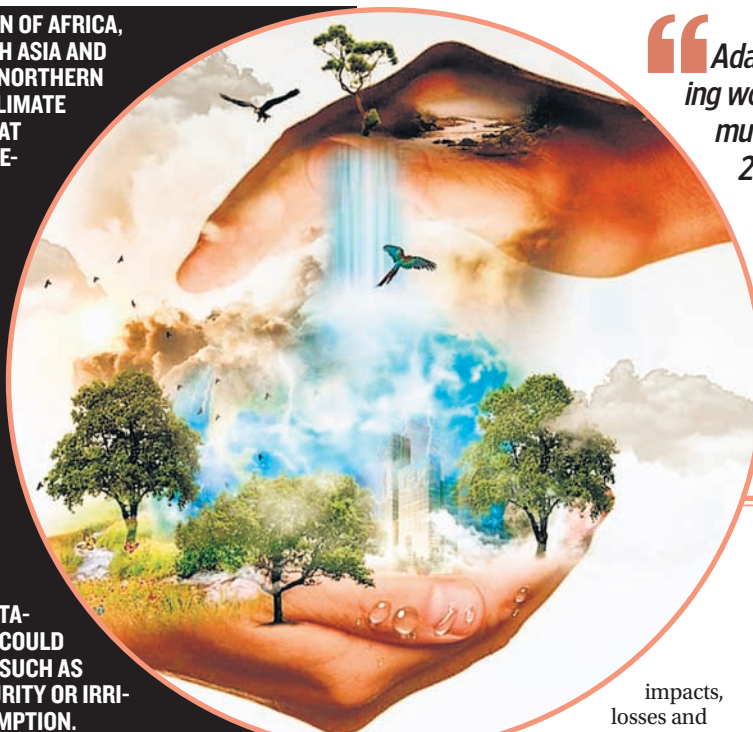
ADAPTING TO CLIMATE CHANGE MUST BECOME GLOBAL PRIORITY: UNEP REPORT

BE WISE FOR MANKIND

► A MULTIYEAR DROUGHT IN THE HORN OF AFRICA, UNPRECEDENTED FLOODING IN SOUTH ASIA AND SEVERE SUMMER HEAT ACROSS THE NORTHERN HEMISPHERE POINT TO MOUNTING CLIMATE RISKS. THESE IMPACTS ARE COMING AT ONLY 1.1 DEGREES CELSIUS ABOVE PRE-INDUSTRIAL TEMPERATURES.

► IMPLEMENTATION OF ADAPTATION ACTIONS -- CONCENTRATED IN AGRICULTURE, WATER, ECOSYSTEMS AND CROSS-CUTTING SECTORS -- IS INCREASING, BUT NOT KEEPING UP WITH CLIMATE IMPACTS. WITHOUT A STEP CHANGE IN SUPPORT, ADAPTATION ACTIONS COULD BE OUTSTRIPPED BY ACCELERATING CLIMATE RISKS.

► THE REPORT FINDS THAT LINKING ADAPTATION AND MITIGATION ACTIONS -- SUCH AS NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS -- FROM THE OUTSET IN PLANNING, FINANCE, AND IMPLEMENTATION CAN ENHANCE CO-BENEFITS. IT COULD ALSO LIMIT POTENTIAL TRADE-OFFS, SUCH AS HYDROPOWER REDUCING FOOD SECURITY OR IRRIGATION INCREASING ENERGY CONSUMPTION.



“Adaptation needs in the developing world are set to skyrocket to as much as \$340 billion a year by 2030. Yet adaptation support today stands at less than one-tenth of that amount. The most vulnerable people and communities are paying the price. This is unacceptable.”

António Guterres, UN Secretary-General

Team Absolute | New Delhi

As climate impacts intensify across the globe, nations must dramatically increase funding and implementation of actions designed to help vulnerable nations and communities adapt to the climate storm, a new United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) report said on Thursday.

Released ahead of COP27, the latest round of climate talks at Sharm El-Sheikh in Egypt, the 'Adaptation Gap Report 2022: Too Little, Too Slow - Climate adaptation failure puts world at risk' finds that global efforts in adaptation planning, financing and implementation are not keeping

pace with the growing risks. According to UNEP's Emissions Gap Report -- the recently released sister publication of the Adaptation Gap Report -- Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) under the Paris Agreement point towards global warming of 2.4-2.6 degrees Celsius by the end of the century.

Research from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) says that climate risks will intensify with each tenth of a degree.

Such trends mean that adaptation must take centre stage alongside mitigation in the global response to climate change, the report finds. Since even ambitious investments in adaptation cannot fully prevent climate

impacts, losses and damages must also be addressed.

The report finds that more than eight out of 10 countries have at least one national adaptation planning instrument, and they are getting better and more inclusive. One third of the 197 country Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) have incorporated quantified and time-bound targets on adaptation. Meanwhile, nearly 90 per cent of planning instruments analysed display consideration for gender and disadvantaged groups, such as indigenous peoples. However, financing to turn these plans into action isn't following. International adaptation finance flows to developing countries are 5-10 times below estimated needs and

the gap continues to widen. International adaptation finance flows to developing countries reached \$29 billion in 2020, as reported by donor countries, an increase of four per cent from 2019.

Combined adaptation and mitigation finance flows in 2020 fell at least \$17 billion short of the \$100 billion pledged to developing countries. Significant acceleration is needed if a doubling of 2019 finance flows by 2025 is to be met, as urged by the Glasgow Climate Pact. The estimated annual adaptation needs are \$160-340 billion by 2030 and \$315-565 billion by 2050.

The authors conclude that strong political will is needed to increase adaptation investments and outcomes.

Crises such as the war in Ukraine and the Covid-19 pandemic cannot be allowed to derail international efforts to increase adaptation. Unprecedented political will and more long-term investments in adaptation are urgently needed to avoid the adaptation gap from widening.

Imran sustains bullet injury after shots fired at rally, accused held

As people ran helter-skelter after a man opened fire on the container carrying the top leadership of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI), injuring party Chairman Imran Khan, in Gujranwala on Thursday, the former Pakistan Prime Minister brushed aside the injury, stood on his two feet and waved to the crowd with a big smile on his face, media reports said.

Gujranwala | Agencies

Chaotic scenes broke out near PTI's reception camp at Allahwala Chowk in Gujranwala after gunshots were fired at party chief Imran Khan, media reports said. According to Geo News, the former Prime Minister sustained bullet injuries on his leg, but is reported to be safe. According to the police, the suspect who opened fire on Khan's container has been arrested. According to PTI leaders, Khan is presently 'out of danger'. As per sources, senior PTI leaders, including Senator Faisal Javed Khan, former Sindh Governor Imran Ismail and Ahmed Chatha, were injured in the firing. Immediately after the attack, Khan was taken inside the container, after which he was rushed to the local hospital from where he was shifted to the Shaukat Khanam Hospital in Lahore.



'I ONLY WANTED TO KILL IMRAN AND NO ONE ELSE', SAYS ATTACKER

Islamabad: Nabbed by the police, the attacker said that he only wanted to kill Khan and no one else. The attackers, numbering two, were nabbed by the supporters of PTI present in the march before being handed over to the police. As per details, one of the attackers is named Faisal Butt, while the other has been identified as Mohammad Naveed. Faisal said he wanted to kill Khan ever since the latter started his long march from Lahore on October 28. "I got angry with Khan for spreading hatred and misleading the people. I only wanted to kill Khan and no one else. I did this on my own will and no one told me to do so. I just got angry on Khan and wanted to kill him," Faisal said.

Lahore's Liberty Chowk on October 29. This is the PTI chief's second long march this year. Khan, along with his supporters, is expected to stage a sit-in in Islamabad against the Shehbaz Sharif-led coalition government at the end of the march. PTI

has not yet confirmed the date of arrival in Islamabad. The Islamabad High Court (IHC) has directed PTI to ensure peace regardless of the location in Islamabad allotted to the party by the government to hold sit-in and 'jalsa'.

Gujarat Assembly elections in two phases, counting on Dec 8

Team Absolute | New Delhi

The Gujarat Assembly polls will be held in two phases on December 1 and 5, the Election Commission announced here on Thursday.

The counting of votes will be taken up on December 8, Chief Election Commissioner Rajiv Kumar said. In the first phase, polling will be held for 89 seats while the second phase will see voting for 93 seats.

Gujarat has a strong 4,90,89,765 electorate, which includes 2,53,36,610 males and 2,37,51,738 females.

The term of the 182-member state Assembly ends on February 18, 2023. After the poll dates were announced, the Model Code of Conduct came into force in the state.



Earlier, the poll panel had announced the dates for the Himachal Pradesh Assembly polls. Election in Himachal Pradesh will be held in a single phase on November 12 and the counting of votes will be taken up on December 8.

In the 2017 Gujarat Assembly polls too, elections were held in two phases, and the BJP had formed the government.

TWO NON-LOCAL LABOURERS FIRED UPON BY TERRORISTS IN JAMMU AND KASHMIR

Team Absolute | New Delhi

Srinagar: Two non-local labourers were fired upon by terrorists on Thursday in Jammu and Kashmir's Anantnag district, an official said.

Police said that two non-local labourers, one from Bihar and another from Nepal -- who were working at a school in Bondialgam area of Anantnag district were injured after terrorists fired at them.

The injured have been shifted to hospital and the area has been surrounded by the security forces.

Kashmir Zone Police in a tweet said: "Militant fired upon two outside labourers who were working at a private SAPS school at Bondialgam in Anantnag district. Both of them are being shifted to hospital."

India rejects references to J&K in China-Pak joint statement

Team Absolute | New Delhi

References to Jammu and Kashmir (J&K) in a China-Pakistan joint statement issued on Thursday during Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's visit to Beijing have been rejected by India.

External Affairs Ministry spokesperson Arindam Bagchi said that the references were "unwarranted".

Adding that India has consistently rejected such statements, Bagchi said that the union territories of J&K are and will remain India's integral part.

The joint statement was issued after talks between Sharif and Chinese



President Xi Jinping. Commenting on the China-Pakistan-Economic Corridor (CPEC), he said India has consistently conveyed "protests and concerns" to China and Pakistan as it includes projects in the "sovereign territory" of India.

"We resolutely reject any attempts to utilise such projects to change the status quo in that area," the spokesperson said.

RUPEE CROSSES 83 AGAINST DOLLAR AFTER US FED RATE HIKE

New Delhi: The rupee on Thursday crossed the 83-mark against the US dollar, hours after the US Fed hiked interest rates for the fourth time this year. It touched 83.08 before ending the day at 83.02.

The rupee had earlier opened at 83 against the dollar. The US Federal Reserve on Wednesday raised key rates by 75 basis points, the fourth such hike by it this year, to curtail rising inflation. The chairman of US Fed, Jerome Powell, was quoted as saying by reports that the bank is firmly committed to lowering inflation.

The aggressive rate hike by the Federal Reserve will put further pressure on the stock markets globally, especially on rising economies like India. The already weakened rupee too is likely to be impacted.

While the rupee has crossed the 83 mark against the US dollar on quite a few occasions this week in anticipation of the US Fed announcing a rate hike, now that it has actually happened, the domestic currency may weaken further, as was visible on Thursday.

SHUNNED BY HOSPITAL, WOMAN DELIVERS TWIN BABIES AT HOME IN K'TAKA, ALL 3 DIE

Tumakuru: In a heart wrenching incident, a woman and her new-born twins died on Thursday, after the district hospital authorities refused to admit her for delivery here. Thirty-year-old Kasturi from Tamil Nadu and her two new-born babies died at her residence at Bharathinagar locality in Tumakuru city.

Protesting the hospital's apathy, the locals staged a protest and demanded suspension of the concerned doctors and staff.

The family and relatives of the woman also refused to cremate the bodies until action is taken against the guilty. According to locals, Kasturi had come from Tamil Nadu and was staying at a rented place with her daughter. Kasturi, who was pregnant, developed labour pain on Wednesday evening.

She was taken to the government district hospital in an auto. But, the authorities and staff of the government district hospital refused admission in the absence of Aadhaar and Mother's card.

The doctors also refused to provide her treatment and admit her to the hospital despite the woman being in labour. They asked her to be taken to Victoria hospital in Bengaluru.

As she did not have money to go to Bengaluru, Kasturi returned home. On Thursday, she gave birth to twin boys but died due to profuse bleeding.

Following the death of their mother, the twins also died. The public held the doctors of the government hospital responsible for the deaths.

SC affirms death penalty for Red Fort attack accused

► IN THE RED FORT ATTACK, THREE PEOPLE, INCLUDING TWO ARMY JAWANS, WERE KILLED.

► IN AUGUST 2011, THE SUPREME COURT CONFIRMED THE DEATH SENTENCE OF ARRESTED LET TERRORIST MOHAMMAD ARIF FOR CARRYING OUT THE DECEMBER 2000 RED FORT ATTACK. THE APEX COURT ALSO DISMISSED HIS REVIEW PETITION LATER IN AUGUST 2011. HOWEVER, IN 2016, THE APEX COURT DECIDED TO RE-HEAR HIS REVIEW PETITION.

► IN NOVEMBER 2005, THE TRIAL COURT HAD AWARDED ARIF A DEATH SENTENCE. THE TRIAL COURT HAD ALSO FINED ARIF RS 4.35 LAKH FOR THE ATTACK THAT LEFT TWO RAJPUTANA RIFLES JAWANS AND A CIVILIAN DEAD. THE DELHI HIGH COURT, IN 2007, UPHELD THE DEATH SENTENCE TO ARIF.



NEW DELHI | Agencies

The Supreme Court on Thursday affirmed the death penalty for Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) terrorist Mohammad Arif alias Ashfaq for carrying out the December 2000 Red Fort attack, saying there was a direct attack on the unity, integrity and sovereignty of India.

Dismissing Arif's review plea against capital punishment, a bench comprising Chief Justice U.U. Lalit and Justices S. Ravindra Bhat and Bela M. Trivedi said: "the aggravating circumstances evident from the record and specially the fact that there was a direct attack on the unity, integrity and sovereignty of India, completely outweigh the factors which may even remotely be brought into consideration as mitigating circumstances on record."

Arif, a Pakistan national, was held guilty of murder, criminal conspiracy, and waging war against the country. The bench concluded there is nothing on record which can be taken to be a mitigating circumstance in favour of the review petitioner. "The suggestion that there is a possibility of retribution and rehabilitation, is not made out from and supported by any material on record," said Chief Justice Lalit, who authored the judgment on behalf of the bench.

The Chief Justice said in conclusion, it must therefore be observed that even after eschewing circumstances, which were directly attributable to the CDRs relied upon by the prosecution, the other circumstances on record do clearly spell out and prove beyond any doubt the involvement of the review petitioner in the crime in question.

RBI panel holds meeting to draft response to Centre on failure to check inflation

Team Absolute | New Delhi

Having failed to keep inflation within its tolerance limit of up to 4 per cent for the past three quarters, the monetary policy committee (MPC) of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) met on Thursday to draft its response to the government on its inability to do so. According to a statement issued by the central bank, the MPC's meeting was held "to discuss and draft the report to be sent to the Government by the RBI under the provisions of Section 452N of the RBI Act, 1934 and Regulation 7 of RBI MPC and Monetary Policy Process Regulations, 2016". The meeting was

chaired by RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das and all MPC members, namely -- Michael Debabrata Patra, Rajiv Ranjan, Shashanka Bhide, Ashima Goyal and Jayanth R. Varma. Section 452N of the RBI Act requires the MPC to send a letter to the government if the central bank fails to meet its inflation mandate. It is basically an explanation why RBI failed to keep the retail inflation below the tolerance limit. Retail inflation has been consistently more than 6 per cent since the past nine months.





TRUST, CREDIBILITY IMPORTANT FOR DEVELOPED NATION: PM MODI

Team Absolute | New Delhi

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday said that for a developed country, trust and credibility are critical, noting that the earlier governments failed to earn people's trust.

Addressing a programme marking the vigilance awareness week of the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) at Vigyan Bhawan, Modi said, "Earlier the governments not only lost people's confidence but they also failed to trust people."

"We have been trying to change the system of scarcity and pressure for the last eight years. The government is trying to fill the gap between the supply and demand," he added. The Prime Minister also launched the Management System portal of CVC on the occasion.

"For a developed India, trust and credibility are critical," he said further, adding that technology, service saturation and Aatmnirbharta are the three key ways of tackling corruption. "For a developed India, we have to



develop such an administrative ecosystem with zero tolerance on corruption," Modi emphasised. He suggested to the CVC officials present on the occasion to devise a way of ranking departments on the

basis of pending corruption cases and publish the related reports on a monthly or quarterly basis. "Institutions acting against the corrupt and corruption like the CVC don't have to be defensive," he

advised. "When you take action with conviction, the whole nation stands with you," said the Prime Minister.

Touching upon the worrying trend, the Prime Minister said, "We have seen that many times the corrupt people are glorified in spite of being jailed even after being proven to be corrupt."

"This situation is not good for Indian society. Even today, some people give arguments in favour of the corrupt who have been found guilty. It is very necessary for such people, such forces to be made aware of their duty by society. In this also concrete action taken by your department has a big role," he said.

Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister, P.K. Mishra, Minister of State for Personnel & Parliamentary Affairs Jitendra Singh, Cabinet Secretary, Central Vigilance Commissioner Suresh Patel and Vigilance Commissioners P.K. Srivastava and Arvinda Kumar were also present on the occasion.

Rahul Gandhi turns Potharaju during Bharat Jodo Yatra in Telangana

Hyderabad | Agencies

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi donned the role of Potharaju symbolically whipping himself during Bharat Jodo Yatra in Telangana's Sangareddy district on Thursday.

Participating in Bonalu, a traditional festival of Telangana, along with party MLA Jagga Reddy, Rahul Gandhi whipped himself.

Potharaju is a character in annual Bonalu processions taken out in Telangana. He is considered to be the brother of seven sister goddesses -- different forms of the goddess 'Mahankali'.

Leading the procession, Potharaju carries a whip and lashes against his body to the sound of drum beats.

During his Yatra, the Congress MP has been interacting with local people, dancing with local cultural artists or playing with children. A day after playing cricket with children during



the yatra, Rahul Gandhi turned Potharaju much to the excitement of other leaders and workers walking with him.

Former Chief of Naval Staff Admiral Ramdas and his wife and social activist Lalita Ramdas also joined the yatra.

On the ninth day of his march in Telangana, the yatra entered Sangareddy district.

Telangana Pradesh Congress Committee (TPCC) chief A. Revanth Reddy, Congress Legislature Party

leader Mallu Bhathi Vikramarka, MP Uttam Kumar Reddy and several other leaders and scores of party workers were participating in the yatra.

The foot march will continue in Telangana till November 7 with one-day break on November 4.

It will cover a total distance of 375 kms in 19 Assembly and seven Parliamentary constituencies in the state. From Telangana, the yatra will enter Maharashtra on November 7.

Two former Congress leaders join BJP in Karnataka

Bengaluru | Agencies

Head of the assembly elections in Karnataka, two former Congress leaders on Thursday joined the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP).

Former Congress MP S.P. Muddahanumegowda, actor-politician Shashi Kumar, and retired IAS officer B.H. Anil Kumar were the prominent faces among the new entrants in the saffron party.

They were welcomed by Karnataka Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai and BJP's state unit president Nalin Kumar Kateel. Speaking on the development, Bommai said: "It is an indication of the political winds blowing in



favour of the BJP in the state. "Despite serving the Congress party for several years, they are now convinced that their services will not be recognised in that party... and they have decided to join the BJP and serve the

state," he added. The entry of leaders like Muddahanumegowda and Shashi Kumar is expected to boost the BJP's chances in the assembly elections scheduled to be held in Karnataka in the first half of 2023.

7 KILLED IN TWO ROAD ACCIDENTS IN TELANGANA

Hyderabad: Seven people were killed and four were injured in two separate road accidents in Telangana on Thursday.

The accidents were reported from Sangareddy and Vikarabad districts.

Four persons died when the car in which they were travelling was hit by a Road Transport Corporation (RTC) bus at Kansanpalle in Andole mandal of Sangareddy district. The collision occurred on the national highway.

Morning fog is suspected to have led to the accident. In another mishap in Vikarabad district, three persons were killed and four were injured. According to police, there was a collision between an auto rickshaw and a truck near Bacharam bridge in Dharur mandal. The injured were admitted to government hospital at Vikarabad.

Smuggled from Myanmar, foreign cigarettes valued at Rs 2.47 cr seized in Mizoram

Aizawl | Agencies

Assam Rifles and Customs officials in a joint operation seized 190 cases of foreign origin cigarettes worth Rs 2.47 crore from eastern Mizoram's Champhai district, a hotspot of illegal trade from Myanmar.

Officials on Thursday said that the para-military troopers of 23 Sector accompanied by Assam Rifles officials recovered the foreign origin cigarettes on Wednesday night from an abandoned place at New Zotlang of Champhai district, adjoining Myanmar. The seized items were handed over to the Customs department, Champhai to undertake further legal proceedings.

Ongoing smuggling of drugs and



foreign origin cigarettes is a major cause of concern for Mizoram, especially along the India-Myanmar border, an Assam Rifles statement said.

The Mizoram-based International Trade Initiative Forum (ITIF) recently urged Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Mizoram Governor to resume trade with Myanmar through the

Zokhawthar border point. ITIF President P.C. Lawmkunga, a retired IAS officer, who served as Manipur's Chief Secretary, told reporter that "in the absence of the formal and regular official border trade between India and Myanmar, not only smuggling and illegal trade is going on unchecked but the government is losing crores of rupees in revenue."

16-year-old boy arrested for rape, murder of minor girl in K'taka

Kalaburagi | Agencies

A 16-year-old boy has been arrested in connection with the rape and murder of a minor girl in Kalaburagi district, police said on Thursday.

The investigations have revealed that the accused boy was addicted to watching porn. He was on the mobile constantly and watched porn videos most of the time, said the police.

On Tuesday evening the 15-year-old girl, who had gone out to attend nature's call, was found dead. The preliminary investigations suggested that the girl was gang-raped and murdered.

A special team was formed by Kalaburagi Superintendent of Police Isha Panth, which arrested three minors within 24 hours. However, during the investigation it was revealed that the 16-year-old accused minor had committed the crime.

The accused had dragged the



girl into the sugarcane farm and sexually assaulted her. The accused had smashed her chest with a big stone and strangled her

to death with her dupatta. After committing the crime, the boy fled. The girl's body bore scratches all over. The police said that

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

Panth announced Rs 1 lakh cash reward for the police team for cracking the case. She has also stated that the charge sheet in connection with the case would be submitted to the court soon.

The victim had gone out of the house to attend nature's call on Tuesday afternoon at 3 pm. When the girl did not return home for a long time, the family members of the girl started searching for her. Finally, the villagers noticed her sandals and the girl's body was found near a sugarcane farm late in the evening on the same day.

The girl was studying in Class 9 and was staying at her relative's place, police said. The swift detection of the accused has earned appreciation for the police department by local people.

IMD predicts heavy rain in South TN on Friday

Chennai | Agencies

The Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) has predicted heavy to very heavy rains at isolated places in some southern districts of Tamil Nadu on Friday.

As per the weather department, the districts that are likely to be affected by this heavy rainfall, are - Ramanathapuram, Nagapattinam, Thanjavur, Tiruvarur, Sivaganga and Myladuthurai.

In a statement on Thursday, the IMD officials said that an upper cyclonic circulation that lies over south Tamil Nadu and its neighbourhood and extends up to upper tropospheric areas is expected to bring in rains.

The Met department said that during the last 24 hours, Sirkali had recorded extremely heavy rain - 22 cm rainfall. Seven locations in the state



recorded very heavy rainfall and 20 places had heavy rainfall. The IMD in the state said that the state had been receiving very good northeast monsoon since it hit Tamil Nadu on October 29.

The Met department also said that many places in the

state are expected to receive light to moderate rains with thunderstorms and lightning till November 7.

The weathermen also predicted cloudy weather conditions for Chennai and adjacent districts in the next 24 hours.

Tributes paid to 1947 war hero Major Somnath Sharma in Kashmir



Srinagar | Agencies

A wreath-laying ceremony by the Army was organised in honour of Major Somnath Sharma, the first Param Vir Chakra, at the Saviours of Kashmir War Memorial located at Srinagar International Airport on Thursday.

Major Somnath Sharma of the 4th battalion, the Kumaon Regiment led the D Company of his battalion at Budgam against the raiders approaching Srinagar from North on November 3, 1947. Despite being heavily outnumbered and coming under heavy fire,

the D company under the leadership of Major Sharma foiled the enemy's advance towards the Srinagar airfield during the crucial hours.

In this decisive battle of 1947, Major Somnath Sharma along with one Junior Commissioned Officer and 20 other ranks made the supreme sacrifice, defending the country against all odds.

For his ultimate courage, leadership and dedication beyond the call of duty, Major Sharma was conferred with the country's first and highest war time Gallantry Award, the Param Vir Chakra, posthumously.

Money Laundering case: Soren seeks 3-week time from ED

Team Absolute | New Delhi

Jharkhand Chief Minister Hemant Soren on Thursday sought three weeks' time to appear before the Enforcement Directorate (ED) in connection with the Prevention of Money Laundering case pertaining to illegal mining and extortion in Jharkhand and Bihar.

Sources in the ED claimed that Soren has written a letter to the probe agency seeking time to attend a few programmes.

Soren was summoned by the ED to join the investigation on Thursday, but he skipped the questioning.

The federal agency had also written a letter to Jharkhand Police



Commissioner for appropriate security arrangements ahead of his questioning.

"There was a cheque signed by Soren which was found by us during the recent raid. He also allegedly misused his position and

granted a lease," the sources said.

Recently, the ED had filed a Prosecution Complaint (charge sheet) before a Special Ranchi court against Pankaj Mishra, Bachhu Yadav and Prem Prakash, all

said to be close to the Jharkhand CM. The court has already taken the cognisance of the chargesheet. During investigation of the case, as many 47 searches were conducted throughout India on several dates resulting in the seizure of cash amounting to Rs 5.34 crore, freezing of bank balances amounting to Rs 13.32 crore, freezing of an inland vessel MV Infralink - III, reg. No. WB 1809, 5 number of stone crushers, two nos. of Hyva trucks besides the seizure of incriminating documents along with two numbers of AK 47 Assault Rifles, the probe agency said.

Earlier, the ED had arrested Pankaj Mishra, Bachhu Yadav and Prem Prakash who are in judicial custody.

Three MES officials arrested by CBI in bribery case

Team Absolute | New Delhi

The Central Bureau of Investigation on Thursday said that they have arrested three officials working in the office of Military Engineer Services (MES), Bhopal (Madhya Pradesh), in an alleged bribery case.

The accused were identified as J. John Kennedy, Assistant Garrison Engineers (AGE) (Contract), R.S. Yadav, AGE (E/M) and Arun Singh, Jr. Administrative Assistant. The accused had allegedly demanded a bribe of Rs 1.10 lakh.

A case was registered in this respect on the basis of the complaint lodged against the accused. The complainant had alleged that despite his tender work being in order, the GE has raised a recovery of Rs 7.93 lakh on his firm. When the com-

plainant approached the GE regarding said recovery, he was directed to discuss the matter with AGE (Contract) and AGE (E/M).

The AGE demanded undue advantage of around Rs 1.15 lakh (3 per cent approx of the tender value). The complainant was further directed that in case of non-payment of undue advantage/bribe, recovery would be made from him.

The CBI laid a trap and caught the accused while demanding and accepting bribe of Rs 1.10 lakh from the complainant. Searches were conducted at the office and residential premises of the accused as well as GE, situated at Bhopal which led to the recovery of incriminating documents apart from others. Cash amount of Rs 5.47 lakh was recovered from the premises of AGE (Contract).



FACILITIES WILL BE GIVEN TO INDUSTRIES WHICH PROVIDE EMPLOYMENT TO LOCAL YOUTH: CM CHOUHAN

CM Shivraj Singh Chouhan has said that the government will provide all facilities to industries which will give employment to local residents of the state.

Team Absolute | Bhopal

He was addressing the unveiling program of Sagar Textile Manufacturing Private Limited's new investment project costing Rs 1070 crore at Tamot in Gauharganj tehsil of Raisen district on Thursday.

CM said that today Madhya Pradesh is one of the 10 leading states in textile industry. We are trying our best to reach the top position in the state. Presently the textile products of Madhya Pradesh are being exported to different countries of the world and have also made their own identity. He said that more than 3 thousand youth of the state would get direct employment and a large number of citizens would get indirect employment from the industry started in Tamot today. With the coming of this project, there will be all-round development of the area.

CM Chouhan said that his entire focus is on providing employment to the youth. In the next one year, a campaign is underway to link one lakh government jobs and about 2 lakh youth to self-employment every month. The Chief Minister also



praised the Sagar Group for employing 60 percent of women workers and making the campus drug-free. CM said that due to the construction of Ratapani Dam, this area is continuously developing. The demands placed by the local public representatives for the development of the area will be fulfilled soon.

CM said that the state is moving ahead in the field of agriculture. The

state ranks first in the country in many products like wheat, pulses and oilseeds. Employment opportunities have also increased in agriculture. In view of the increasing population, it is necessary to make efforts in investment and other sectors to increase employment. Chief Minister Chouhan said that by running a campaign against drug addiction, youth have to be connected to a happy and

prosperous life by connecting them with employment. Addition is the root of destruction. A campaign has been launched against this, in which hookah lounges have also been demolished by taking massive action. The campaign is still on.

Industrial Policy and Investment Promotion Minister Rajvardhan Singh Dattigaon said that many youths would get employment with the start of the new textile project. Along with this there will be all-round development of the area. A decision will be taken soon on the demand of the industry to supply water from Ratapani Dam and reduce the cost of land. World class technology and skilled staff have been deployed in the project.

MLA Surendra Patwa demanded to open the plastic park located near Tamot to the public. This textile industry will also be helpful in the development of the state. Chief Minister Chouhan also inspected the newly constructed textile unit. The fabric manufactured in it will be exported to more than 20 countries. Initially, the Chief Minister planted a Parijat sapling after kanya-pujan.

MP politics heats up as Bharat Jodo Yatra arrival date nears

Team Absolute | Bhopal

With the schedule for the arrival of Congress' Bharat Jodo Yatra in Madhya Pradesh getting closer, the leaders from the ruling BJP and the opposition Congress have sharpened their attacks on each other. The yatra is scheduled to enter Burhanpur district on November 21.

Top leaders of the state BJP, including Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan, state Home Minister Narottam Mishra and state BJP president Vishnu Dutta Sharma and other party leaders have started reminding the people of the promises made by Rahul Gandhi during his campaign in 2018 Assembly elections in the state. The BJP is also saying that the Bharat Jodo Yatra "has become more like a physical fitness test" as its lead campaigner, Rahul Gandhi, can be seen doing pushups and running.

While addressing gatherings, Shivraj Singh Chouhan attacks the yatra. On some occasions, he also reiterated the first Prime Minister, Jawaharlal Nehru, as the "divider" of India.

"On one side there is Narendra Modi who is working for the country and on the other side there is Rahul baba (Rahul Gandhi) who is doing Bharat Jodo Yatra. Rahul Gandhi, do tell us - who did the 'todo' (divided) of India? In 1947 with an urge to get power at the earliest, if someone divided the country it was Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru and the Congress," Chouhan had said last week. On the other side, the Madhya Pradesh Congress unit led by former Chief Minister and the party's state head Kamal Nath has swung into action to welcome the 'Bharat Jodo Yatra' with 17 subordinates (sub-yatras) from different parts of the state. These sub-yatras will cover all the 230 Assembly seats of Madhya Pradesh and will welcome Rahul



Gandhi in Burhanpur. Digvijaya Singh, who is also one of the key members of the 'Bharat Jodo Yatra' has said that photos of former party Presidents Sonia Gandhi and Rahul Gandhi along with the Congress' newly elected president Mallikarjun Kharge should be used instead.

Singh's willingness to be left out from the publicity material being prepared by the state party unit gave ample opportunity to the BJP to take a dig at the Congress. However, the Congress leaders defended his willingness stating that he (Digvijaya) did it as a mark of respect for the top leadership of the Congress.

'Bharat Jodo Yatra', which will enter Madhya Pradesh from Maharashtra's border area between November 20-21, will cover around 382 km in next 16 days - passing through Khandwa, Khargone, Indore, Ujjain, and Agar-Malwa. According to Congress MLA P.C. Sharma, who is in-charge of the Madhya Pradesh leg, the participants will cover a distance of nearly 25 km per day. Rahul Gandhi will also interact with the people gathered along the route. During the yatra in the state, Rahul Gandhi will also offer prayers at the famous Mahakaleswar temple, which is one of the 12 Jyotirlingas in the country.

Lok Adalat will start settling cases of electricity theft in MP

Team Absolute | Bhopal

Cases of power theft and irregularities in Madhya Pradesh will be settled in Lok Adalat to be held on November 12. Draft settlement terms have been issued in Lok Adalat in cases of electricity theft and irregularities registered by the Central Region Electricity Distribution Company under sections 126 and 135 of the Electricity Act 2003.

It has been decided by the company that pending cases and such cases which could not be registered in the court, such cases should be resolved



expeditiously. Relaxation in Lok Adalat will be given under the terms and conditions. After the prescribed exemp-

tion, the applicant will have to pay the remaining billed estimated civil liability and interest amount in a lump sum.

Election Commission's initiative to increase the role of Divyang voters in elections

Team Absolute | Bhopal

The Election Commission of India is going to take a special initiative to increase the share of disabled voters in the elections. Under this, the commission is going to communicate online on Thursday with the PWD icons (Divyang Voters) and their associates of all the states including Madhya Pradesh. Chief Electoral Officer of Madhya Pradesh Anupam Rajan informed that PWD Icon Conference is being organized by the Election Commission of India to increase the activism of Divyang voters in the elections. Five PWD icons (Divyang) of five districts from the state have been called to Bhopal.



The country's Election Commissioner Rajiv Kumar and Election Commissioner Anoop Chandra Pandey will communicate with them.

On this occasion, other points including the facilities that can be given to differently-abled voters in future and the facilities being provided at present will be discussed. In the program organized from New Delhi, the PWD icons of the state will be connected with the election house of Madhya Pradesh online. Anil Muggal, director of Bhopal's Aarushi Sanstha, which has been working for the differently-abled for a long time, and Rohit Trivedi, professor of Sarojini Naidu Girls College, Bhopal, will participate in the program.

Significantly, there are more than five crore 24 lakh voters in the state. Out of this, more than four lakh 83 thousand are disabled voters.

SKILLED DOMESTIC WOMEN ARE MAKING THEIR NEW IDENTITY

Team Absolute | Bhopal

It is said that if the intentions are strong and there is a passion to do something, then the situation cannot stop you. Skilled domestic women are moving ahead on the path of doing something similar. These artist domestic women are reaching different parts of the country to prove their skills. In the coming days, these women will stay in the tourist cities of Orchha and Khajuraho in Madhya Pradesh and will also put up an exhibition by taking the scenery and architecture here on canvas. Usually, women leave their hobbies and skills behind after a big change in life or say marriage and family responsibilities and move forward. When their responsibility is reduced or completely freed from it, it is not easy for them to revive their hobby again. Some such women have started a campaign to revive their hobby. In this, women skilled in the art of different parts of the country have come forward.

Rashmi Soni, who belongs to Bundelkhand, is also one of those women who are engaged in the campaign to bring talented domestic women on one platform. Rashmi tells that she has been running an art school named Shinycolors in Bangalore since the year 2013, along with more than 35 exhibi-



tions in many countries including India, Italy, Switzerland, Turkey, USA, Australia, Nepal, Hong

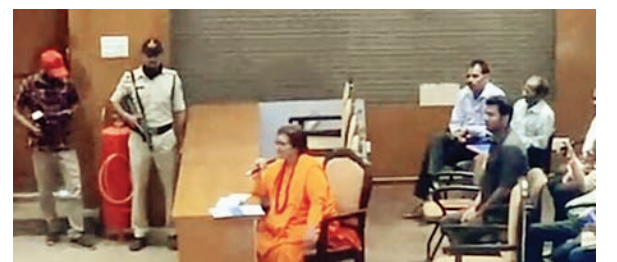
Kong, Singapore and China are of. Received several Outstanding Painting Awards. His paintings are in the permanent collections of Delhi Lalit Kala Akademi, Karnataka Lalit Kala Akademi, Lovely Professional University and many private art collectors in India and abroad.

Rashmi tells that last year the idea of giving women a platform came to her mind, in which she got along with two other artist friends, Pooja Kumar artiste from Faridabad and Sharmita Roy of Noida. Together, the three founded an organization called Opus Kala Sangathan. Kala Sangathan is an organization of women artists. The aim of our organization is to give opportunities to women artists who are trying to make their mark in the field of art. People associated with this organization say that they are doing an all women residential art workshop in Khajuraho and Orchha to study its amazing architecture and unique sculptures at the place. This workshop is on 9th and 10th November in Khajuraho and 11th and 12th November in Orchha. 50 women artists from all over India are participating in this workshop. They are also coming from Bangalore, Mumbai, Kolkata, Hyderabad, Chennai, Kerala, Ujjain, Jabalpur, Surat, Ahmedabad, Jodhpur and many other smaller cities. This is the second program. Last held in June 2022 in Kashmir.

Ruckus in Bhopal Corporation's house, MP arrived with gunman, raised demand to change the name of Halalpur bus stand

Team Absolute | Bhopal

There was a lot of uproar during the proceedings of Bhopal Municipal Corporation, the capital of Madhya Pradesh. A total of 10 questions were raised during the Question Hour. The biggest uproar has been about the qualification of encroachment officer Qamar Shakib. Leader of Opposition Shabista Zaki asked Shakib's qualifications, but MIC member Anand Agarwal could not answer, then another member Ravindra Yati had to get up to answer. During this, Bhopal MP also did an act keeping the rules in check. Actually, MP Pragna Singh Thakur had reached the house with the gunman. However, the MP later admit-



ted the mistake. But Bhopal Mayor Malti Rai said that it is a matter of safety of the corporation. Thakur said that by removing the symbol of slavery, we have the power to change the history of India again. We also stand to change and rebuild the history of Bhopal. She said that the name Halal is impure. It should be removed. While proposing, Pragna Singh Thakur said that Halalpura Bus Stand should be named

Hanumangarhi Bus Stand. There have been many murders at Lalghati crossroads. During this, many brave heroes were martyred. That is why we should bow down without remembering him and the name of the crossroads should be kept as Mahendra Narayan Das Ji Maharaj Sarveshwar Chauraha. After which Speaker Suryavanshi talked about passing both the resolutions.

CM PLANTS GULMOHAR, CASSIA AND SARIKA INDICA SAPPLINGS



Bhopal: Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan planted Gulmohar, Cassia and Sarika Indica saplings in the Smart City Garden. Berasia MLA Vishnu Khatri also planted saplings on his birthday. Social worker Anil Agarwal Lilly also accompanied. Agarwal family's boy Parth and girl Avi planted saplings on their birthdays. Sarvshri Naveen Agarwal, Ashok Gupta, Sandeep Gupta, Vineet Agarwal, Hemant Agarwal, Himanshu Gupta and Darshan Garg of Lal Ghati Agrawal Samaj also planted saplings along with Chief Minister Chouhan.

ED registers money laundering probe against CNI moderator & his family

Team Absolute | Bhopal

The Enforcement Directorate, Bhopal unit has registered money laundering case to probe alleged irregularities against Jabalpur bishop PC Singh moderator of Church of North India (CNI) in India and his family.

The federal company has filed the case underneath varied sections of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) taking cognizance of a EOW FIR that has named Singh and his son. Searches by MP EOW at his dwelling had unearthed almost Rs 2 crore in Indian and international foreign money.

Officers from the Bhopal unit had met EOW chief Ajay Sharma and took particulars of the operation.

Singh has been in custody since September 12 in reference to Crime No.80/2022 registered at Police Station, EOW, Jabalpur (MP) for the offence punishable under Sections 406, 420, 468, 471 and 120-B of IPC and Section 7(c) of Prevention of Corruption Act.

"We have shared necessary details with the ED," mentioned an EOW officer.

Chief minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan had additionally been monitoring developments on this case, sources say. Other companies are additionally investigating his 'deals' with suspected Dawood affiliate Riyaz Bhati.

Nilesh Lawrence, a Chhattisgarh-based activist whose griev-



ance had led to the EOW searches on the bishop, alleges that Singh had leased out a major property of CNI to Bhati in 2016. The property in query is CNI's gymkhana, a British-era con-

structing, which was leased for round Rs 3 crore. He had despatched complaints to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's workplace and ED demanding a probe.

On Tuesday MP High courtroom had rejected Singh bail plea after authorities advocates argued that he was an influential particular person being a Moderator and Bishop having management over the establishments and should affect the witnesses.

They mentioned there are paperwork and statements of witnesses on report to point out that his son has tried to threaten and affect the witnesses to provide clear chit to his father. After listening to the submission, the courtroom rejected the bail ordering that he can strive for a similar after submission of chargesheet.

As per the allegations, Singh who's Moderator of the Church of North India (CNI) and in addition the Bishop of the Jabalpur Diocese of the CNI in connivance with the Assistant Registrar, Firms and Societies and others, modified the identify of Nagpur Diocesan Board of Education with out the consent of Nagpur Board ready a cast certificates on the identical registration No 8 dated July 11, 1959 and appointed himself as Chairman of the society. He has been accused of misusing his place as chairman of the Society and has diverted funds from the tutorial establishments to the non secular establishments, Jabalpur Diocese and for his private use.



EDITOR'S SPECS

BKU expanding its base among women

The Bhartiya Kisan Union (BKU) is expanding its base among women now. The BKU organised a women's panchayat here a day ago to discuss issues related to their rights. Sunita Tikait, wife of BKU national spokesman Rakesh Tikait, said, "We work in farmlands like other members of our family do, but we are not aware of our rights. Government policies directly impact women, who run a farmer's home. We should be provided information and the benefits. "Under the circumstances, it has become important that we step up and assert our demands," she said. She said that the next 'Maha panchayat' will be held after two weeks in which women from neighbouring states, such as Haryana, will also participate. At the panchayat, several other issues were agreed upon. It was decided that women would wear their men away from alcohol. If a male member takes liquor, he will have to pay Rs 25 per day to his family. A decision to reduce expenses and increase income was also made. Women should pay more attention towards the studies of their children and discuss problems among themselves. A maha panchayat of women will be held in Sisauli on November 17. The BKU, according to sources, feels that the involvement of women in farmers' issues would substantially increase the strength of the organisation and make it more vibrant.

DEBATE RAGES AS GIR'S LIONS LOSE OUT TO CHEETAHS FROM NAMIBIA

Archana Sharma

A few years back, there were discussions on relocating the Asiatic lions from Gir Forest in Gujarat to some other states in India because their numbers have outgrown the available forest cover. But Gir's lions seem to have lost out to the cheetahs from Namibia who have been settled at the spot where they were supposed to have been relocated -- the Kuno national park in Madhya Pradesh. Cheetah politics, meanwhile, has become the hot subject of discussion in three states, namely, Gujarat, MP and Rajasthan. It started in Gujarat three decades back as the Centre sought the views of some state governments on how to relocate the Asiatic lions from the Gir Reserve to other national parks in the country. The reason was to hedge the risk to the lions, whose numbers are growing rapidly, from becoming victims of human-animal conflicts, or being wiped out by a major natural calamity. It did not make sense to have all the lions in the country located at just one place. The lions needed to be relocated to other appropriate habitats for their own good. Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan took the lead and identified several alternate habitats suitable for the Gir lions. Kuno Palpur Sanctuary in MP was adjudged the most ideal forest to become a second home for lions in India. But Gujarat continued to resist the logical move of relocating the lions, considering it would lose its monopoly over the big cat. In April 2013, the Supreme Court ordered Gujarat to send a few Gir lions to Madhya Pradesh to establish a second population. The court gave the wildlife authorities six months to complete the transfer. Kuno was upgraded to the status of a National Park and its protected area was increased. About



1,650 inhabitants of 24 villages were resettled outside the protected area. An area of 924 sq km, surrounding the wildlife sanctuary, was added as a buffer zone to human settlements. Hopes were kept alive of the lions reaching Kuno. But political thinking underwent changes. Then Union Environment Minister, Jairam Ramesh, saw new mileage in the cheetahs who had become extinct in India in the early fifties, so it was decided to bring them from an African country. In 2009, Kuno was proposed as a possible site for the cheetahs' reintroduction in India. Their arrival took a long time. Eight cheetahs reached Kuno in mid-September 2022 after being airlifted from Namibia. India hailed it as an addition of a wild cat species that had become extinct some seventy years ago! The call for lions has not remained unheeded. Gujarat's pride was to be maintained - for lions as well. So during January 2022, the Union government drafted a 25-year plan for lions to be relocated within Gujarat state and not in other states. It is on record that the Gujarat government did not carry out the Supreme Court's order since 2013. It has been resisting the relo-

cation of lions outside Gujarat. According to Bhopal-based environmentalist Ajay Dubey, plans to reintroduce African cheetahs in Kuno National Park is another way to stall the transfer of lions to Kuno National Park. Talking about the cheetahs at Kuno, officials said, "They are still within the quarantine zone. It is a large open grassland habitat fenced on all sides where the overseas guests roam around. They hunt Spotted Deer which are released within their precincts and are able to catch them," said an official at Kuno on condition of remaining incognito. They will enjoy the luxury of such spoon feeding for another couple of months. It is to enable them to acclimatize with the local ecological factors. After that they will be let loose in the open fields of Kuno to roam wherever they like, hunt their prey and start a new life in the wilderness of India. Lauri Marker, founder of the Cheetah Conservation Foundation in Namibia, conveyed to her Indian counterparts: "We have done our job from Namibia. If you need more cheetahs, they will be offered. Try South Africa and other neighbouring countries to get more cheetahs.

Marker was the one who flew to Gwalior in a specially designed aircraft carrying the cheetahs for Kuno. She has been to India several times over the past two decades to negotiate the cheetahs' entry into India. She is now happy that her objective has been fulfilled. Meanwhile officials confirmed that by the time the present lot of eight cheetahs resume their normal life in Kuno's wilderness, a new momentum for importing more cheetahs from Africa will start gathering speed. The Union Environment Ministry has an action plan to introduce 50 more cheetahs in India in the next five years. Not all will be billed for Kuno. So where else? Since Prime Minister Narendra Modi himself introduced the imported wild cats at Kuno on his birthday, a new element in the nation's polity appears to be gaining currency: Cheetah politics. The states may put in requests for cheetahs in the next reintroduction drive. Madhya Pradesh's quota appears full through Kuno. Next in the race is Rajasthan which missed the bus this time. Its Mukundara Reserve was select-

ed as an ideal grassland habitat. Lauri Marker visited it in July 2022. Will it receive some cheetahs in the next reintroduction drive of the Union Government? The cheetah controversy has not died down so far. Eight scientists of international stature have criticised the Union Government over cheetahs having been imported from Namibia. Arjun M. Gopalaswamy, Femke Broekhuis, Leli Khalatbari, Michael G. L. Mills, Ravi Chellam, David Thuo, Abi Tamim Vanak and K. Ullas Karanth, have said that India's plan is based on three unsubstantiated claims -- that cheetahs have run out of space in Africa; that India currently has sufficient and suitable space for them; and that conservation translocations have been successful in wild cheetah range restoration efforts. They have written an article "Introducing African cheetahs to India is an ill-advised conservation attempt", published in Nature Ecology and Evolution, to highlight that there are "unknown ecological, disease-related and genetic risks involved in replacing Asiatic cheetahs with the larger cheetahs from southern Africa." They added: "The action plan appears to have substantially overestimated cheetah carrying capacity in the first release site (Kuno National Park), which is unfenced, harbouring about 500 feral cattle and surrounded by a forested landscape with 169 human settlements. Neither Kuno nor the other landscapes considered are of the size and quality to permit self-sustaining and genetically viable cheetah populations." Political pundits said the central government will like to use the cheetahs as a new politico-wilderness model to woo the people and try to receive greater voter support. Let the lions remain at Gir, cheetahs are the new play.

international

N.KOREA FIRES SUSPECTED INTERCONTINENTAL BALLISTIC MISSILE: SEOUL

Seoul: North Korea on Thursday fired a suspected intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM) and two short-range ones toward the East Sea, the South Korean military said. The Joint Chiefs of Staff (JCS) said it detected what is presumed to be a long-range ballistic missile launch from the Sunan area in Pyongyang at around 7.40 a.m. and the firing of two apparent short-range ballistic missiles (SRBMs) from Kaechon in South Pyongan province from 8.39 a.m., reports Yonhap News Agency.



The long-range missile flew about 760 km at an apogee of around 1,920 km at a top speed of Mach 15, and the two SRBMs travelled some 330 km at a maximum altitude of around 70 km at a top speed of Mach 5, it said. It marks the North's first firing of an ICBM since May. The North's provocations came a day after it shot more than two dozen missiles, the biggest-ever barrage in a single day. One of them flew southward past the de facto maritime inter-Korean border for the first time since the end of the 1950-53 Korean War. The North is seen as demonstrating its firepower in protest against this week's combined air drills of South Korea and the US, involving more than 240 aircraft, amid growing speculation that Pyongyang may conduct a nuclear test soon. Pyongyang has long denounced joint military drills between Seoul and Washington as a rehearsal for invasion. The countries stress the exercises are defensive in nature. North Korea's Foreign Ministry had earlier warned of "more powerful follow-up measures" against what it called Washington's "ceaseless and reckless" military provocations.

Pakistan Minister claims Imran is inviting martial law

Islamabad | Agencies

Pakistan Information Minister Marriyum Aurangzeb said that PTI chairman Imran Khan wanted martial law in the country which reflected his "fascist" and "autocratic" mindset. In a statement on Wednesday, she said that innocent people were losing lives due to the "bloody march" of the former Prime Minister, "who is bent upon creating chaos and anarchy to satisfy his ego in achieving ulterior motives", The Express Tribune reported. She said that the "foreign-funded fitna (mischief)" had admitted that he was in pain for not getting an opportunity to appoint the new army chief but in fact, it was Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's constitutional rights to make the appointment. "The 'mark of disgrace' was clearly visible on his (Khan) face, she said, adding: "The people are fully aware that Imran Khan is a thief, dacoit, liar, incompetent and foreign-funded fitna... Imran's conspiracies will not work."



Aurangzeb asked why Khan had failed to produce a single piece of evidence against Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif in a court of law to prove the false cases filed by the PTI government, The Express Tribune reported. "If Rana Sanaullah is a murderer then why did your government arrest him on the fake charges of carrying drugs," she said, adding where were the proofs and videos that his government claimed to have against the Interior Minister.

Aurangzeb said it was Khan's government which allowed Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) supremo Nawaz Sharif to go abroad. "Now, it is too late (to speak of that)," she added. The Minister further said that during Khan's rule, he used hollow slogans of accountability against opponents but at the same time offered a lifetime extension to the army chief in a bid to save his government's failures.

TROPICAL STORM NALGAE DEATH TOLL IN PHILIPPINES REACHES 150, 36 MISSING

Manila: At least 150 people have died and 36 others remain unaccounted for due to the severe tropical storm Nalgae that battered the Philippines last weekend and triggered flash floods and landslides in many parts of the Southeast Asian country, the government said on Thursday. The National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council said 94 fatalities have been identified, the remaining 56 are being verified, reports Xinhua news agency. Of the 36 reported missing, the agency confirmed 28, while the identities of the other eight are still being verified.



The agency said the tropical storm affected over 3.9 million people, damaged 499 roads and 120 bridges, and caused power outages in many areas. Nalgae is the 16th tropical cyclone to lash the Philippines this year. It slammed into Catanduanes, an island province in the Bicol region, on October 29. The Philippines is one of the most disaster-prone countries globally, mainly due to its location in the Pacific Ring of Fire and the Pacific typhoon belt. On average, the archipelagic country experiences 20 typhoons yearly, some of which are intense and destructive. In April, tropical storm Megi dumped rains in central and southern parts of the Philippines, inundating many areas and causing landslides, resulting in over 220 deaths.

Record number of Australians 'very concerned' about climate change: Report

Canberra | Agencies

A record number of Australians are "very concerned" about climate change as the eastern part of the country is affected by the flood, according to a new report published on Thursday. Think tank the Australia Institute published its 15th annual Climate of the Nation report, which charts citizens' attitudes towards climate change and its solutions, reports Xinhua news agency. The report found that 83 per cent of Australians are concerned that climate change will affect the food supply as a result of droughts and floods.



The same portion of participants in surveys for the report said they were concerned climate change would cause more bushfires. Asked about measures that could be taken to reduce Australia's carbon emissions, 68 per cent supported the introduction of national fuel efficiency standards and 64 per cent support requiring all new car sales in the country to be zero-

emissions vehicles by 2035. "As flood waters continue to rise at record levels, so too does the number of Australians worried about climate change impacts, with concern over floods at record highs," Richie Merzian, Director of Climate and Energy for the institute, said in a statement. "Australians are dealing with the high-cost

consequences of relying on gas and coal power and three-quarters want the government to step in and plan the shift to renewables and storage." The Australian government has a clear mandate to do more when it comes to climate, in particular, clean transport. The upcoming electric vehicle strategy is an opportunity to get moving on fuel efficiency standards, targeted electric vehicles subsidies, and a phase-out of fossil-fuelled vehicles - all of which have strong public support," Merzian added. In July, the Australian Capital Territory announced a plan to ban the sale of all new vehicles powered by an internal combustion engine from 2035. According to the Australia Institute, nationally 75 per cent of the respondents support electrifying state bus fleets by 2030 and 62 per cent believe that governments should introduce policies to encourage mode change from cars to active and public transport. Another 62 per cent support a national subsidy scheme for bikes, e-bikes, and cargo bikes.

UKRAINE TO GET NEW MILITARY, HUMANITARIAN AID FROM SPAIN

Kiev | Agencies

Ukrainian Foreign Minister Dmytro Kuleba said that his war-torn country will soon get new military and humanitarian assistance from Spain. At a joint press briefing after talks with visiting Spanish Foreign Minister Jose Manuel Albares, Kuleba said on Wednesday that soon Ukraine will receive from Spain a battery of the Aspide anti-aircraft missile system and missiles to it, reports Xinhua news agency. Spain will also transfer to



Ukraine four Hawk air defence systems, anti-tank missile systems, guns and shells, as well as other military equipment as part of a new military aid package, Kuleba added. For his part, Albares said Spain is donating 30 ambulances to Ukraine, and will soon deliver five groups of electricity generators to power Ukraine's medical facilities.

PERPETRATOR OF 2018 US SCHOOL SHOOTING SENTENCED TO LIFE IMPRISONMENT

Washington: The perpetrator of the 2018 school shooting in Parkland, Florida, one of the deadliest school shootings in US history, was sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole. On Wednesday, Broward Circuit Judge Elizabeth Scherer sentenced Nicholas Cruz to 34 life terms for killing 17 people and injuring 17 others in the shooting at the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School on February 14, 2018, reports Xinhua news agency. Cruz, 24, was ordered to be transferred to the custody of the Florida Department of Corrections. He had been tried for months for the massacre after pleading guilty last year to murdering 17 people, including 14 students.



ROZGAR MELA 2022: RECRUITMENT FOR 75,000 POSTS BEGINS, APPOINTMENT LETTERS TO 2,000

Team Absolute | Mumbai

The government has decided to provide 75,000 jobs in a year in Maharashtra. It started today. 2,000 people were given appointment letters. These numbers will continue to grow. But do not think of this as a last attempt or last chance, do not go to the court and block the place or bring a stay, deputy chief minister Devendra Fadnavis appealed. Eknath Shinde and Devendra Fadnavis governments in the state have decided to provide 75,000 jobs in Maharashtra in a year. The Mahasankalp Rozgar Mela began today in the presence of the Chief Minister and the Deputy Chief Minister. Two thousand people were given appointment letters today. Devendra Fadnavis said, "The state government has started providing employment to the youth of the state. The Central Government will provide 10 lakh jobs in its central departments. The state should also provide employment to young women in their state. Maharashtra has become the



first state after the suggestion made by Prime Minister Narendra Modi". On the occasion of the 75th Anniversary of The Independence of the country, the Government of Maharashtra will fill up 75,000 seats. Devendra Fadnavis said that the government is determined to end the undeclared ban on government jobs. In the coming days, we are adver-

tising for 18,500 police recruitments. We are also going to fill up some posts in the rural development department. Government jobs should be made transparent. The scam that was seen in the past will not happen. Devendra Fadnavis said that we have decided that best agencies in the country should be given work. Out of 80,000 start-ups in the coun-

try, 15,000 start-ups are in Maharashtra. The employers want to create self-employment. The state's startup policy has been formulated. Fadnavis said he was providing finance to create and expand the start-up. Appointment by two major companies Two major companies/ agencies have been appointed for the recruitment process. TCS and IBPS companies have been appointed. The test will be taken soon. The Government has given instructions that everything should be verified first. Devendra Fadnavis urged that the recruitment has been done in a transparent manner without any court cases. Devendra Fadnavis said that he has decided to organise the Rozgar Mahamela and that it's decided to fill 75,000 seats in a year. They planned to do a small recruitment process. There should be no mistakes and should be conducted in a transparent manner. "This is the beginning of a mega rally of 75,000 jobs. We are going to recruit this in a good way in the coming days", said Fadnavis.

\$4,97,000 seized from passengers' saree, shoes at Mumbai Airport

Team Absolute | Mumbai

The Mumbai Airport customs have seized USD 497,000 worth around Rs 4.10 crore concealed in the saree, shoes and suitcases of a family arriving here from Dubai, officials said here on Thursday. The operation was carried out late on November 2 when the three-member family landed at Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport by a FlyDubai flight FZ-446. Following a tip-off, a targeted operation was carried out by the Air Intelligence Unit and the family, including two senior citizens, was intercepted. The sleuths carried out a thorough search of the baggage and also subjected them to a physical frisking. The AIU recovered and seized the bundles of USD concealed in one of the passenger's saree folds, the inner



sole of the shoes and one of the suitcases the family was carrying. The three persons have been arrested and produced before a Magistrate Court which has remanded them to 14 days judicial custody. Further probe was underway.

Two customs officials, four others get various jail terms in corruption case

Team Absolute | Mumbai

A special CBI court in Mumbai on Wednesday sentenced two Customs officials and four others to jail terms of various lengths in a corruption case. The court sentenced Taufiq Hazi Gaffar to seven years rigorous imprisonment and a fine of Rs. 5.3 crore, then Assistant Commissioner, EOU Section, Customs, Vinayak M Bhende to two years jail with a fine of Rs 20 lakh, then Appraiser, EOU Section, Customs, Vinay Kumar to one year jail with fine of Rs 5 lakh, Maqsood Abdul Karim Bakali to one

year rigorous imprisonment with fine of Rs 25,000, Rafique Khanda to six months rigorous imprisonment with fine of Rs 15,000, and Rouf Abdul Aziz Janoo to six months rigorous imprisonment with fine of Rs 6,000. The CBI had registered the case in 2003 on the basis of the complaint from Additional Commissioner of Customs, Special Intelligence & Investigation Branch, Mumbai, against a private company and others including its Directors and unknown officials of Customs and Central Excise. The accused were found instrumental in clearing 38 consignments of fabrics

under duty free 100 per cent EOU Scheme by submitting forged procurement certificates. The accused submitted forged procurement certificates valued at Rs 4.15 crore on which Customs duty exemption of Rs. 4.25 crore was availed. It was also alleged that the goods, which were imported duty free, were diverted to local market, and its proceeds were misappropriated resulting into a loss to above extent. After investigation, a chargesheet was filed before the Court of Special Judge, CBI Cases, Mumbai in 2005 against all the accused, and it convicted all of them.

No time-frame fixed to complete Mumbai-Ahmedabad bullet train project: RTI

Team Absolute | Mumbai

The time-frame for the competition of the much-debated India's first bullet train project between Ahmedabad-Mumbai is not yet fixed, as per an RTI reply. The National High Speed Rail Corporation Ltd. (NHSRCL) Deputy General Manager Umesh Kumar Gupta has conveyed this to Mumbai activist Anil Galgali in the RTI query recently. Although the Railway Ministry had recently announced that the first bullet train project will link Mumbai-Gujarat in 2026, the NHSRCL's reply has created doubts, said Galgali. "The NHSRCL has stated that the timeline for completing the project



can be fixed only after completion of land acquisition in Maharashtra and awarding of all tenders/contracts pertaining to the project," Galgali said. Gupta further informed Galgali that the civil works for the entire stretch of the bullet train project running 352 kms in Gujarat, Dadra & Nagar Haveli was started in different phases from December 2020

onwards. "As on September 1, 2022, the civil work is progressing at full pace in Gujarat. All civil and track tenders in the entire length of Gujarat have already been awarded. Land acquisition is in progress in Maharashtra," said Gupta. In view of the NHSRCL's stand, Galgali said that when such ambitious mega-projects are announced without thorough planning, the project is not completed on time and this results in cost escalation at all levels. Estimated to cost over Rs one-lakh crore, the bullet train project was expected to be completed by December 2023, but got bogged down due to various political hurdles and other issues.

Right-wing leader refuses to speak to journalist for not wearing a bindi

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Right-wing leader Sambhaji Bhide on Wednesday courted controversy after he refused to speak to a female television news reporter as she had not put a 'bindi' on her forehead. The incident, caught on camera, took place after he met Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde at Mantralaya (state secretariat) in south Mumbai, and promoted the state women's commission to issue him a notice. In a video, Sambhaji Bhide was heard telling the female reporter, who sought sound bite from him about his meeting with Eknath Shinde, that she should apply a 'bindi' before coming to take his byte, and declined to speak to her. He also told the



journalist that a woman is akin to Bharat Mata and that she should not appear like a "widow" by not sporting a 'bindi'. Maharashtra State Women's Commission chairperson Rupali Chakankar

issued a notice to the right-wing leader seeking an explanation for his remarks. In 2018, Bhide had come under fire for his comments that couples were blessed with sons after eating mangoes from his orchard.

FADNAVIS HOLDS TALKS ABOUT SETTING UP BASE OF FINLAND'S APPLIED SCIENCES VARSITY

Mumbai | Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis on Wednesday held a meeting with the officials of the Finland-based LAB University of Applied Sciences and discussed the possibility of setting up its base in the state. In a tweet, Fadnavis said, "Met Mr Turo Kilpelainen, President & Mr Joanne Hokkanen of LAB University of Applied Sciences, Finland at my official residence in Mumbai this afternoon. We discussed plans to set up LAB University of Applied Sciences in Maharashtra via FDI route." "We are extremely positive for bringing institutions of international repute in the land of opportunities, facilitating world class education, more investment & employment opportunities," he said.

Shinde group MLAs 'in touch', claims Thackeray camp

Jaigaon | Agencies

Shiv Sena (UBT) Deputy Leader Sushma Andhare on Thursday claimed that some 'rebel' MLAs belonging to Chief Minister Eknath Shinde's Balasahebanchi Shiv Sena are "in contact" with her party. Among them is Sanjay Shirsat who is said to be disgruntled and feeling uncomfortable with the Shinde Group, according to Andhare. The firebrand leader's comments came during a media interaction in Jaigaon where she is participating in the Mahaprabodhan Yatra. "We have not cut off the cords with the rebels. Some MLAs are very upset there and are in touch with us," said Andhare, indicating that there may be 'home-coming' to the Thackeray Group. Slamming the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), she said that the party is misusing central agencies like the Central Bureau of Investigation and Enforcement



Directorate against the Opposition parties, while no action is taken against corrupt leaders in the BJP. Andhare reiterated that the Shinde government is making announcements on farmers' issues, but they remain in the air as there are no benefits seen at the ground-level. Several other Sena (UBT) leaders have also claimed that several of the 'rebel' legislators who joined Shinde en-masse in June have opened communication

channels and want to return. However, Shinde Group leaders have pooh-poohed the contentions and dared the Sena (UBT) to name any such MLAs allegedly contacting them. It may be recalled that after a chunk of 50 MLAs led by Shinde switched camps, the erstwhile Maha Vikas Aghadi government of Shiv Sena-Nationalist Congress Party-Congress led by ex-CM Uddhav Thackeray collapsed. Amid a high political drama, on June 30, a new regime led by Shinde as the CM, and BJP's Devendra Fadnavis as the Deputy CM took office on June 30. In early-August, the Shinde-Fadnavis cabinet was expanded with 9 MLAs from each side, taking the strength to 20, though there is no representation to the group of independents or smaller parties supporting them. In October, the Election Commission of India gave separate names and poll symbols to the two rival factions even as other contentious issues are pending before the Supreme Court.

2,400 kg MD drug seizure case: cops attach properties worth Rs 19.58 cr of prime accused

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Mumbai crime branch's Anti-Narcotics Cell (ANC) on Wednesday attached properties worth Rs 19.58 crore of the prime accused in the 2,400 kg MD drug haul case in which eight persons were arrested earlier this year, an official said. The seized properties include two flats and nine commercial units located in a highrise in suburban Dahisar. Six bank accounts, containing Rs 1.14 crore, operated in the name of family members of the prime accused were also attached, the official said. "We have attached his property and will submit the report to the state government," the ANC official added. The prime accused in the case is a chemistry post-graduate who was arrested along with others between March and June for allegedly selling mephedrone manufactured in his factory in Ambermath in Thane district. He was allegedly trying to set up a pharmaceutical unit in Gujarat as a front to manufacture the synthetic stimulant. Police had conducted multiple raids in Nalasopara in Palghar district neighbouring Mumbai and also busted a factory at Bharuch in Gujarat.



The 1,200 kg of raw material was recovered from the Bharuch-based factory in August, which was used to make mephedrone or MD. The haul took the quantum of the total drug seizure to 2,400 kg worth Rs 4,853 crore, police had said earlier. In August, the ANC seized 701 kg of MD from Mumbai and arrested six persons. Their interrogation led ANC to the Bharuch factory.

JILTED LOVERS THREW ACID-LIKE BOILING FLUID ON WOMAN AND HER PARAMOUR

Mumbai: A 20-year-old woman and her paramour, who were staying in a live-in relationship, were attacked by two jilted lovers of the woman with acid-like fluid when they were asleep in Nalasopara East. As per the doctors, it has been analysed that "it was not acid but boiling oil that caused superficial burn injuries," said police. "Had it (boiling fluid) been acidic, it would have badly damaged the victims. We have collected the sample and sent it for forensic analysis," the police said. Both the victims woke up after being attacked and were rushed to a nearby hospital for treatment. "The incident took place on the intervening nights of Monday and Tuesday. According to the doctor, the woman and her paramour have faced superficial burn injuries on her hands and face," said inspector Mahendra Shelar of Pelhar police station where an FIR has been registered against the woman's two jilted lovers. Shelar added, "We have recorded the statement of a woman who suspected that her former boyfriends Taufeeq and Kamran hatched the plan and attacked her with some acid-like substance. We have registered an FIR under section 326A of IPC and sent the sample of fluid for forensic analysis to ascertain if it was acid." The officer further added that the woman initially stayed in a live-in relationship with Taufeeq and she has one four-year-old daughter with him. "After Taufeeq, the woman dated Kamran before moving to stay in a live-in relationship with her third paramour in Nalasopara. The four-year-old daughter was also with the woman when the incident took place but, thankfully, the girl is unharmed," he added. "Both the suspects stay in the Ghatkopar area and we have launched a manhunt for them but they are yet to be arrested. A team has been formed to arrest the suspects," she added. Speaking about the health condition of both the victims, Shelar said, "The woman has sustained 25 percent superficial burn injuries, as per the doctor's report. Both of them are out of danger.

Two men arrested in Bhiwandi; revolver, five live rounds recovered



Team Absolute | Maharashtra Police have arrested two men in Bhiwandi taluka of Maharashtra's Thane district and recovered from them a revolver and five live rounds, an official said on Wednesday. As per a preliminary probe, the duo - aged 36 and 25 - had bagged a contract to kill a local politician ahead of the upcoming civic elections,

he said. "The police had on Tuesday received a tip-off that two persons wielding a revolver robbed people of their valuables between Bhadwad Naka to Sonale village," the official said. Acting on that piece of information, the police swung into action and nabbed the duo. They also seized arms from them. The revolver had 'Made in USA'

written on it, he said. Kiran Kabadi, senior inspector at Shanti Nagar police station said an offence under various sections of the Indian Penal Code and the Arms Act was registered against the accused. One of the accused is a habitual offender, against whom two serious cases were registered at Shirur police station in Pune district, he said, adding that further investigation is on.



'The Devil Wears Prada' sequel is 'tempting': Anne Hathaway

Los Angeles | Agencies

Hollywood star Anne Hathaway has admitted that a sequel to 'The Devil Wears Prada' is "tempting" - but unlikely. Despite there being another book, 'Revenge Wears Prada: The Devil Returns', released in 2013, seven years after the comedy-drama flick's release, 'The Intern' star doesn't believe a follow-up could be made today.

Appearing on 'The View' this week, she said: "I don't know if there can be (a sequel movie). I just think that movie was in a different era, you know? Now, everything's gone so digital, and that movie centered around the concept of producing a physical thing. It's just very different now."

According to a website, Anne would love to see where her character Andy and Emily (Emily Blunt) would be now, the assistants to Meryl Streep's hellish magazine editor alter ego Miranda.

She continued: "Although, it is tempting to think about Andy and Emily needing to get Miranda her coffee and she's somewhere in Europe. And then along the way they pick up Stanley Tucci [Nigel] in Italy, who's at a restaurant. It's tempting, but I don't think it's gonna happen."

The report further states that the 39-year-old star could, however, see it being rebooted with a new cast.

She further mentioned: "But they could relaunch it. They could find new people and do it. Do you think they'd let us do that?"



Zac Efron trolled for his new look

Los Angeles | Agencies

Hollywood star Zac Efron has been trolled with 'Shrek' character Lord Farquaad meme after he debuted muscular shocking look on film set. In photos circulating online, the 35-year-old actor was seen filming for his new role as Kevin Von Erich in 'The Iron Claw'. He rocked a tight gray cut-off crew neck tank, ripped denim shorts and, most notably, a brown wig with short bangs and wavy hair that flowed right past his ears.

After the photo went viral on social media, Twitter users began comparing him to the 'Shrek' villain Lord Farquaad, a villain character who had short black hair with bangs and was short in stature.

"He looks like if lord farquaad hit the weight room," one fan tweeted, referring to the muscle gain Zac took on in order to resemble his wrestling role. "Lord Farquaad but makes it the 21st century," someone else chimed in.

A separate Twitter user joked, "I see lord farquaad has been working out."

Another said, "not zac efron becoming lord farquaad's lost brother." Someone quipped, "lord farquaad's been having a glow up!"

Efron, however, didn't seem too bothered by the comparison as he has yet to comment on the social media madness. Back in September, the 'Baywatch' actor set the record straight on rumours that he had undergone aesthetic surgery to enhance his jawline.

In an interview with a Health magazine, Efron said that he shattered his jaw while running around his house with socks. After getting surgery to repair the damage, his facial muscles got "really, really big" to compensate for the injury. "The masseters just grew," he told the publication. "They just got really, really big."



'The Sandman' extended for Season 2 at Netflix

Los Angeles | Agencies

Streaming giant Netflix has ordered more episodes for its fantasy show 'The Sandman' adapted from Neil Gaiman's seminal DC Comics series. The streamer announced the news Wednesday evening, says reports.

Netflix is calling the forthcoming installment "a continuation of 'The Sandman' world" which will expand in the next episodes. Episode count and story details are still being kept under wraps.

"Millions upon millions of people have welcomed and watched and loved 'The Sandman' on Netflix, from established Sandman fans to people who were simply curious, and then became

obsessed with the Lord of Dreams, his family and their goings-on," said Gaiman in a statement.

"It gives me unbelievable pleasure to say that, working with Netflix and Warner Bros., Allan Heinberg, David Goyer and I will be bringing even more of 'The Sandman' stories to life.

There are some astonishing stories waiting for Morpheus and the rest of them (not to mention more members of the Endless Family to meet). Nobody is going to be happier about this than the Sandman.

A surprise additional episode of 'The Sandman' was later released on August 19, further boosting the series' popularity. 'The Sandman' is produced for Netflix by Warner Bros. Television.



"Avatar: The Way of Water" offers a glimpse at fresh imagery of Pandora and an epic war

Los Angeles | Agencies

The new trailer for 'Avatar: The Way of Water' has been released a few weeks ahead of the hotly anticipated sci-fi sequel's December 16 release date. The second installment in the franchise sees the return of Stephen Lang's villain character Colonel Quaritch - who is seemingly revived through a Na'vi avatar form - once again at odds with Pandora native Neytiri (Zoe Saldana) and her mate Jake Sully (Sam Worthington).

"The story is about family, about our families trying to stay together [and] the lengths to which we all go to protect each other and protect the place where we live," Weaver told Variety at a screening for her film "The Good House." "It's very much based on (James Cameron's) family and his joy in the family; and also, how vulnerable you are when you have children."

Franchise newcomers include Kate Winslet, Michelle Yeoh, Cliff Curtis, Joel David Moore, Edie Falco and Jemaine Clement.

The trailer has no shortage of visually stunning ocean footage, which doubles to show off the impressive breath-holding skills of the film's cast, who trained with specialists to be able to shoot extended takes of scenes underwater without coming to the surface for air.

In an interview earlier this year, Saldana revealed her personal record for holding her breath underwater was five minutes. Just like 2009's 'Avatar', Cameron is writing, producing, and editing 'Avatar: The Way of Water', in addition to directing. Jon Landau and Peter M. Tobbyansen produce.

MRS HARRIS GOES TO PARIS

Lesley Manville's movie is a life synopsis in its purest form

FILM REVIEW
SHACHI CHATURVEDI

Cast: Lesley Manville, Alba Baptista, Ellen Thomas
Director: Anthony Fabian
Runtime: 1 hr 55 min
Rating: 3.5/5

Synopsis: A widowed cleaning lady falls madly in love with a couture Dior dress and decides she must have one of her own. She embarks on an adventure to Paris after working to raise the funds to pursue her dream, which will change not only her own outlook but also the future of the House of Dior.

Review: Is this a movie about Mrs Harris going to Paris? Or is it a stab at reality? A kind woman who helps everyone is being hurt in return. But, at last, as everything ends, so does misery. The film begins by introducing the character of a woman (Mrs Ada Harris) and establishing her as a giver. Mrs Harris is an adult child whose world is shattered several times in her life. When she learns that her husband has died in the call to action, she experiences her first shock.

Starting with how a Christian Dior dress motivates her to fly miles and be happy, to how she keeps throwing things in the river as a symbol of not holding on to things that should be left behind. The film explains every aspect of life... It has the notion of a lucky day, the concept of broken hopes and many more.

When it comes to star performances,



Lesley Manville, who plays Ada Harris, is unquestionably outstanding in the film. But kudos to the supporting cast; describing the beauty they all bring to this film. It is impossible to remove even one of these characters and make the film look the same.

Special mention goes to Ellen Thomas who plays Ada's best friend in the movie. Her character is like that one person in life one can rely on.

When it comes to technical aspects, the film deserves 11 out of 10. Despite the fact that the entire film has good cinematography. What stands out is a panoramic shot taken with a hand-held camera when Ada visits the section of C. Diors where the dresses are made and stitched.

A film is never complete without a

good background score and music, but in this case, it has a fantastic selection of soundtracks.

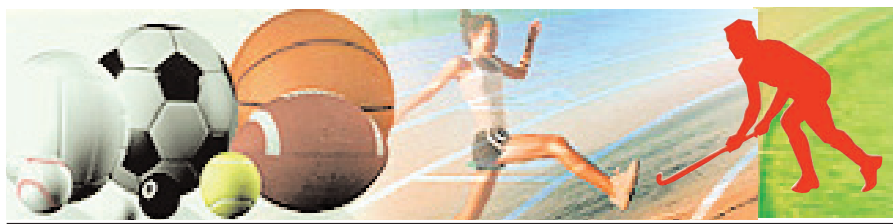
The last 15-20 minutes of the film are an absolute treasure. Those last few minutes are a life synopsis that contains all of the important details that a person has in a lifetime. In those 15 mins, you get to see emotions that Ada always hides. You get to see her rage and boldness, which is a real treat that touches your heart.

Conclusion
This film is not as simple as it appears. While watching the film, one must introspect. It's a life summary, and everyone will find someone to relate to. This film is a genuine look at life, and if you can see through the details, this is the film for you.

ABSOLUTE PIC OF THE DAY



Florence Pugh



T-20 WC: PAKISTAN'S SLIM SEMIFINAL HOPES ALIVE WITH 33-RUN WIN OVER SOUTH AFRICA

Sydney | Agencies

Shadab Khan produced a brilliant all-round show while Iftikhar Ahmed and Shaheen Shah Afridi played their roles to perfection to keep Pakistan's slim semifinal hopes alive in the Men's T20 World Cup with a 33-run victory over South Africa.

The victory for Pakistan, who made 185/9 in 20 overs and restricted South Africa to 108/9 in 14 overs as per the adjustments by the DLS method, in Super 12s also meant that they maintained their perfect record over the Proteas in the history of Men's T20 World Cups with their fourth victory in as many meetings. Pakistan are now in third place in Group 2 points table, pushing Bangladesh to fourth place.

Iftikhar stepped up to resurrect Pakistan's innings as he built a 52-run stand with Mohammad Nawaz (28 off 22 balls) and then established a crucial 82-run stand off just 35 balls for the sixth wicket with Shadab, who struck the second fastest fifty by a bat-



ter from the country in T20Is, to take Pakistan to 185/9, which looked absolutely impossible at one point.

While Iftikhar scored 51 from 35 deliveries, hitting three fours and two sixes at a strike rate of 145.71, Shadab's knock proved to be the game-changer for Pakistan as he

smashed 52 from just 22 deliveries, including three fours and four sixes at a strike-rate of 236.36. The duo's efforts helped Pakistan get a very challenging total.

An hour's interruption caused by rain cut six overs from the chase and when play resumed South Africa

needed 75 runs off the remaining five overs, with the target readjusted to 142 in 14 overs as per the DLS method.

The pressure of a high asking rate was always going to be huge as Shaheen, Mohammad Wasim, Naseem Shah and Haris Rauf picked up wickets in impressive fashion for Pakistan to stay alive in the race for the semifinals.

Pakistan now need to win their next match against Bangladesh at Adelaide on Sunday and then hope that either India or South Africa lose their final Group 2 matches to Zimbabwe and Netherlands respectively.

Brief scores

Pakistan 185/9 in 20 overs (Shadab Khan 52, Iftikhar Ahmed 51; Anrich Nortje 4/41, Wayne Parnell 1/31) beat South Africa 108/9 in 14 overs (Temba Bavuma 36, Aiden Markram 20; Shaheen Shah Afridi 3/14, Shadab Khan 2/16) by 33 runs (via DLS method)

Kerala gears up to welcome FIFA World Cup, One lakh children to be trained football

Thiruvanthapuram | Agencies

The Kerala government has announced a basic football training programme for one lakh school students across the state. The FIFA World Cup to be held in Qatar from November 20 to December 18.

State Sports Minister V. Abdurrahman announced the scheme named 'One million goals' which is being implemented by the State Directorate of Sports and Youth Affairs and Sports Council with help from educational institutions and local self governments.

"Students aged between 10 and 12 years will be given football training as part of the 'One Million Goal' programme which will run from November 11 to 20. A total of 100 children each will be trained in 1,000 centres for 10



days," said Abdurrahman.

He added that those who excel in the training camps will continue to get professional training.

The campaign will be assisted by former footballers from the state who have been selected as 'One Million Goal'

ambassadors in each of the 14 districts to lead the training programme.

The minister also pointed out that a special scheme called 'Goal' will be launched later wherein similar training will be provided to five lakh children.

India's Kapil, Sparsh bow out of Asian Elite Boxing championship



Team Absolute | New Delhi

Indian boxers Kapil Pokhariya and Sparsh Kumar end their campaign at 2022 Asian Elite Boxing after losing their respective Round of 16 bouts in Amman, Jordan on Thursday.

According to information received here, Kapil (86 kg), who was making his international debut, was up against Iran's Pouria Amiri.

The boxer from Uttarakhand started the bout in an attacking fashion and dominated his opponent to

comfortably win the first round. His Iranian opponent showed his experience and came back strongly in the second round with a flurry of relentless punches. Kapil tried to counter-attack but conceded a lot of punches in the process. Pouria continued to control the bout against a tired Kapil and secured a comfortable 5-0 win. Late on Wednesday night, Sparsh (51kg) went down fighting and lost the bout 1-4 against the Olympic bronze medallist and reigning World Champion Saken Bibossinov

of Kazakhstan. Later on Thursday night, Savita (50kg) will be in action against the Tokyo Olympic bronze medallist Tsukimi Namiki of Japan in the pre-quarterfinal bout. Five Indian men boxers including 5-time Asian medallist Shiva Thapa (63.5kg) will be in action on Friday. The other four boxers who will take the ring are Ananta Chopade (54kg), Etash Khan (60kg), Amit Kumar (67kg) and Sachin (71kg). All of them will be playing in the pre-quarterfinal bouts.

ISL 2022-23: Chennaiyin FC look forward for winning ways against East Bengal

Kolkata | Agencies

Chennaiyin FC will be back in action after a break when they take on East Bengal at the Salt Lake Stadium in Kolkata on Friday.

Chennaiyin currently find themselves seventh in the league table with four points from three matches. The team began their campaign with a win ATK Mohun Bagan before playing out a draw against Bengaluru FC. In the most recent fixture, the Marina Machans went down against FC Goa and will be aiming to bounce back and bag home all three points and climb up the points table.

Their opponents for the night, East Bengal too come into this fixture on the back of a loss over local rivals ATK Mohun Bagan and will be eager to get back to winning ways; thus, fans can be in for an entertaining encounter.

Speaking about the preparations for the game and the long break, coach Thomas Brdaric said that his boys feel rejuvenated and are battle ready. "We utilized the break to recover. We analysed our game and trained hard. We are motivated for the match. The most important factor is that we must be strong mentally to face



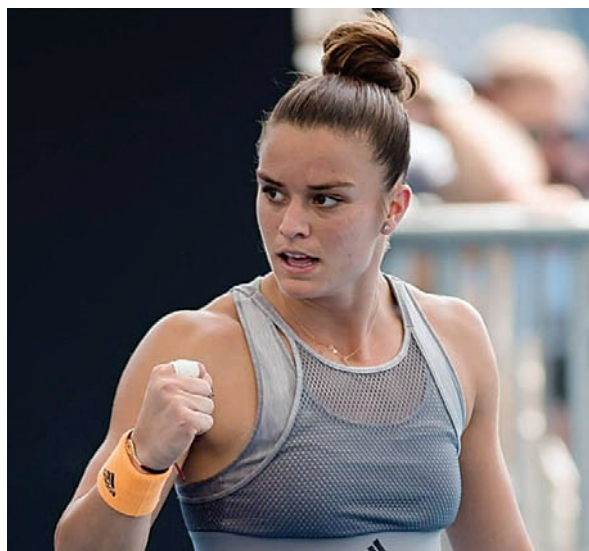
any situation. I am happy that my boys have that mental fortitude," Brdaric said.

Indians and foreigners, need to have good preparation in my team to be able to play a match. That way we are going to get results. Nasser is a good player and has a

lot of strengths. He will get some minutes tomorrow. So it will be a chance for him to show that he wants to play and is motivated to play," he said. For Chennaiyin, Debjit Majumder will be back between the sticks, having missed the team's last match due to a sus-

pension. Speaking about the game, an elated Debjit said that he is looking forward to playing at the Salt Lake Stadium, his favourite ground since his early playing days. "It is my favourite ground. So I cannot wait to perform there again," Debjit announced.

WTA Finals: Sakkari enters into semifinals



Fort Worth (Texas) | Agencies

Fort Worth (Texas) Maria Sakkari booked a spot in the semifinals of the year-ending championships for the second year in a row after moving past No.7 seed Aryna Sabalenka 6-2, 6-4 in 97 minutes here on Thursday.

Sakkari needed to win in two sets on Wednesday to guarantee herself a second consecutive appearance in the final four of the WTA Finals. She did just that with a straight-sets victory over Aryna Sabalenka in Fort Worth.

"If you're not aggressive on this court, then it's just game over," Sakkari said afterwards. "If I was passive, especially against

(Sabalenka), the biggest hitter on the tour, then it's just bye-bye. I just went for it. If I'm not going to go for it here, when am I going to do it?"

Sakkari had garnered only one win over a Top 10 player all year before making it to Fort Worth. Now she has notched two Top 10 wins in a row this week, repeating her feat from last year's WTA Finals where she beat Iga Swiatek and Sabalenka back-to-back.

"It's been a long time since I've had straight-sets wins against these players, so it feels very new again for me," Sakkari said. "Being able to win (against) these players in straight sets, it's impressive, and it's finally paying off."

India's Deepti Sharma, Jemimah Rodrigues nominated for ICC Women's Player of the Month award

India duo of middle-order batter Jemimah Rodrigues and off-spin all-rounder Deepti Sharma on Thursday were named on the shortlist for ICC Women's Player of the Month award, following their heroics in the Women's Asia Cup for India to clinch the trophy.

Dubai | Agencies

Apart from the two, Pakistan's Nida Dar has also been nominated for the honour.

Jemimah was previously nominated back in August thanks to her stellar displays in the Commonwealth Games, and once again she was a driving force behind India's surge to Women's Asia Cup success.

When her side celebrated victory over Sri Lanka in the final, Jemimah was the leading run-scorer for the tournament, having amassed 217 runs from her eight matches at an average of 54.25. Among her top displays was the 76 she scored against the eventual finalists in the opening game, setting the tone for India's prize-winning campaign for the seventh time in the history of the tournament.

Deepti, another of India's talismanic performers, enjoyed a prolific month dur-



ing the Women's Asia Cup, departing Bangladesh with the event trophy and the Player of the Tournament

accolade. Her 13 wickets at a remarkable average of 7.69 underlines the consistent threat she posed with the

ball, including impressive figures of three for against Pakistan and three for in the semi-final against Thailand.

Virat Kohli nominated for ICC Men's Player of the Month award



Dubai | Agencies

India's talismanic batter Virat Kohli on Thursday earned a nomination for the ICC Men's Player of the Month Award for the very first time. Alongside Kohli, in-form South Africa batter David Miller and Zimbabwe all-rounder Sikandar Raza have also been nominated for the honour.

Kohli is nominated for the very first time in the ICC Player of the Month awards, and while registering 205 runs across the calendar month of October, he showed glimpses of his very

best form. He looked at ease in scoring an unbeaten 62 against a dogged Netherlands in Sydney.

But the cricketing highlight of October came in the era-defining innings played in front of a full house in Melbourne as India claimed a famous four-wicket victory against arch-rivals Pakistan. The iconic display saw Kohli rally his side from 31 for four to chase down the 160 target on the final ball, thanks to an unforgettable score of 82 not out from 53 balls, which will go down as one of the best knocks ever seen in T20Is.

I'm quite superstitious: Janhvi Kapoor

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Actress Janhvi Kapoor from Bollywood has spoken up about her superstitious beliefs and how she often goes to the Tirupati temple on significant occasions. The actress, along with her father and well-known film producer Boney Kapoor, came on the 'The Kapil Sharma Show' to promote their film 'Mili'.

Apart from discussing their movie and shooting experiences, both of them also opened up about their lives and Janhvi told the host Kapil that she is very superstitious about certain things.

The 25-year-old actress has worked in movies such as 'Dhadak', played the character of an Indian Air Force officer and Kargil war veteran Gunjan Saxena in the movie 'Gunjan Saxena: The Kargil Girl'.

Later on, she also became part of the horror comedy film 'Roohi' and 'Good Luck Jerry' in which she played the titular lead.

Now, the actress is all set to play the lead character in 'Mili' in which she will be seen as a woman fighting for her survival after being stuck in a freezer.

Janhvi said: "I'm quite superstitious. Now too while entering the stage I entered with my right foot first. Also, on mom and dad's birthday, New year, and other special occasions, I make sure to visit Tirupati, and Thursday I am veg."

Nimrit says Shaleen Bhanot has a lot of 'akad'

Team Absolute | Mumbai

In the upcoming episode of 'Weekend Ka Vaar', actress Janhvi Kapoor and Sunny Kaushal will be seen stepping into the 'Bigg Boss 16' house and interacting with the housemates.

The two actors are promoting their upcoming survival thriller film 'Mili' on the Colors show, hosted by Bollywood superstar Salman Khan.

In the episode, Janhvi will be seen playing a game called "Who is more likely too?", where she will be seen giving two names of contestants following it up with a question.

Janhvi calls Nimrit and asks her "Sabse zyada akad kisme hai" and gives an option of Gautam Vig and Shaleen Bhanot.

Nimrit took Shaleen's name and said: "Whatever attitude he shows... It shows he has akad."



Meenakshi Seshadri is so much excited about facing camera after 27 years

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Bollywood actress Meenakshi expressed her excitement for facing the camera in India after about 27 years.

The 58-year-old actress, who is always remembered for her roles in movies such as 'Damini', 'Hero', 'Dilwale' and many others is not only an actress par excellence but also a marvelous dancer.

While talking about her experience of being on the show, she said: "I have been an ardent fan of 'Indian Idol' since the start. Today, it felt very special not because I was the guest, but because it is the first time I am facing the camera in India after a gap of almost 27

years." "To be honest, when I was on the set, I was a little nervous but towards the end it felt like home," she added.

Meenakshi further shared that she is fond of all the judges including Himesh Reshammiya, Neha Kakkar, Vishal Dadlani but she is a huge fan of the host and singer Aditya Narayan.

"All the judges are very capable, smart and good human beings. But I am a fan of Aditya." Praising the talents on the show, she said:

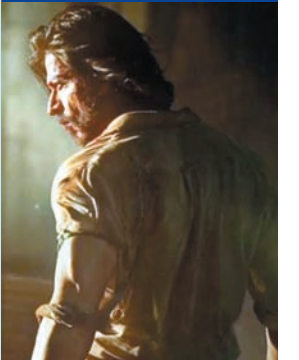
"Each one is better than the other. They are all so talented and sung beautifully. It feels like having a feast of great voices all in one package delivered from the nook and cranny of the country and within a span of one hour."

NETIZENS TROLL SRK'S UPCOMING MOVIE'S TEASER, SAY SCENES ARE COPIED

Team Absolute | Mumbai

scenes resembled from 'Saaho', 'War', 'Captain America'

A certain section of social media seemed unimpressed after Shah Rukh Khan unveiled the teaser of his upcoming film 'Pathaan' on his 57th birthday. 'Pathaan' presents the story of an Indian spy who can get into any system or circle given his stealth and chameleon abilities to merge with the world that he resides in. The film is the first of SRK's three films after a hiatus of over four years for the actor. Earlier, he was seen in the 2018 movie 'Zero' which tanked badly at the box-office. Several users took to social media to talk about the teaser. A netizen compared a scene from 'Pathaan' to Prabhas's 2018 film 'Saaho'. In the scene, SRK is seen flying using a jetpack. A social media user pointed out a scene from the 2005 film 'Dus', where Zayed Khan used a grenade to blow up a tank while riding a bike. One even noticed and shared photographs to compare sequences from 'War' starring Hrithik Roshan and Tiger Shroff. One commented about the VFX used in 'Pathaan' and called it "embarrassing", while another said it was a "crowd-funded B grade Action movie from Hollywood". A shocked user said that the teaser felt like watching 'Captain America', 'Die Another Day' and 'Beast & Vivegam'.



AKSHAY KUMAR TO PLAY CHHATRAPATI SHIVAJI IN UPCOMING MOVIE

Team Absolute | Mumbai

The Marathi period drama "Vedat Marathe Veer Daudle Saat," directed by Mahesh Manjrekar, stars Bollywood superstar Akshay Kumar. In the movie, the actor will play Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj, an emperor. The Marathi cinema industry will see Akshay Kumar for the first time with this project.

Talking about the project, Akshay Kumar said in a statement: "It's a dream come true role for me. I think to portray Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj on the big screen is a very huge responsibility. I was taken aback when Raj sir asked me to portray this role. Also, I will be working

for the first time with Mahesh Manjrekar, and it is going to be an experience".

The film, which is a dream project for actor-director Mahesh Manjrekar, is based on the story of the seven valiant warriors who had the sole aim of bringing Shivaji Maharaj's dream of Swarajya to reality, writing one of the most glorious pages of history. The film recently had its mahurat shot event in Mumbai, which was attended by the likes of Chief Minister of Maharashtra Eknath Shinde, political leader and MNS Chief Shri Raj Thakeray, Mahesh Manjrekar, producer Vaseem Qureshi and the starcast of the film.

Director Mahesh V. Manjrekar said in a statement: "Vedat Marathe Veer Daudle

Saat' is my dream project, I have been working on it for the past 7 years, it is a subject that needs that much attention and research. It is by far the biggest and grandest Marathi film to be made and with its release India-wide, I want people to know the story of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj, the most powerful Hindu King."

He further mentioned: "I am very fortunate to have Akshay Kumar on board to play the character of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj, I believe he's perfect for the role".

The film also has an ensemble cast of Jay Dudhane, Utkarsha Shinde, Vishal Nikam, Virat Madke, Hardik Joshi, Satya, Akshay, Nawab Khan and Praveen Tarde.

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Bollywood actress Fatima Sana Shaikh, who is going to be soon seen essaying the role of former Prime Minister of India Indira Gandhi in the upcoming biopic, 'Sam Bahadur', spread awareness about Epilepsy, a brain disorder that causes recurring, unprovoked seizures

She also shared some facts about the disorder in her note: "5 FACTS ABOUT EPILEPSY THAT EVERYONE MUST KNOW."

1. 1 in 26 people will develop epilepsy
2. There are four main types of epilepsy (focal onset, generalised onset, combination, and unknown)
3. Estimates are around 1/3 of people living with epilepsy have drug-resistant (aka refractory or intractable) epilepsy
4. Anything someone can do when aware, could be done during a seizure with impaired awareness (walking, talking, eating)
5. Almost anything can be a seizure trigger for someone

She also urged people to share their stories of epilepsy to fight the stigma around the disorder: "Feel free to share your story of epilepsy here."

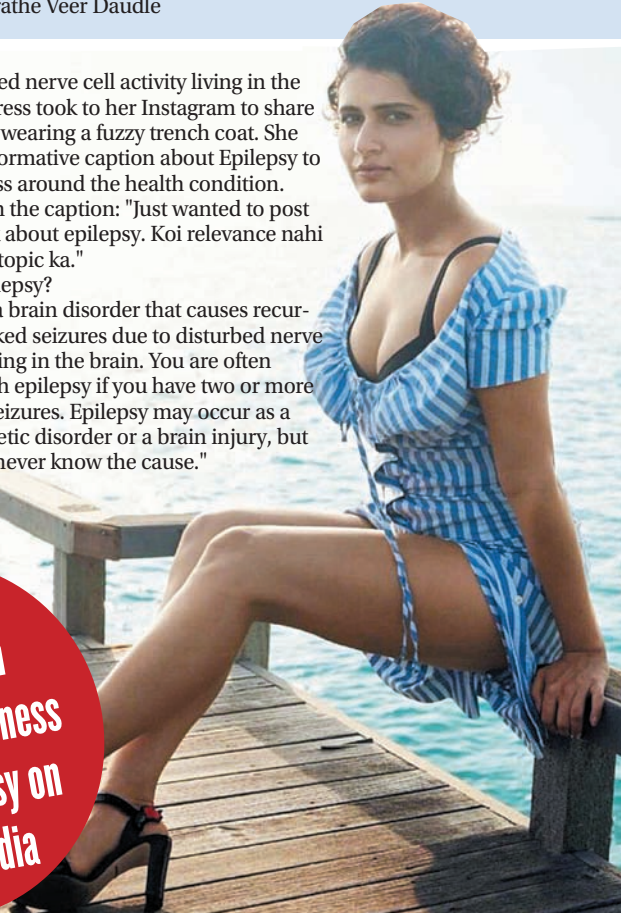
due to disturbed nerve cell activity living in the brain. The actress took to her Instagram to share a mirror selfie wearing a fuzzy trench coat. She penned an informative caption about Epilepsy to raise awareness around the health condition.

She wrote in the caption: "Just wanted to post a photo to talk about epilepsy. Koi relevance nahi hai photo aur topic ka."

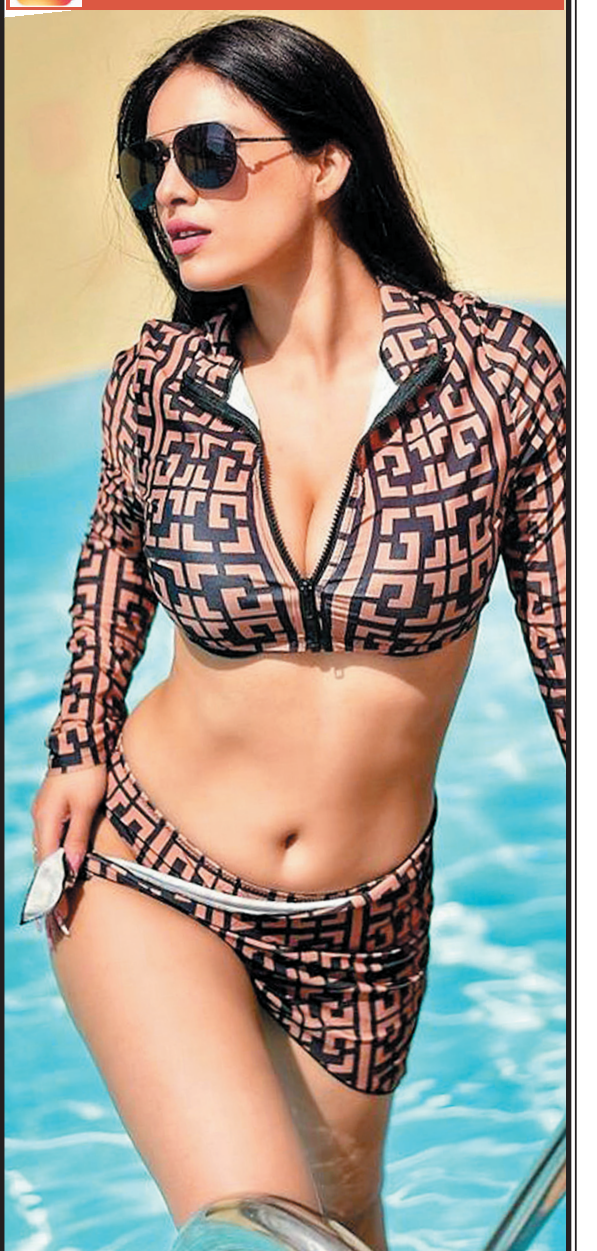
What is Epilepsy?

Epilepsy is a brain disorder that causes recurring, unprovoked seizures due to disturbed nerve cell activity living in the brain. You are often diagnosed with epilepsy if you have two or more unprovoked seizures. Epilepsy may occur as a result of a genetic disorder or a brain injury, but many people never know the cause."

Fatima Sana Shaikh spreads awareness about epilepsy on social media



INSTAGRAM PIC OF THE DAY



Neha Malik