

NATION

>02

G20 Presidency is a measure of trust in India: PM...



HOLLYWOOD

> 06

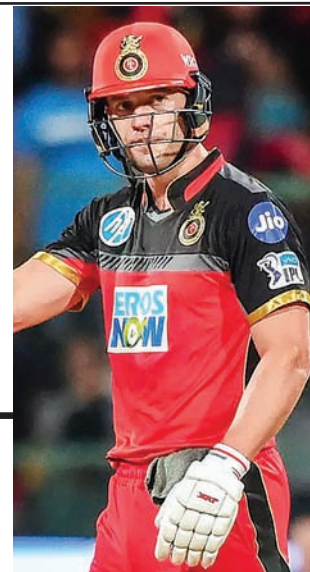
It's a real cuddly stage right now: Rihanna...



SPORTS

> 07

T20 World Cup: AB De Villiers predicts India in final ...



COP27: \$3.1 BN PLAN TO ACHIEVE EARLY WARNING SYSTEMS FOR ALL

FOR HUMANS AND PLANET

It will cost the equivalent of just 50 cents per person per year for the next five years to reach everyone on Earth with early warnings against increasingly extreme and dangerous weather, according to a plan unveiled by United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres.

“We fully support the Secretary General's agenda to achieve Early Warnings for All. The global pace of climate mitigation is not enough to contain the rate of climate change. There is an urgent need for the world to acknowledge the cascading natural hazards that cause substantial losses around the world.”

Bhupender Yadav, Union Minister for Environment Forest and Climate Change



This is a small fraction (about 6 per cent) of the requested \$50 billion in adaptation financing. It would cover disaster risk knowledge, observations and forecasting, preparedness and response, and communication of early warnings.

Guterres announced the plan at a meeting of government and UN organisation leaders, financing agencies, Big Tech companies and the private sector during the World Leaders Summit at the UN climate change negotiations, COP27, on Monday.

The plan was drawn up by the World Meteorological Organisation and partners, and it was supported by a joint statement signed by 50

countries. "Ever-rising greenhouse gas emissions are supercharging extreme weather events across the planet. These increasing calamities cost lives and hundreds of billions of dollars in loss and damage. Three times more people are displaced by climate disasters than war. Half of humanity is already in the danger zone." "We must invest equally in adaptation and resilience. That includes the information that allows us to anticipate storms, heatwaves, floods and droughts. To that end, I have called for every person on Earth to be protected by early warning systems within five years, with the priority to support the most vulnerable

first," said Guterres. The Executive Action Plan sets out the concrete way forward to achieve this goal.

The need is urgent. The number of recorded disasters has increased by a factor of five, driven in part by human-induced climate change and more extreme weather. This trend is expected to continue.

And yet, half of the countries globally do not have early warning systems and even fewer have regulatory frameworks to link early warnings to emergency plans.

Coverage is worst for developing countries on the frontlines of climate change, namely Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and Small Island Developing States (SIDS).

Responding to the Early Warnings for All initiative, Union Minister for Environment Forest and Climate Change Bhupender Yadav said, "With climate finance still scarce, climate adaptation in the form of early warning dissemination is key in safeguarding lives, and livelihoods. Early warnings for all play a part in not just containing the immediate physical impacts, but also mitigating the far-reaching long-term socio-economics implications that follow."

"Climate finance is still a mirage, and effective climate adaptation such as Early Warnings For All helps us collectively in our region toward reducing vulnerabilities and ensuring preparedness and swift and timely response to natural hazards."

Tuition fee should always be affordable, education not a business: SC

Team Absolute | New Delhi

The Supreme Court has said that tuition fee should always be affordable and education is not a business to earn profit, as it upheld the Andhra Pradesh High Court judgment to quash the state government's decision to enhance the tuition fee in medical colleges to Rs 24 lakh per annum.

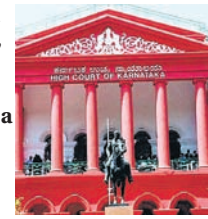
"To enhance the fee to Rs 24 lakh per annum i.e., seven times more than the fee fixed earlier was not justifiable at all. Education is not the business to earn profit. The tuition fee shall always be affordable," The bench said in its judgment on Monday.

The bench said the determination of fee or review of fee should be within the parameters of the fixation rules and shall have direct nexus on the factors mentioned in Rule 4 of the Rules, 2006, namely, (a) location of the professional institution; (b) the nature of the professional course; (c) the cost of available infrastructure; (d) the expenditure on administration and maintenance; (e) a reasonable surplus required for growth and development of the professional institution; (f) the revenue foregone on account of waiver of fee, if any, in respect of students belonging to the reserved category and other economically weaker sections of the society.

The top court imposed Rs 5 lakh cost on the petitioner, Narayana Medical College, and Andhra Pradesh to be deposited with the court registry within a period of six weeks.

K'TAKA HC SETS ASIDE LOWER COURT ORDER DIRECTING BLOCKING OF CONGRESS TWITTER HANDLES

Bengaluru: In a relief to Congress, the Karnataka High Court on Tuesday set aside a local court order directing Twitter to provisionally block the handles



of the Indian National Congress and its 'Bharat Jodo Yatra' in a case related to music copyright infringement. The local court on Monday also directed Twitter to remove three links from its platform. The high court ruling came after the Congress submitted an undertaking in the court to remove the 'KGF Chapter-2' song from all its handles. Music record label MRT Music, which owns the copyright for the music of the film 'KGF - Chapter 2', had alleged that the audiovisual promotions of the Bharat Jodo Yatra headed by Congress leader Rahul Gandhi had illegally used music from the pan-India blockbuster movie.

MLAS' POACHING CASE: TELANGANA HC LIFTS STAY ON PROBE

Hyderabad: The Telangana High Court on Tuesday lifted stay on police investigation into the sensational MLAs' poaching case. Justice B. Vijaysen Reddy allowed the police to continue its investigation and withdrew the stay order passed earlier in the case. The court, however, decided to continue hearing on the petition by the BJP for handing over the case to the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) or any other independent agency and adjourned the hearing to November 18. The court's order paved the way for expediting the investigation in the case. With the court lifting the stay, the police are now likely to seek custody of the three accused for further questioning. The three accused, said to be BJP agents, were arrested by the police from a farmhouse at Moinalabad near Hyderabad on the night of October 26 when they were allegedly trying to lure four MLAs of the TRS with offers of huge money.

No new Rs 2,000 notes printed from 2019-2022, says RTI reply

Kumar Vikram | New Delhi

An RTI reply has disclosed that no new Rs 2,000 denomination currency notes were printed during 2019-20, 2020-21 and 2021-22.

The RTI application filed by a news agency disclosed that the Bharatiya Reserve Bank Note Mudran (P) Ltd printed 3,542.991 million pieces of Rs 2,000 notes in the financial year 2016-17, which drastically came down to 111.507 million notes in 2017-18 and was further reduced to 46.690 million notes in 2018-19.

The RTI reply received from the Bharatiya Reserve Bank Note Mudran (P) Ltd revealed said that '0' number of Rs 2,000 denomination



currency note was printed in 2019-20, 2020-21 and 2021-22. The Reserve Bank of India had introduced the Rs 2,000 note after the government announced the demonetisation move that banned old Rs 500 and Rs 1,000 currency notes on November 8, 2016.

A recent reply in the Parliament (on August 1) said that the number of fake currency notes of Rs 2,000 denomination seized in the country as per NCRB data increased substantially between 2016 and 2020, from 2,272 to 2,44,834 pieces.

Skyroot Aerospace to become first private rocket maker to fly its rocket

▶ WITH THIS MAIDEN MISSION, SKYROOT AEROSPACE IS SET TO BECOME THE FIRST PRIVATE SPACE COMPANY IN INDIA TO LAUNCH A ROCKET INTO SPACE, HERALDING A NEW ERA FOR THE SPACE SECTOR WHICH WAS RECENTLY OPENED UP TO FACILITATE PRIVATE SECTOR PARTICIPATION, THE COMPANY SAID.



Team Absolute | Chennai

India's private sector rocket maker Skyroot Aerospace will fly its rocket Vikram-S with three payloads between November 12 and 16 from ISRO's rocket port Sriharikota, the company said.

"The Vikram-S rocket getting launched is a single-stage sub-orbital launch vehicle which would carry three customer payloads and help test and validate

majority of the technologies in the Vikram series of space launch vehicles. We are utilising the world-class launch infrastructure at ISRO's spaceport in Sriharikota for the launch," said Naga Bharath Daka, COO and Co-Founder of Skyroot Aerospace. The Hyderabad based rocket start-up has named the mission as 'Prarambhi' meaning 'the beginning', signifying a new era for the private space sector. According to Skyroot

Aerospace, the company's first mission was unveiled by Indian Space Research Organisation's (ISRO) Chairman Dr S. Somanath in Bengaluru on November 7, 2022 after the technical launch clearance from the Space regulator IN-SPaCe.

Skyroot Aerospace's launch vehicles are named 'Vikram' as a tribute to the founder of the Indian Space programme and renowned scientist Dr Vikram Sarabhai.

Talks with Russian counterpart to focus on regional concerns, global situation: Jaishankar

Moscow: External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar on Tuesday said that bilateral talks with his Russian counterpart Sergey Lavrov will address the overall global situation as well as specific regional concerns. In his opening remarks at his meeting with Lavrov, Jaishankar - who earlier in the day arrived in Moscow on a two-day visit to Russia - said that "there have been strong and continuing contacts between our governments at various levels". "Our meeting is devoted to assessing our ties, exchanging perspectives on global situation and what it means to our respective interests."

"Covid, trade difficulties have taken a toll on global economy. We are now seeing consequences of Ukraine conflict on top of that," he added.

"Where bilateral ties are concerned, our objective is to fashion a contemporary, balanced, mutually beneficial and long-term engagement," Jaishankar said on the meeting. "There are more perennial issues of terrorism and climate change, both of which have a disruptive impact on progress and prosperity," he noted. He further added that India and Russia engage each other in increasingly multi-polar and re-balanced world.

50 STUDENTS FALL ILL AFTER MIDDAY MEAL IN BIHAR'S BHOJPUR

Patna: As many as 50 students of a middle school of Bihar's Bhojpur district fell ill after consuming the midday meal on Tuesday, officials said. The incident occurred at Harnam Tola under Piro police station in the district.

The victims were admitted in the referral hospital Piro for treatment and their conditions are said to be stable. The police said that the school administration has given albendazole tablets to the students followed by the midday meal. After the meal, the students fell sick, with a majority complaining of stomach ache and vomiting.

The school teachers immediately informed the local police and took the children to the Piro referral hospital.

The Education Department has initiated an inquiry into the matter.

SC order temporary respite for Soren, likely to be summoned again by ED

Ranchi: Hemant Sorens troubles do not seem to end even after getting immediate relief from the Supreme Court over a PIL alleging illegal mining and money laundering by the Jharkhand Chief Minister.

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has traced money laundering of more than Rs 1,000 crore in a case related to illegal mining in Jharkhand and is preparing to summon Soren again for questioning on the same.

The ED had had called Soren for questioning on November 3, but the latter had sought three weeks' time citing his unavailability. He is likely to be summoned for the second time



after November 15, sources said.

The ED can move the court for further action if Soren doesn't appear for questioning even after repeated summons.

The SC on Monday held the PIL against Soren and his associates as not maintainable. It was filed by a person named Shivshankar Sharma in the Jharkhand High Court, on which Soren and his government filed a special leave petition (SLP), questioning its maintainability.

Indian drug 2DG can reduce heart damage by coronavirus, find US researchers

▶ DR REDDY'S LABORATORIES LAST YEAR ANNOUNCED THE COMMERCIAL LAUNCH OF 2-DEOXY-D-GLUCOSE (2DG) FOR TREATMENT OF COVID-19. 2DG WAS DEVELOPED BY THE INSTITUTE OF NUCLEAR MEDICINE & ALLIED SCIENCES (INMAS), A LABORATORY OF THE DEFENCE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ORGANISATION (DRDO), IN COLLABORATION WITH DR REDDY'S LABORATORIES (DRL), HYDERABAD.

▶ THE RESEARCHERS SAID THAT FORTUNATELY, 2DG IS INEXPENSIVE AND IS USED REGULARLY IN LABORATORY RESEARCH AND IS BEING USED IN CLINICAL TRIALS IN INDIA. THE DRUG HAS NOT YET BEEN APPROVED BY THE US FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION (FDA) TO TREAT THE DISEASE.

New York/New Delhi | Agencies

A team of US researchers has identified how a specific protein in coronavirus damages heart tissue and they used a drug, currently in emergency use for the treatment of Covid in India, to reverse the toxic effects of that protein on the heart.

Now, researchers at the University of Maryland School of Medicine's (UMSOM) Center for Precision Disease have used 2DG to reverse the toxic effects of that protein on the heart. "Our research shows that individual SARS-CoV-2 proteins can each do major damage to specific tissues in the body - similar to what has been found for other viruses like HIV and Zika," said senior author Zhe Han, Professor of Medicine and Director of the Center for Precision Disease Modelling at UMSOM.

"By identifying these processes of injury in each tissue, we can



test drugs to see whether any can reverse this damage; those drugs that show promise can then be further tested in clinical research studies," Han added.

Their findings, based on research with fruit flies and mouse

heart cells, were published in Communications Biology, a Nature journal.

Manufactured by Dr Reddy's, the drug has a purity of 99.5 per cent and is being sold commercially under the brand name 2DG.

For family in Bengal, Al Qaeda activist held in Jammu was madrasa teacher

Mohansinh Rathva over Chhotaudepur and Jetpur constituency led this situation.

Had some senior leader intervened at appropriate time, it could have resolved the issue, a source said.



K'TAKA CONG MLA'S 'HINDU' REMARKS:HOME MINISTER DEMANDS APOLOGY FROM RAHUL

► DAY AFTER KARNATAKA'S CONGRESS MLA SATISH JARKIHOI MADE CONTROVERSIAL REMARKS THAT 'HINDU' IS A PERSIAN WORD NOT INDIAN, MADHYA PRADESH HOME MINISTER NAROTTAM MISHRA ON TUESDAY DEMANDED AN APOLOGY FROM FORMER CONGRESS PRESIDENT RAHUL GANDHI OVER THE ISSUE.

Team Absolute | Bhopal

Talking to the newsmen here in Bhopal, Mishra said he would write a letter to Rahul Gandhi on this issue and would ask him why his party's leaders often make derogatory statements on Hindus and Hindu religion.



"Rahul Gandhi should apologise for the derogatory remarks made by his party's MLA Jarkiholi on the word 'Hindu'. I will write a letter to him to clarify what Congress thinks about 'Hindu' and 'Hindutva'," Mishra said.

Mishra also attacked Rahul Gandhi saying the latter tried to define 'Hindu' and 'Hindutva' during a rally in Rajasthan and now Congress leaders were making controversial comments during his Bharat Jodo Yatra.

Addressing a gathering at Nipani (Karnataka) on Monday, Jarkiholi said, "Hindu is not an Indian word at all. It is Persian. How the word Hindu went on to become ours needs to be debated."

"From where the word Hindu came? Is it ours? The word is Persian belonging to Iran, Iraq and Kazakhstan. How did it become Indian? Look up in Wikipedia, the word has arrived from Persia, it is not ours," he had said.

Meanwhile, senior BJP leader and party's national general secretary Kailash Vijayvargiya took jibe at Rahul Gandhi saying "people do not take him seriously."

Vijayvargiya, who was in Bhopal to attend the core committee meeting of the state unit BJP on Tuesday, said, "Rahul Gandhi is taking Bharat Jodo Yatra but the people do not take him seriously because he plays cricket with the kids and runs away, the crowd gathers but no one takes Rahul seriously as a leader."

Scindia says 'Bharat Jodo Yatra' will have no impact in MP polls; Cong reminds win in Gwalior

Team Absolute | Bhopal

Union Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia on Tuesday said that ex-Congress president Rahul Gandhi's 'Bharat Jodo Yatra' will not have any impact in upcoming assembly elections in Madhya Pradesh.

Scindia made this remark during a visit to Bhopal to attend the core committee meeting of the state unit party on Tuesday. However, he left the party headquarters before the meeting resumed.

Scindia came to Bhopal and met Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan on Monday evening, he was supposed to attend the core committee meeting on Tuesday at party headquarters. However, he returned to New Delhi even before the meeting could resume.

While talking to the press during the visit to the party headquarters, Scindia said, "Bharat Jodo Yatra will have no impact in the 2023 elec-



tions in Madhya Pradesh. The lotus will bloom in 2023 in MP."

Scindia's sudden return from BJP headquarters and not attending the core committee meeting fuelled speculation in the political gallery. However, the party clarified that he returned from the office and did not attend the meeting because of high fever. Meanwhile, reacting to Scindia's remarks on Bharat Jodo Yatra, the Congress leaders in Madhya Pradesh hit back at him saying that Rahul Gandhi's impact has already shown, not only in Madhya Pradesh but in the entire country.

K.K. Mishra, head of media cell in Madhya

Pradesh Congress, said, "Scindia ji said Bharat Jodo Yatra will have no impact in Madhya Pradesh, but I would like to remind him that the Congress has won Gwalior mayoral seat. After 57 years, we won the mayoral seat in Gwalior and when your family was in the Congress, then only five-six councillors could win. What is the reason?"

Congress' pan-India Bharat Jodo Yatra will enter Madhya Pradesh on November 20 at Burhanpur district, for which the state party unit has organised as many as 17 sub-yatras from across the state.

Madhya Pradesh Congress Committee (MPCC) led by former Chief Minister Kamal Nath has held back-to-back meetings with senior party leaders to review the preparation for welcoming Bharat Jodo Yatra in the state. Nath has also met Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan two days back regarding the same.

85 pigs die of African swine fever in fortnight in Katni

Team Absolute | Katni

At least 115 pigs were found infected with African swine fever and 85 of them have died in the last 15 days in Madhya Pradesh's Katni district, an official said on Tuesday.

Following the sudden deaths of pigs, samples were sent to a laboratory in Bhopal for testing on October 27, government veterinarian Dr R K Soni said.

The reports revealed that the animals had suffered from African swine fever, he said. As many as 85 out of 115 infected pigs have died in the last 15 days, the official said.



African swine fever is a highly infectious haemorrhagic viral disease that affects pigs, but is not transmitted from animals to

humans.

All precautions have been taken and pig farmers have been alerted about the spread of disease, Dr Soni

Guru Nanaks teaching of "treating everyone as equal and walking on the path of love and compassion" is still relevant today - CM Chouhan

Team Absolute | Bhopal

Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan has said that the teachings of Guru Nanak Dev Ji to treat everyone as equal and walk on the path of love and compassion through "Ek Noor Se Sab Jag Upaiya" are relevant even today. The path shown by him will pave the way for eternal peace in the world. Chief Minister Chouhan was addressing the Sangat after paying obeisance on the occasion of 553rd Prakash Parv of Guru Nanak Dev Ji at Gurdwara Nanaksar, Hamidia Road, Bhopal. Chief Minister Chouhan said that the state government is taking quick and strict action to punish such elements who do injustice and create unrest in the society only by following the orders of the Sikh Gurus.

CM offered ardas (prayers) at the Gurdwara for the happiness, prosperity of the people of the state, progress in



everyone's life and development of the state. He ended his speech with the chants of "Jo Bole So Nihal - Sat Sri Akal" and "Wahe Guru ka Khalsa - Wahe Guru ki Fateh". The CM also lis-

tened to Sabad Kirtan in the Gurdwara premises. It is noteworthy that CM Chouhan arrives every year at the Gurdwara to seek blessings and offers prayers on the occasion of Prakash

Parv. Shawls and emblems were presented to the CM on behalf of the Gurdwara. He also provided the service of serving langar and washing utensils in the Gurdwara.

Invoices of one lakh swindlers driving two wheelers without helmet

Team Absolute | Bhopal

In Madhya Pradesh, the Use Helmet campaign is being run for the safety of two wheeler drivers. Action was also taken against the drivers who did not use helmets. Challans of more than one lakh drivers were issued in the state. Additional Director General of Police (ADG) PTRI G. Janardhan informed that all efforts are being made to ensure compulsory use of helmets for the safety of two wheeler riders.

He has said that along with the awareness campaign for the use of helmets, action is also being taken under the Vehicle Act. Action has been taken against more than one lakh two wheeler riders. ADG Janardhan has informed



that a special awareness campaign is being run jointly by the Police and the Transport Department to prevent the loss of life in road accidents caused by the riders of vehicles without helmets. Necessary instructions for this have also been issued to

all government offices and educational institutions. Automobile shops, hotels, dhabas, restaurants, malls, licensed liquor shops, parking operators, petrol pumps are being asked not to provide service to motorists without wearing helmets. Similarly, vehicle sales centers have been prohibited from selling helmets along with vehicles.

He said that Police and Transport Department together with awareness campaign from October 6 to 20, 1 lakh 8 thousand 139 challans were issued against two wheeler riders who were not wearing helmets under Motor Vehicle Act. In Jabalpur, maximum 13 thousand 105, 7106 in Sagar, 5966 in Bhopal, 4830 in Indore, 4087 in Singrauli, 3517 in Shivpuri were challaned in other districts.

GOVERNMENT HOSPITAL EMPLOYEE SEXUALLY ASSAULTS PATIENT

Indore: An employee of a government hospital in Madhya Pradesh's Indore was arrested on Tuesday for allegedly indulging in unnatural sex with a 25-year-old patient at the facility, police said.



The incident had taken place at the government-run Maharaja Yeshwantrao Hospital (MYH), Sanyogitaganj police station in-charge Tehzeeb Qazi said. The accused posted at a ward in the hospital allegedly took the patient, who was suffering from a skin disease, to a toilet on the pretext of examining him, he said. The accused confined the man in the toilet and had unnatural sex with him, the official said. Based on a report from the hospital management, a case under sections 342 (confining someone with an intention to commit crime) and 377 (unnatural sexual act) of the Indian Penal Code has been registered against the accused, he said.

The round of administrative surgery intensifies before the elections in MP

Team Absolute | Bhopal

There are assembly elections in Madhya Pradesh next year and before that the period of administrative mobilization is going on, due to which all the big officers are being shifted from here to there.

Major administrative surgery has been done in the state in the last two days. These changes are taking place when Chief Secretary Iqbal Singh Bains is going to retire this month. On Monday, 14 Indian Administrative Officers, including officers of the rank of Principal Secretary, who have been holding the same posts for two years, have been transferred in the state.

In this sequence, another list of transfers of IAS officers was issued late on Tuesday, in which the collectors of 14 districts have been changed. Many of these officers are such that they have been posted in their posts for the last three years. The Election Commission can remove such officers during elections, so this change has already been made.

Experts believe that the government has



given more responsibility to its competent officers so that according to its intention, these officers can do better work in new departments, while the Election Commission does not even take a step like removing them due to three years of posting during the election. Be able to lift

BJP core group meeting ahead of Rahul Gandhi's visit

Team Absolute | Bhopal

Bharatiya Janata Party is continuously active in preparing for next year's assembly elections in Madhya Pradesh, while Congress leader Rahul Gandhi's Bharat Jodo Yatra is also going to enter the state in the coming days. Due to this, a meeting of the core group of the party has been called at the BJP office in the capital on Wednesday. All the big leaders have arrived in Bhopal to take part in this meeting.

It is known that the BJP had to face defeat in the 2018 assembly elections and had to find a way out after being in power for a decade and a half. It is different that in the year 2020, the BJP came to power again due to the rebellion within the Congress.

The BJP organization and the government are constantly active to increase their base in the state and strategies are being made at every level. Union Minister Narendra Singh Tomar, Jyotiraditya Scindia, National General Secretary



Kailash Vijayvargiya, Minister Fagga Singh Kulaste, Virender Kumar, Prahlad Patel, Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chauhan, State President Vishnu Dutt Sharma, State Organization General Secretary Hitananda in the meeting of BJP core group on Wednesday. Apart from that, other members of the core group are also joining.

In this meeting, where the BJP will formulate a strategy for the 2023 assembly elections, it will also consider keeping an eye on Congress leader Rahul Gandhi's visit to India in the coming days.

Investors Summit should be result-oriented-CM Chouhan

Team Absolute | Bhopal

Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan has said that the Investors' Summit to be held in Indore in January 2023 should be fruitful for industrialists and investors, for this purpose, investors and industrialists should be given detailed information about the needs, investment opportunities and possibilities of the state. The industrialists working in this sector should be specially made aware of the possibilities of industries related to manufacturing of agricultural equipments and manufacturing of pharma and medical devices in the state. CM Chouhan was addressing a meeting today at the residence office regarding the meeting with industrialists and road-show in Mumbai. CM will also invite industrialists and investors for the proposed Investors'



Summit in Indore in January 2023. Principal Secretary Sanjay Shukla, Principal Secretary Manish Singh and other officers were present.

CM Chouhan will meet in Mumbai on November 10 the MD and CEO of Mahindra & Mahindra Dr. Anish Shah, CEO of Hindustan Unilever Sanjiv Mehta and Directors of Reliance Industries Anant Ambani and Dhanraj Nathwani,

MD of CEAT Tyres Anant Goenka, CMD of US Pharma Tapan Sanghvi, Director of Chimerics Life Sciences AK Mishra, Encube Ethicals Pharma MD Mehul Shah, Gulf Bio Sciences CMD Jayesh Choksi and Vice-Chairperson of Piramal Group Dr. Swati Piramal. He will also attend the inaugural programme of Infobeans Limited and a session on investment prospects in Madhya Pradesh. CM Chouhan will specially discuss the possibilities of setting up units related to manufacturing of pharma and medical equipment with the industrialists working in this sector. Under this, he will hold discussions with the heads and officials of Godrej, Alembic Pharma, Aditya Birla Group, Hiranandani Group, Sun Pharmaceuticals, Tata Sons, Procter & Gamble India, Larsen & Toubro, Persistent Systems and Panchsheel Realty Reserve.

CM CHOUHAN PLANTS SAPLINGS WITH THE AWARD-WINNING STUDENTS OF EKLAVYA SCHOOLS



Team Absolute | Bhopal

Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan planted saplings with the students of Eklavya schools in Smart City Park. These students who have come from different districts have secured the third position in the National Cultural Fest organised by the Government of India in Bengaluru. CM Chouhan planted saplings of Karanj, Gulmohar and Cassia along with the students.

While encouraging the students, CM Chouhan said that these children are the future of the country and the state. It is their responsibility to

develop the country and the state and protect the environment. All children can fulfill this responsibility by planting saplings on their birthdays. CM Chouhan wished all the students for a happy, successful life full of achievements. It is noteworthy that the students studying in Eklavya Model Residential Schools of the state had participated in the third national level EMRS Literary and Cultural Competition organised by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Government of India in Bengaluru. The state received awards in 13 disciplines and Madhya Pradesh stood third in national competitions.





TOP CONG SEVA DAL LEADER 'KK' PASSES AWAY DURING BHARAT JODO YATRA

Nanded | Agencies

The All India Congress Seva Dal General Secretary Krishna Kumar Pandey died after suffering a heart attack during the Bharat Jodo Yatra (BJY) here on Tuesday morning, party leaders said.

'KK' Pandey was popularly known to the partymen, was holding the National Tricolour and walking in the BJY alongside Digvijaya Singh and others when he complained of chest pain, and passed the flag to another worker nearby.

He collapsed and was rushed in an ambulance to a nearby hospital where he was pronounced dead on admission, casting a pall of gloom on the 62-day old BJY's first day in Maharashtra.

Top Congress leaders, including Rahul Gandhi called on Pandey's sons who were in the BJY to console the leader's demise and expressed his sympathies with the bereaved family.

"Krishna Kumar Pandey's demise is a deep sorrow for the entire Congress family. My condolences to his family. He had the Tricolor in his hand at the



last moment of his life. His dedication to the country will always inspire us," said Rahul Gandhi. The AICC Media Head Jairam Ramesh said that the party has lost a staunch activist and a dedicated worker who was earlier the

Maharashtra Seva Dal President even as thousands of participants in the BJY paid tributes to KK.

The last rites of Pandey shall be performed in Nagpur, his hometown, later, according to a party worker.



In view of the sudden tragedy, the BJY proceeded ahead on a solemn note without any fanfare or raising slogans, while a condolence meeting will be held in Bhopala village in the evening, said Ramesh.

No yatra can 'Remove' Modi: Devendra Fadnavis

Team Absolute | Mumbai

As Congress leader Rahul Gandhi's Bharat Jodo Yatra was about to enter Maharashtra on Monday night, Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis called it an 'Opposition Jodo Yatra,' and said it would have no effect on national and state politics. "It's Modi Hatao Yatra. Whoever in the opposition comes together, will not be able to remove Modi, because he (the PM) has a place in the people's hearts," said Fadnavis in response to a question on whether Gandhi's march would be effective politically.

He said his government would ensure that Gandhi's Yatra was conducted in a proper way and the events held in a legal manner. "All arrangements will be made during the yatra till it enters the neighbouring state. We will also ensure that the events are conducted as per



the law." He dismissed an allegation that celebrities were influenced against joining Gandhi.

Gandhi was expected to enter Maharashtra from Telangana at Degloor on Monday night. Hundreds of Congress workers and leaders had gathered at the site by evening to welcome the leader. Gandhi was expected to take out a mashal march

to a gurudwara in Degloor where Guru Nanak Jayanti celebration was to be held from midnight.

On November 10, Gandhi will reach Nanded city where he will address his first public rally in the state. The second big rally has been scheduled at Shegaon on November 18. He will cross over to Madhya Pradesh on November 20.

Ex-LS Speakers hold roundtable discussion on National Legislators' Conference

Team Absolute | Mumbai/New Delhi

Former Lok Sabha Speakers and chairpersons of state Assemblies and state Councils on Monday held a roundtable discussion here to lay down the framework of the National Legislators' Conference (NLC) to be held in Mumbai in June 2023.

Former Lok Sabha Speakers Sumitra Mahajan, Meira Kumar and Shivraj Patil participated in the discussion.

The National Legislators' Conference (NLC) is a historic effort to create a first-of-its-kind multi-partisan forum where legislators will gather to create a cohesive ecosystem among leaders of all ideologies.

Patil underlined the need to have stability in democra-



cy and said that those who have been elected for five years should be allowed to complete their tenure.

On a question on foul language, Mahajan said the dictionary of foul languages is expanding.

"Elected representatives need to show some constraint in expressing their views. All the Speakers have been impartial in running the Parliament. We need to have

constructive opposition and healthy debates," she said.

The roundtable was attended by Speakers and Chairpersons of Vidhan Sabhas and Vidhan Parishads, including from Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal, Rajasthan, Bihar and Haryana, apart from former Secretary Generals of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha and several senior bureaucrats.

Dawood set up unit to target bizmen & politicians, says NIA charge sheet

Team Absolute | Mumbai/New Delhi

The National Investigation Agency (NIA), in its charge sheet filed before a special court in Mumbai, has claimed that underworld don Dawood Ibrahim led D-Company has set up a special unit to target politicians and businessmen and made available lethal weapons to be used against prominent personalities.

"The D-company set up the unit to strike terror in people by attacking eminent personalities, including politicians and businessmen. We have learnt that the arrested as well as wanted accused were "active members" of an organised crime syndicate working as a terrorist gang," the probe agency has mentioned.

According to sources, the charge sheet was filed on Saturday against Dawood Ibrahim, Chhota Shakeel and three others in connection with carrying out terror activities across India.

The charge sheet was filed against three arrested and two wanted accused.

It was filed against Arif Abubakar Shaikh alias



Arif Bhajjaan, Shabbir Abubakar Shaikh alias Shabbir, Mohammad Salim Qureshi alias Salim Fruit and Dawood Ibrahim Kaskar alias Shaikh Dawood Hassan and Shakeel Shaikh alias Chhota Shakeel under sections 17, 18, 20 and 21 of the UA (P) Act, Sections 3(1) (ii), 3(2), 3(4) & 3(5) of The Maharashtra Control of Organized Crime Act, read with sections 387, 201 and 120B of IPC. A total of Rs 25 lakh in cash was sent to Arif and Shabbir through hawala channel from Pakistan via Dubai to

Mumbai. It was nothing but proceeds of terrorism.

"Investigations have established that the accused persons who are members of the D-Company, a terrorist gang and an organised crime syndicate, had conspired to further the criminal activities of the gang by carrying out various types of unlawful activities. In furtherance of the said conspiracy, they raised, collected and extorted huge amounts of money by threatening and by putting persons in fear of death or grievous hurt, for the D-Company and for the benefit of an individual terrorist in the instant case, and with the intention to threaten the security of India and create terror in the minds of the general public," the NIA has mentioned in the charge sheet. The NIA has learnt that the arrested accused persons received huge amounts of money through hawala channels, from the absconding accused based abroad, meant for triggering sensational terrorist/criminal acts in Mumbai and other parts of India to create terror in the minds of people. The accused persons were in possession of the said "proceeds of terrorism".

Further investigation in the matter is on.

YOUTH KIDNAPS TEENAGE GIRL; COPS TRACE THEM WITHIN HOURS

Mumbai An 18-year-old youth was traced by police within hours after he allegedly kidnapped a 14-year-old girl from suburban Bandra in Mumbai, an official said on Monday.

The girl, the daughter of a city-based businessman, went missing from near her residence in Bandra in the early hours of Sunday. After her family members filed a complaint, a team of police and crime branch officials was formed to trace the teenage girl, the official said.

Police analysed footages captured by multiple CCTV cameras in the locality and found that a young man had taken the girl along with him. Police tracked the youth and the girl to suburban Dahisar on Sunday night and rescued her.

A case was registered against him under sections 363 (punishment for kidnapping), 354 (assault or criminal force to woman with intent to outrage her modesty) of the Indian Penal Code and under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act (POCSO), the official added.

Fadnavis directs GST officials to work with cyber dept to curb financial frauds

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Devendra Fadnavis on Monday asked state GST (Goods and Services Tax) department officials to work closely with the cyber security department of the home ministry to curb increasing cases of financial frauds and cyber crimes.

Fadnavis, who also holds home and finance portfolios, issued the instruction after holding a meeting with GST officials as well as those of the state finance department. The review meeting was regarding the current functioning of the GST department, its achievements, growth in collection and intelligence network, among other issues.

The deputy CM also held a meeting with officials of the Asian Development Bank (ADB) in Mumbai and sought support of the Philippines-based multilateral agency in various sectors. After the meeting, he said, We need more support from the ADB not only in funding but also in sharing best financial practices across the



globe. The state is working to shift its entire public transport system on green energy. We need support in this sector, too."

Efforts in green energy and solar power will help in saving nature and curbing pollution, he added. The state finance minister asked officials of the Prime Minister Gati Shakti initiative to give priority to projects such as AURIC (Aurangabad Industrial City), the Nagpur-Mumbai Expressway and other major infrastructure ventures in Maharashtra.

Court issues fresh non-bailable warrant against MP Navneet Rana, her father

► A MUMBAI COURT HAS ISSUED A FRESH NON-BAILABLE WARRANT (NBW) AGAINST LOK SABHA MEMBER NAVNEET RANA AND HER FATHER IN A FAKE CASTE CERTIFICATE CASE. EARLIER, THE COURT IN SEPTEMBER ISSUED THE NBW AGAINST RANA AND HER FATHER, WHICH IS YET TO BE



Team Absolute | Mumbai

As the matter came up for hearing on Monday, the police sought more time for the execution of the warrant against Amravati MP Rana

and her father. However, the court rejected the police's request and directed them to act immediately. Metropolitan magistrate PI Mokashi then issued a fresh NBW against the duo.

The court adjourned the matter to November 28 for filing of a report on the NBW. As per the complaint lodged at Mulund police station in Mumbai, Rana and her father allegedly forged a caste certificate as the seat from where she is elected is reserved for Scheduled Caste candidates. The Bombay High Court in 2021 cancelled the caste certificate issued to the Amravati MP, saying it was obtained fraudulently using fabricated documents.

37-YEAR-OLD WOMAN KILLED BY LIVE-IN PARTNER



Thane: A 37-year-old woman was allegedly killed by her live-in partner in Ambarnath. "The victim Laxmibai Manohar Tayde was found dead in a room at a chawl in Nevali Phata area in the morning," an official said. An offence under section 302 (murder) of the Indian Penal Code has been registered against the victim's live-in partner.

"The woman, who hailed from Akola, had come to stay in the chawl with the man five days ago," the official added.

Case against 22 for stone pelting at Maharashtra minister's residence in Aurangabad



Ahmedabad | Agencies

An offence has been registered against 22 people for allegedly shouting slogans and pelting stones at Maharashtra Minister Abdul Sattar's residence to protest his alleged comment against Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) MP Supriya Sule, police said on Tuesday.

An offence was registered against 22 protestors, 17 of whom have been identified, at Begumpura police station on Monday night, an official

said. The state Agriculture Minister on Monday stoked a controversy with his alleged objectionable remarks against Sule, triggering protests by NCP workers in various cities.

Stones were thrown at Sattar's residences in Aurangabad city and Mumbai, while demonstrations were held against him in his hometown Sillod, Pune, Thane, Aurangabad, Jalna, Nagpur, and Pandharpur, officials said.

A case under sections 143 (unlawful assembly), 147 (rioting) and other relevant provisions of the Indian Penal Code has been registered, the official said.

The NCP's district unit President Kailas Patil, party leaders Shaikh Kayyum, Nilesh Raut, Mayur Sonavane, Anurag Patil, among others, have been named in the offence, he added.

Gokhale Bridge closure: All alternative routes get jammed on Day 1



Team Absolute | Mumbai

The Gokhale Road bridge, which is a crucial connector between Andheri East and West, was shut for traffic from midnight on Sunday. Predictably, all alternative routes were chock-a-block on Monday morning.

A journey that used to take 30 minutes now takes a full 50 minutes to an hour.

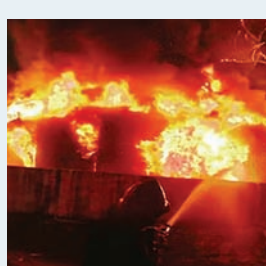
Food delivery executives and auto rickshaw drivers have raised concerns about losing income because of the

congestion. The traffic police had suggested six alternative routes, but only two of them are closest for motorists travelling from the east to the west-Andheri subway and Captain Vinayak Gore Flyover in Vile Parle. Commuters complained of heavy traffic jams at the Andheri subway, on Monday. Meanwhile, BEST bus numbers 389 and 308 ply from New Nagardas Marg, which is the approach road to Andheri subway. With the Gokhale bridge's traffic being diverted to this route, there was a huge traffic jam on

Monday. Requesting anonymity, the bus driver said it took them more than 30 minutes to travel the distance, which is usually covered in 10-15 minutes.

The executives of app-based food delivery providers were among the hundreds of people affected by the traffic chaos. Hanumanth Shinde, who delivers food to Vile Parle, Andheri and Jogeshwari, was stuck in a jam at Andheri subway for more than 30 minutes. "Customers get angry if the delivery is delayed, and this affects our ratings. Moreover, due to the traffic congestion, I am making fewer deliveries today compared to other days. If this persists, our income would be affected," Santosh Wankhade, who takes a BEST bus to travel to Andheri East via the subway, decided to walk to work on Monday after "seeing endless traffic jams in the morning".

FIRE BREAKS OUT AT SHOP IN THANE



Mumbai: A fire broke out in a container at a puncture repair shop in Mumbai's Thane's Diva area, according to Thane Municipal Corporation on Monday. Four fire tenders were rushed to the spot soon after the receipt of the information. "Fire broke out in a container at a puncture repair shop next to the Royal Classic Hotel in Thane's Diva area. As soon as the information about the fire was received, 4 fire tenders reached the spot," Thane Municipal Corporation said.

Deputy CM must take responsibility for Sattar's alleged remarks against Supriya Sule: Aaditya

Ahmedabad | Agencies

Shiv Sena leader Aaditya Thackeray on Tuesday said Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis should take responsibility for state Minister Abdul Sattar's alleged comments against NCP leader Supriya Sule, and demanded that the National Commission for Women take action in the matter.

Thackeray was speaking to reporters in Aurangabad before leaving for his Shetkari Samvad Yatra in Marathwada. Sattar's alleged comment against Sule triggered protests by NCP workers in different parts of the state on Monday. Stones were hurled at Sattar's residences in Aurangabad city and Mumbai, while demonstrations were held against him in his hometown Sillod, Pune, Thane, Aurangabad, Jalna, Nagpur and Pandharpur. The minister,



who belongs to Chief Minister Eknath Shinde-led Balasahebanchi Shiv Sena, later told a rally in Sillod that he had apologised for a word he had used. "If a person uses foul language against a woman and he apologises, then it is called 'manners'. But the minister (Abdul Sattar) has used this language multiple times. The deputy chief minister should take responsibility for the statement," Thackeray said, adding that Sattar should be removed from his post.

The Sena leader said that the National Commission for Women should also take action in the matter.



ALANIS LEFT ROCK & ROLL HALL OF FAME GIG

London | Agencies

Canadian-American singer Alanis Morissette has claimed that encountering sexism was what caused her to drop out of a performance at the 'Rock and Roll Hall of Fame' ceremony. The singer was set to perform a duet with Olivia Rodrigo of the classic hit 'You're So Vain' as part of a tribute to inductee Carly Simon but, dropped out following the unpleasant experience of sexism, says reports. Morissette did participate in rehearsals before taking her leave. In a post on her Instagram Live account, Morissette left some mystery as to precisely what soured her so much during those rehearsals as to have her exiting the show at seemingly the last minute, after being listed on all the in-house schedules for the epic show right up to Saturday night's filming.

According to the sources, Morissette strongly indicated that whatever she encountered while she was still on-site brought up long-simmering feelings about "an overarching anti-woman sentiment" in the industry. And she seemed to place blame at the foot of the telecast's pro-

duction team, suggesting that whatever she experienced there stood in contrast to "countless incredible experiences with production teams with all genders throughout my life."

Reports further states that Morissette issued her statement on her Instagram account which reads as follows:

"There are some misinformed rumblings about my not performing at the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame induction ceremony this past weekend. Firstly, I have to say how much I adore Carly Simon and Olivia Rodrigo and Dolly Parton and Janet Jackson and Pat Benatar and Sheryl Crow and Pink and Brandi Carlile and Sara Bareilles - and all the amazing people and artists who were there," she wrote, name-checking most of the female artists who were honoured or performed on the show.

However, Morissette continued: "I have spent decades in an industry that is rife with an overarching anti-woman sentiment and have tolerated a lot of condescension and disrespectfulness, reduction, dismissiveness, contract-breaching, unsupportiveness, exploitation and psychological violence (and more) throughout my career."

No 'Avatar' sequels if 'The Way of Water' tanks: James Cameron

Los Angeles | Agencies

Scepticism has always troubled artists, including illustrious director James Cameron, who is awaiting the release of 'Avatar: The Way of Water' which hits theatres next month.

The director will be paying close attention to the box office results of the film, according to the reports. Cameron said that the performance of this movie will dictate the longevity of the film series.

"The market could be telling us we're done in three months, or we might be semi-done, meaning: 'OK, let's complete the story within movie three, and not go on endlessly', if it's just not profitable," he told in an interview.

According to the source, fans of the original 'Avatar' had to wait thirteen years for its sequel and Cameron said that a lot may have changed ever since. Although there's a story to tell across three other sequels, if the franchise doesn't spark interest everything could be truncated.

"We're in a different world now than we were when I wrote this stuff, even," Cameron added. "It's the one-two punch -- the pandemic and streaming. Or, conversely, maybe we'll remind people what going to the theatre is all about. This film definitely does that. The question is: how many people give a shit now?"

Earlier this year, Cameron expressed doubt into directing the fourth and fifth installment as he has other projects he's also interested in partaking in.

"The 'Avatar' films themselves are kind of all-consuming," Cameron told to a magazine. "I've got some other things I'm developing as well that are exciting. I think eventually over time -- I don't know if that's after three or after four -- I'll want to pass the baton to a director that I trust to take over, so I can go do some other stuff that I'm also interested in. Or maybe not. I don't know."



Cher confirms romance with Alexander Edwards

Los Angeles | Agencies

Singer Cher has confirmed her romance with music producer Alexander 'A.E.' Edwards and hit out at critics of their 40-year age gap. The 'Believe' hit-maker, set tongues wagging over the weekend when she posted a photo of her 36-year-old beau - who has three-year-old son Slash with model Amber Rose, with a red heart emoji on Twitter at the weekend, days after the pair were spotted walking hand-in-hand on a date night at Craig's restaurant in West Hollywood on November 2, says reports. Responding to those calling out their age difference, Cher snapped back: "I'm Not Defending us. Haters are Gonna Hate? Doesn't Matter that and Not Bothering Anyone." When another user questioned Alexander's "motives and intentions", she replied: "Haven't You Got Anything Else 2 Do!? Let Me Explain ? I DONT GIVE A (plane emoji) FK WHAT ANYONE THINKS." Cher previously dated Tom Cruise, with whom she had a 16-year age gap. The music legend has been married twice before to Sonny Bono from 1964 to 1975 and Gregg Allman from 1975 to 1979. The 'If I Could Turn Back Time' hitmaker's pal previously revealed what she looks for in a man. She said: "He has to be self-assured and funny. She loves to laugh. Strength and independence are musts. She hates neediness, whining, complaining - that completely turns her off."

Cher has also dated the likes of Warren Betty, David Geffen, Richie Sambora, and Val Kilmer.



CHRIS EVANS 2022'S SEXIEST MAN ALIVE

Los Angeles | Agencies

Hollywood star Chris Evans, who is known for his portrayal of 'Captain America' in Marvel Cinematic Universe (MCU), has been named the 'Sexiest Man Alive' for 2022 by People magazine.

Reacting to his new title, he said that this news will delight at least one person - his mother. The actor said: "My mom will be so happy. She's proud of everything I do but this is something she can really brag about."

Evans' career has been on fire for the last decade. This year alone, he starred in Pixar's 'Lightyear', Netflix's 'Gray Man' and filmed three new movies, including 2023's 'Ghosted' for AppleTV+ which he is also producing. According to a website, he also co-runs 'A Starting Point', the civic engagement platform he launched in 2020. Now in his 40s, Evans is trying to prioritise a healthy work-life balance and spending as much time as possible at home and with his family in Boston. "When it comes to seeking out the people I play, it's more of an issue of where the movie shoots," he said. "I'm too old to be living out of a suitcase for six months and I've settled into a nicer phase where I'm just happy being at home."

Magazine further stated that he's also thinking a lot more about his future outside of acting - one that includes marriage and fatherhood.

"That's absolutely something I want," he said, adding: "Some things you want just for you, or just for my family and my friends."

Shuri lost sense of self after losing T'Challa: Ryan Coogler

Los Angeles | Agencies

Ryan Coogler, the director of the superhero movie 'Black Panther: Wakanda Forever', has opened up on T'Challa's sister Shuri's state of mind in the movie after the departure of her brother. He shared that Shuri lost her sense of self after losing T'Challa. Elaborating on the same, Ryan said, "The main characters, their identities were kind of wrapped up around this man (T'Challa). Shuri, everyday she was alive, she had her brother. So, when she lost him, what we discovered while we were working on the script, was that she really lost her sense of self. She identified herself as this guy's little sister, as his protector and as the person who looks out for him."

Losing T'Challa definitely made her detached from everyone, "When she loses that, it makes her very unmoored. The tricky thing about it is that death comes for everybody, it's the ultimate truth. And the worst nightmare that you can have is if something were to happen to you, the people, who you love, would be lost after you were gone. So we were exploring all of those, you know, all of those things."



IT'S A REAL CUDDLY STAGE RIGHT NOW: RIHANNA

London | Agencies

Rihanna is enjoying her motherhood. The singer, who recently released her new song 'Lift Me Up' from the 'Black Panther: Wakanda Forever' soundtrack, spoke about her six-month-old son, whom she welcomed with boyfriend A\$AP Rocky in May, according to the reports. "He is funny, he's happy -- and he's fat!" she told 'People' as she laughed. "He's amazing. It's a real cuddly stage right now." According to the reports, in her upcoming fashion show 'Savage X Fenty' Volume 4, the 'Diamonds' superstar said she has featured in the "Mother Nature section." "I'm looking forward to it," she said. "It's my first real thing that I've done since I had the baby, work-wise." Reports further states that even though it's the fourth showcase of her 'Savage X Fenty' designs, Rihanna said that "every single show" feels as special as the first.

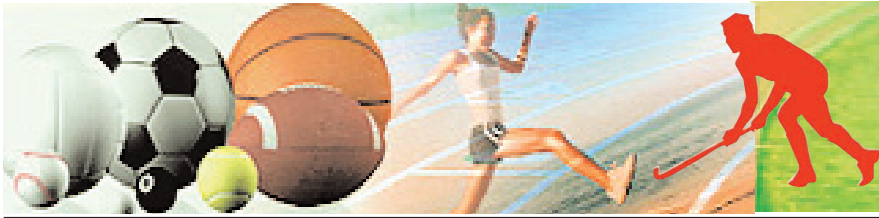
"I love seeing new bodies, new silhouettes, new personalities, new characters, new energies," she said. "I just enjoy seeing people celebrate their body, celebrate who they are -- and they just happen to be wearing Savage. That's exciting."



ABSOLUTE PIC OF THE DAY



Gina Rodriguez



T20 WORLD CUP



AB DE VILLIERS PREDICTS INDIA IN FINAL

Mumbai AB De Villiers, with his home country South Africa failing to reach the semifinals, wants to see India in the final. However, the Royal Challengers Bangalore legend feels England will pose a big test for India in the T20 World Cup. "I want to see India in the final but England will be big challenge for them in the semi-finals. If they get past England, they will have a good chance of winning the final," de Villiers told the media on the sidelines of a press conference to announce the Last Man Stands India Super League to be held in March next year. De Villiers said the semifinals will be a big test for Rohit

Sharma's, having been himself involved in a couple of such occasions. "I have played two World Cup semifinals and I know how difficult it is. It's a pressure situation and you win some and you lose some," the 38-year old said. On Monday, de Villiers ran a poll on his Twitter handle asking fans to vote which teams they want to see in the final and overwhelming number felt it would be between India and Pakistan. De Villiers said if that happens, India will emerge winner. Pakistan will play New Zealand in the first semifinal on Wednesday. "If India manages to get past England, Rohit Sharma's team will win the final," de Villiers said.

He picked the in-form batters Suryakumar Yadav and Virat Kohli as the key for India. "Surya is in good form, Virat is in good form. So, it will come down to the bowlers in the big game and if they all do well in the big game, it seems India playing New Zealand in the final and India winning," de Villiers said. He was, however, not that happy with the current format of the T20 World Cup and says the format should provide more chances to the teams. "There should be more matches for the team. If you have 10 teams, they show play nine matches. At this moment, one bad match means the team is out," the former South Africa captain said.

BWF World Rankings

Lakshya Sen moved up two spots to attain his career-best sixth

Kuala Lumpur | Agencies

Indian badminton player Lakshya Sen stepped up two spots to attain his career-best sixth position in the men's singles category in the latest BWF World Rankings, on Tuesday. Lakshya broke into the top 10 earlier this year after winning the India Open BWF Super 500 tournament in January and silver at the All England Open BWF Super 1000 tournament in March. The 21-year-old Sen also won the gold medal at the Commonwealth Games in Birmingham in August. He recently decided to end his 2022 early after being diagnosed with a throat infection. On the other hand, Kidambi Srikanth, who won the silver medal at the world badminton championships



last year, and an in-form HS Prannoy, held on to their world No. 11 and No. 12 rankings, respectively. Meanwhile, India's top men's doubles pair of Chirag Shetty and Satwiksairaj Rankireddy, who created history by becoming the first Indian doubles team to win a Super 750 tournament after winning the French Open 2022, climbed up a place to get their career-best world No. 7 spot. In women's singles, two-time Olympic medalist

PV Sindhu, despite being out of action since winning gold at the CWG 2022, remained fifth in the women's singles with other players dropping down in world rankings. London 2012 bronze medalist Saina Nehwal and youngster Malvika Bansod are next best Indians in women's singles rankings at world No. 32 and No. 35, respectively. In women's doubles, Ashwini Ponnappa and N Sikki Reddy remained at world No. 21 to be India's top-ranked pair but Gayatri Gopichand and Treesa Jolly are closing in after climbing five places to be world No. 23. Notably, Treesa and Gayatri have enjoyed a successful 2022 season, earning bronze at the Commonwealth Games and making the semifinals of the All England Open.

Women's Pro Golf Tour

Gaurika, Sneha, Ridhima start among favourites in 14th Leg

Panchkula (Haryana) | Agencies

Gaurika Bishnoi, fresh from her Top-10 finish at the Women's Indian Open, will be looking for a second straight win on the domestic Tour at the 14th Leg of WPGT. A total of 33 players, including six amateurs, will tee up at the Panchkula Golf Club. Gaurika's main opposition is likely to come Sneha Singh, Ridhima Dilawari, Hitaashee Bakshi, Seher Atwal and Neha Tripathi among others. Sneha is still looking for her first win as a professional, even though she has in the past won as an amateur on the WPGT. The amateurs to watch out for will include Vidhtari Urs, who has been doing very well and Ceerat Kang, who is coming of gaining a lot of experience by playing the Women's Amateur Asia-Pacific championships in Pattaya, Thailand. The field also includes Ceerat's sister, Heena Kang. Among the top pros who will be missing because they are



playing on the LET are Tvesa Malik, Diksha Dagar, Amandeep Drall and Vani Kapoor, while Pranavi Urs is off to the United States for the LPGA Qualifying School. Pranavi is also the current leader on the WPGT Order of Merit. The event will miss both the defending champion, amateur Avani Prashanth and the runner-up Amandeep Drall, who is playing on the Ladies European Tour this week.

There are still certain areas where the team can improve: Harmanpreet Singh

Team Absolute | New Delhi

Indian Men's Hockey Team had a solid showing at the FIH Men's Hockey Pro League 2022-23 last week as they defeated New Zealand 7-4 and then went past Spain with a 2-2 (3-1 SO) win at the Kalinga Stadium in Bhubaneswar. But despite the results, Harmanpreet Singh, who led the Indian team in the tournament, insisted that there are still certain areas where the team can improve as they prepare for the upcoming FIH Odisha Hockey Men's Hockey World Cup Bhubaneswar-Rourkela 2023, beginning from January 13th. Speaking after the win against Spain, Harmanpreet Singh said that the team can avoid getting cards. "The team's efforts have been quite good in these matches but we can avoid getting cards. Because even if we lose one player on the field, then everyone has to run twice as much." "We do train for how we have to create our formation and structure if we are a man short. Hence, despite getting the cards, we were able to defend



well. But still, it is important for us to avoid getting cards," he added. Harmanpreet further said that despite the errors, the team can gain confidence from the fact that they were able to maintain their composure and not panic against strong opposition. "It is good that we are making errors in these matches from which we can learn from and

improve as we move on towards the World Cup. We are still able to settle down despite the errors and not lose our composure. It definitely helps us in building our confidence in each other, and improving the team," he said. India and Spain are both placed in Pool D along with Wales and England at FIH Odisha Hockey Men's Hockey World Cup Bhubaneswar-Rourkela 2023. The two teams will meet each other in their opening contest on January 13th, 2023. Harmanpreet believes that facing Spain in the FIH Men's Hockey Pro League 2022-23 games has helped the Indian team in analysing the opposition. "When you look at the match, it was a high-intensity contest. Both teams were fighting till the end. Spain is in our World Cup pool match so playing against them will help us going into the tournament," he said. "They are also reading us and we are also getting a chance to analyse them before the tournament and to keep a stock of their strengths. We will work on our shortcomings and improve upon making clean baseline tackles," he signed off.



Caroline Garcia overcomes Aryna Sabalenka to clinch WTA Finals title

France's Caroline Garcia clinched the WTA Finals title with an impressive 7-6 (4), 6-4 victory over Aryna Sabalenka in the final, here.

Fort Worth, Texas | Agencies

With her victory on Monday night, the 29-year-old from Lyon also became the oldest WTA Finals titleholder after Serena Williams, who won the championships at 33 in 2014. No. 6 Garcia is the second Frenchwoman to win the tournament after Amelie Mauresmo, who beat compatriot Mary Pierce in 2005. On the other hand, Sabalenka, ranked seventh, was trying to become the first player from Belarus to win the WTA Finals after eliminating Swiatek in the semifinals. Through the first 12 games of

the first set against Garcia, Sabalenka was nearly flawless on serve. There was only a single double fault -- and she actually won a higher percentage of second serves than first. But in the tiebreak, two errant backhands backed her into a corner and those nerves produced two double faults. The second one ended the set and, effectively, her chances for victory -- especially when Garcia broke her to open the second set. It was the only break point of the match. And then she got emotional, tears coming to her eyes. Garcia, too, was moved by the match. She'll finish the year at No. 4, equaling a career best.

Rayo Vallecano stun Real Madrid in La Liga

Madrid | Agencies

Real Madrid surrendered the leadership of La Liga to FC Barcelona after losing a thrilling game 3-2 away to local rivals Rayo Vallecano on Monday night. Rayo had lost 19 of their last 20 games against Real Madrid, but were good value for the win after a fearless attacking display, coupled with some last-ditch defending in the closing minutes. Rayo started the game like an express train against a team still missing Karim Benzema in attack. The home side looked to move the ball quickly and pressure Madrid high up the field, and soon got their reward when Santi Comisana scored a left-foot volley from Alvaro's cross



from the left after just five minutes, reports Xinhua. Rayo continued to dominate with Oscar Valentin firing over and Isi Palizon forcing a good save from Thibaut Courtois, before the game changed radically in the 36th minute. However, there was one more act in a thrilling first half when Alvaro Garcia made it 2-2 with a powerful left-foot shot that left Courtois helpless, after another rapid attack from the home side. Rodrygo fired over from close range in the last minute of regular time after a cross from Asensio and Fede Valverde sent a shot onto the balcony of one of the apartments behind Rayo's ground, but the home side held on for a deserved win.

Rohit Sharma seen moving around with an icepack: Reports

Adelaide | Agencies

Indian skipper Rohit Sharma has reportedly sustained a forearm injury during a net session. A report said on Tuesday that an ice pack was strapped to the charismatic opener's right arm. The report said Sharma then left the training arena to watch the proceedings from the sidelines before returning for practice. The 35-year-old still seemed to be in "deep discomfort", said the report. "Rohit Sharma was facing the Indian team's throw-down expert S. Raghu at the Adelaide Oval as a part of the regular practice drills. During the session, a short ball suddenly jumped off the length area and struck the Indian captain on his right forearm," the report said. Sharma was looking to fend off the delivery but got hit. Following a brief period on the sidelines, with the icepack firmly in place, he resumed



training but, this time only played defensive shots. The report added the skipper will be assessed by the Indian support staff. With the semifinal on Thursday, it remains to be seen how much the injury will impact Sharma's training and

his prospects of playing the last-four games. India will meet Jos Buttler's side in the World Cup knockout clash after 35 years. The last time they met was during the 1987 World Cup semifinal at the Wankhede Stadium.

T20 World Cup: Semifinal 1 PAKISTAN AND NEW ZEALAND WILL PLAY WITH A COMMON GOAL TO PLAY FINALS

Sydney | Agencies

A resurgent Pakistan and clinical New Zealand, who have had contrasting campaigns so far, will lock horns in a mouth-watering first semifinal of the ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2022 at the Sydney Cricket Ground (SCG), on Wednesday. The Babaz Azam-led sides lost their first two matches of the T20 World Cup against India and Zimbabwe and were on the verge of getting knocked out. However, they performed when it mattered, got a lifeline and now have a golden opportunity to go all the way in the tournament. On the other hand, New Zealand began their campaign in style by thrashing the hosts Australia and eventually won four out of five Super 12 matches. They just lost to England in a high-quality contest but otherwise have been quite clinical in their efforts so far. Pakistan have two consolidating openers in Mohammad Rizwan and Babar Azam, who have struggled for runs in the tournament but if there's



one occasion where their team would expect one of the most consistent T20I batters to step up, it is a knockout game. Rizwan, knows the Black Caps' attack pretty well having recently played against them, and the sluggish nature of the SCG wicket would suit his style of batting too. The rest of the batting order has a healthy mix of batters and floaters and enough left and right-handed options.

Iftikhar Ahmed and Shadab Khan have been Pakistan's saviours in the middle order and they would look to continue their good form while the likes of Shan Masood, Mohammad Harris too had few decent outings and could be handy as well. The 24-year-old Shadab has been the x-factor in the Pakistan line-up and he might be used as a floater in the batting line-up to counter the spin duo of Ish Sodhi and Mitchell

Santner. Meanwhile, the Kane Williamson-led New Zealand have excelled as a unit across the three different phases. From Finn Allen's Powerplay exploits to Glenn Phillips' calculated onslaughts, New Zealand's batting packs quite a punch. They bat deep and have batters for any situation in the game. New Zealand's only concern is the batting form of Daryl Mitchell and James Neesham, who haven't been able to perform as per their expectations. The team would want them to come good in the knockouts. The Blacks Caps also have a well-rounded bowling attack. They have a left-arm quick in Trent Boult who has been good in the Powerplay, an experienced swing bowler in Tim Southee and a high-end pace bowler in form of Lockie Ferguson, who hits the deck hard. Two quality spinners -- Mitchell Santner and Ish Sodhi -- will also look to take the advantage of a spin-friendly pitch at SCG and rattle opposition batters.



RANVEER SINGH TO PERFORM AT IIFA AWARDS 2023

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Bollywood star Ranveer Singh is all set to perform at the 23rd edition of the International Indian Film Academy Awards 2023, popularly known as IIFA Awards. Ranveer Singh, who is also the brand ambassador of Yas Island, Abu Dhabi, the venue of the awards extravaganza, will perform at the magnificent Etihad Arena at the event on February 11, 2023.

Talking about the event, Ranveer, who recently signed up with the global talent agency, CAA, said: "I am excited to be headlining IIFA again with a performance that hopefully will be memorable to all those attending it. I am thrilled for this one because I will be performing at Yas Island, my home away from home."

He added: "I am anticipating the most incredible IIFA experience to date at Yas because I know it will be epic in every way possible."

The IIFA Awards and Weekend will be held on February 10 and 11, 2023. The venue, Etihad Arena, is part of the Yas Viceroy Hotel.

Abhishek Bachchan shows his funny side

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Abhishek Bachchan, who is awaiting the release of the upcoming season of the psychological thriller series 'Breathe: Into the Shadows', is one of them. As he sat down for a chat for the upcoming season of the series, he packed yet another punch, the comic punch. Answering a question about the show director Mayank Sharma's capability as a problem solver, Abhishek said: "A problem solver is brought in to rectify a situation. It's difficult to talk about Mayank in that capacity considering he was the one who was causing maximum problems on the sets, in the first place."

The room bursts out laughing, everyone from the gaffer, sound recordist to the cameraperson, find it difficult to control their laughs.

Abhishek? Well, he just looked around and asked "What?" in a very matter-of-fact manner.

Immediately, he changed the tone of his voice, and added the traction of baritone which he has inherited from his father, megastar Amitabh Bachchan: "But on a serious note, the job of a director goes far beyond just solving the problems that occur on the set. Your language of direction has to change

when you are doing a series or a film. There are certain aspects that come into play in a long format kind of storytelling like a series as opposed to a film."

It's been four years for him working with Mayank, and he can't think of a single complaint. "I can say this with utmost confidence that in my last four years of working with Mayank, there hasn't been an instance where I asked him something about the script or the character and he didn't have an answer to. He was always so well prepared," he said. In the age of the Internet, experimentation with job tasks is essential.

Ask him how he finds the room to experiment within the set boundaries of market forces and the commercial via-

bility; he pulls off a calculated answer from his sleeves. "Very seldom, actors are in the driver's seat. We are lucky and fortunate that we walk away with a lion's share of adulation that's given out by the audience to the film artistes. Very seldom do actors get to choose what they want," Abhishek said.

He continued: "You get to say yes or no to the part that's offered to you, that's the power that an actor has. But again, it's something that's brought to us after the writer is done writing a story and the producer is done assessing the commercial viability of the content. There are very few actors who get to work on an idea from scratch that they develop by themselves."



KHUSHBOO ATRE IS ALL SET TO WORK WITH PARINEETI CHOPRA AND AKSHAY KUMAR

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Kushboo Atre, 'Ratna' of the web series 'Criminal Justice - Adhura Sach', is all set to be part of the upcoming film 'Capsule Gill' starring Parineeti Chopra and Akshay Kumar. The actress has been on the cast of movies and series such as 'Criminal Justice 2', 'Raazi', 'Illegal', 'Shamitabh' and 'Vodka Diaries'.

She opens up about her role in her upcoming project, saying: "Due to my work in 'Criminal Justice', I have always been known as Ratna, but now I want people to recognise and adore me for every character I portray. My character in 'Capsule Gill' is one such role that has been quite different for me from my previous roles. Because this is one of those characters that will represent and challenge me as a new Kushboo." The actress is quite excited to share screen space with Akshay and Parineeti. "I can't say too much about my role, but it was all exciting and challenging at the same time. I can't control my excitement since Parineeti and Akshay Sir were such a pleasure to work with. I just hope that this ends up becoming the greatest possible outcome for me," she added. 'Capsule Gill' is based on the life of chief mining engineer Jaswant Gill, who rescued miners stuck inside a coal mine.

Nikita Dutta to make her foray in Marathi Cinema

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Actress Nikita Dutta, who impressed the audience with her work in 'Kabir Singh' and the supernatural horror movie 'Dybbuk', is set to make her foray in Marathi cinema with the upcoming film 'Gharat Ganpati'. The cameras will start rolling from December. The makers of the film unveiled the title of the film on Tuesday. The video also unmasked the logo for the film. The film, directed by Navjyot Bandiwadekar, will revolve around the festivities of Ganesh Chaturthi. Commenting on the occasion, Nikita Dutta said: "I have always looked forward to entering the regional cinema, and 'Gharat Ganpati' is the best debut project that I could have asked for.

The film has multiple emotions, which will allow me to experiment with my skills. I'm sure that you guys will have a good time watching this film." The multi-starrer film also stars well-known Marathi actors like Bhushan Pradhan, Ashish Pathode, Pari Telang, Sameer Khandekar, Rupesh Bane, Rajasi Bhawe, Sharad Bhutadia, Sushama Deshpande, Sanjay Mone, Shubhangi Latkar, Shubhangi Gokhale, Ajinkya Deo, and Ashvini Bhawe. On announcing the film after years of hard work, Bandiwadekar said that he had "successfully collected love and support from viewers" and assured viewers that 'Gharat Ganpati' has "a beautiful story to narrate" and "the majority will relate to it."



My fitness regime is 80% diet and 20% workouts: Rashami Desai

Team Absolute | New Delhi

Popular TV actress Rashami Desai often posts images or videos of herself working out and inspiring her fans to do the same.

Sharing her fitness mantra, Rashami said: "My fitness regime is 80 per cent my diet and 20 per cent workouts since my work doesn't allow me to work out like I used to before. I constantly watch my diet and my body. When you have control on your mind regarding what you consume it keeps you fit and workout gives you motivation to stay positive." The 'Uttaran' actress tells that the best physical exercise anyone should follow for having a healthy combination of body and mind is Surya Namaskar.

"I feel Surya Namaskar is the best exercise for anyone and even 10 minutes of it are enough with 30 minutes of walking."

Despite following a strict diet, Rashami also prefers to cheat on her diet plan and try out all her favourite meals without thinking much about the fat intake. Answering to what she loves gorging on when on a cheat day, she said: "My go to cheat food is pani puri because I absolutely love it. I also indulge in pav bhaji and pasta, pizzas and many delicious sweets when I'm on a cheat day."

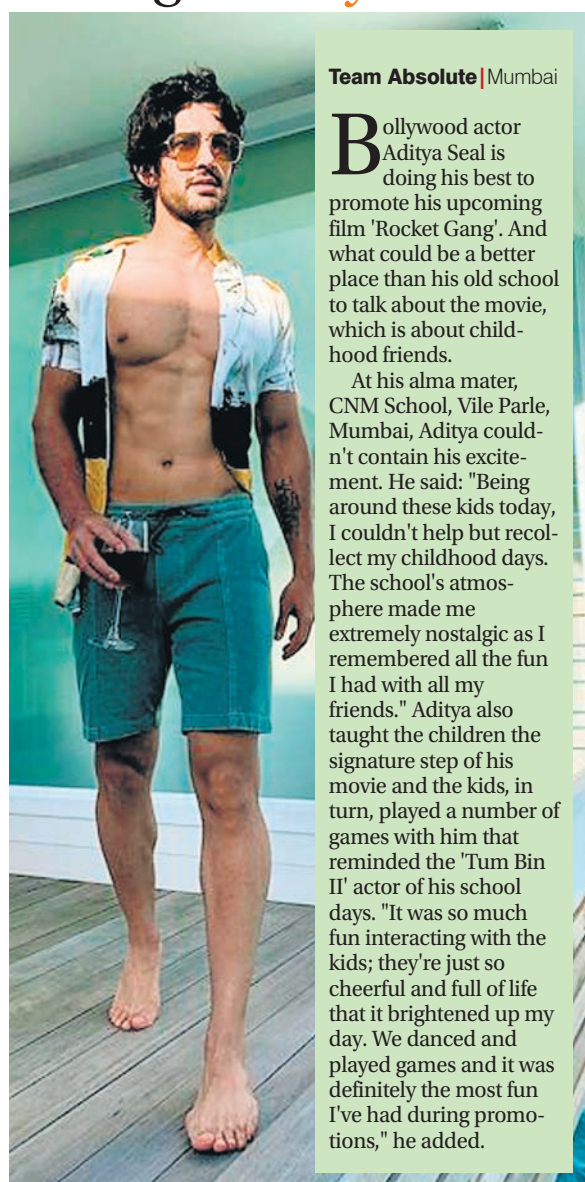


The school's atmosphere made me extremely nostalgic: Aditya Seal

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Bollywood actor Aditya Seal is doing his best to promote his upcoming film 'Rocket Gang'. And what could be a better place than his old school to talk about the movie, which is about childhood friends.

At his alma mater, CNM School, Vile Parle, Mumbai, Aditya couldn't contain his excitement. He said: "Being around these kids today, I couldn't help but recollect my childhood days. The school's atmosphere made me extremely nostalgic as I remembered all the fun I had with all my friends." Aditya also taught the children the signature step of his movie and the kids, in turn, played a number of games with him that reminded the 'Tum Bin II' actor of his school days. "It was so much fun interacting with the kids; they're just so cheerful and full of life that it brightened up my day. We danced and played games and it was definitely the most fun I've had during promotions," he added.



INSTAGRAM PIC OF THE DAY



Kusha Kapila