

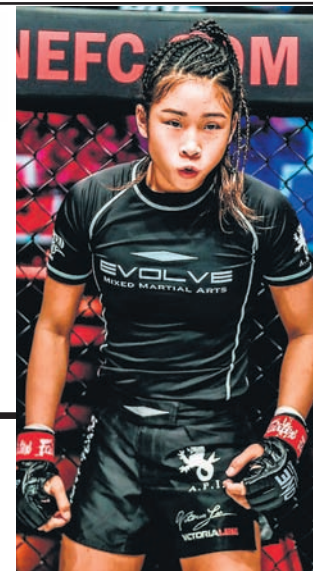
NATION > 02
'Serious issue, don't make it political' ...



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'For me, life is going at least 90 miles per hour' ...



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American MMA fighter Victoria Lee dies at 18 ...



mRNA Covid-19 vaccines can increase serious adverse events, claims US researcher



▶ "WE FOUND THE VACCINE INCREASES SERIOUS ADVERSE EVENTS AT A RATE OF ONE IN 800. AT THE TIME OF THE PUBLICATION, MY CO-AUTHORS AND I DID NOT BELIEVE OUR SINGLE STUDY WARRANTED THE WITHDRAWAL OF MESSENGER RNA VACCINES FROM THE MARKET. HOWEVER, SINCE ITS PUBLICATION, MULTIPLE NEW PIECES OF EVIDENCE HAVE COME TO LIGHT, AND THIS HAS CAUSED ME TO RE-EVALUATE MY POSITION," SAID FRAIMAN IN A VIDEO THAT SURFACED ONLINE.

▶ IN ANOTHER TWEET, HE MENTIONED THAT THE US FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION (FDA) PUBLISHED STUDY SURVEILLANCE DATA FINDS THE PFIZER COVID VACCINE INCREASES THE RISK OF LUNG BLOOD CLOTS BY 50 PER CENT.

WASHINGTON | Agencies

A US-based researcher has claimed that messenger RNA Covid-19 vaccine can increase serious adverse events in people, including sudden cardiac deaths. Joseph Fraiman, the lead author of the peer-reviewed research that re-analysed Pfizer & Moderna trials for mRNA Covid-19 vaccine, has tweeted: "I believe the mRNA Covid-19 vaccines need to be withdrawn." Moreover,

Fraiman said he and his team have conducted multiple autopsy studies that provide "essential conclusive evidence" that vaccines induce sudden cardiac death.

"Schwab et al. study examined vaccine-induced myocarditis deaths, of 35 autopsies 20 days from vaccine, 5 likely or possibly vaccine myocarditis but another 8 deaths, under 65 no pre-existing conditions, total 13 (37 per cent) possibly vaccine-induced deaths, needs further investigations," he tweeted.

JOSHIMATH CRISIS: CRACKS APPEAR IN SHANKARACHARYA TEMPLE, SHIVLING

Chaoli/Joshimath | Agencies

The latest casualty in Uttarakhand's Joshimath town, which is witnessing extreme land subsidence, is a temple in the Shankaracharya Math, established by Adi Jagatguru Shankaracharya, which had developed cracks and has sunk about six inches. The Shivling inside the temple has also developed cracks. People believe that the Shivling was brought from Jaipur in 2000.

Students from all across the country come to the Math for Vedic education and learning. Currently, around 60 students are enrolled in the temple. According to popular belief, Shankaracharya attained Vedic knowledge by meditating inside the cave, under the Kalpa tree, 2500 years ago. The same tree is on the verge of extinction today. Apart from this, huge cracks have appeared in the buildings of the campus, and around the Lakshmi Narayan temple. Brahmachari Mukundanand, in-charge of Joshimath temple, said that cracks had appeared in the entrance of the math, Lakshmi Narayan temple and auditorium, wherein Totkacharya cave, and Tripur Sundari Rajarajeshwari temple are situated. Priest Vashishtha Brahmachari apprised that cracks had been observed in the premises since around an year but no one expected the situation to get out of control. He said that efforts were being made to rectify the cracks earli-

4,000 EVACUATED AFTER SURVEY VIA SATELLITES

New Delhi: Families in six hundred houses in the "sinking" town of Joshimath in Uttarakhand have been evacuated after a survey via satellites. "As of now, we know that 600 houses have been evacuated. And about 4,000 people have been shifted to safer areas," a senior functionary of the Ministry of Home Affairs told NDTV. Some cracks were also noted in lower parts of Army and ITBP establishments but adequate safeguards are being adopted, the official said.



Red Cross mark on houses

The district administration had earlier put red cross marks on more than 200 houses in the sinking town that are unsafe for living. It asked their occupants to either shift to the temporary relief centres or rented accommodations for which each family would get assistance of Rs 4,000 per month for the next six months from the state government. More than 600 structures in Joshimath - gateway to Badrinath and Hemkunt Sahib - have either developed cracks or been partially destroyed. The holy town has been divided into three zones - 'Danger', 'Buffer', and 'Completely safe' - based on the magnitude of possible danger.

DECLARE JOSHIMATH CASE AS NATIONAL CALAMITY: CONGRESS

New Delhi: The Congress on Monday demanded that Joshimath case be declared as national calamity and appropriate compensation should be given to the affected residents from Prime Minister's National Relief Fund.

Addressing a Press conference, AICC media and PR chairman Pawan Khera said, "All the work regarding the tunnel should be stopped immediately which led to such calamity and all railway work should be reviewed first which is a threat to mountain ecosystem."

er by applying cement, but the situation had worsened in the last 7-8

days. He added that a gap had formed between the walls. At the same time,

the floor of the Narasimha temple complex has started sinking.

PRAVASI BHARATIYA DIVAS

World looking at India with hope: Prime Minister Modi

Team Absolute | Bhopal

Prime Minister Narendra Modi said here on Monday that the entire world was keenly looking at India with hope.

He was addressing the 17th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas in Madhya Pradesh's Indore city.

After welcoming a large gathering of NRIs, who have arrived here from several countries to participate in the Pravasi Bharatiya Divas, PM Modi said that every Indian-origin person living in foreign countries 'is brand ambassador of India'.

"As India has achieved high growth in several sectors, and especially despite Covid-19 pandemic, the entire world is watching us



NRIs to get the knowledge about India's culture, diversity, democratic values, power of youth and many more in depth and spread the knowledge in countries they are living.

They are trying to know how India is strengthening its power despite hurdles. This is going to happen more because India is going to be progressive in coming years. And therefore, the role of each Pravasi Bharatiya living in different countries has increased," Modi said.

During the over 30-minute address, PM Modi briefly spoke in English also. He appealed to the gathering of

The Prime Minister further said that India not only has the capability of becoming a knowledge centre but also a skilled capital. He said India's youth has values, skill, honesty and strong determination towards work.

He also requested that every Pravasi Bharatiya should know about India's progress. India has also taken the presidency of G20 which is a great opportunity to show India's sustainability goals and become an example of Jan Bhagidari for the world.

DELHI SHOCKER: PREGNANT WOMAN SET ON FIRE, DCW STEPS IN

Team Absolute | New Delhi

The Delhi Commission for Women (DCW) has issued a notice to the Delhi Police seeking details of the FIR and the accused arrested after a woman who was in the seventh month of pregnancy was set on fire by her husband and in-laws by pouring petrol here in Bawana area.

"In Bawana, a pregnant woman was set on fire by her husband and in-laws after

pouring petrol. She suffered severe burn injuries and is now undergoing treatment at the hospital. We have issued a notice to Delhi Police. We are also providing all possible help to the victim. Crime is increasing in Delhi!" DCW chief, Swati Maliwal wrote on Twitter in Hindi. The incident is reported to have occurred on January 6. According to a DCW official, a complaint was received regarding the attempted murder of a 26-year-old woman by her husband.

'Reshuffle of Union Cabinet likely this month'

Team Absolute | New Delhi

The last cabinet reshuffle of Modi government 2.0 before the general elections in 2024 is likely soon and could be a major shakeup, while leaders from states going to elections could be given preference, sources said.

In 2023, nine states and the UT of Jammu and Kashmir are slated to go for polls, and the BJP is preparing for a high-octane battle in Karnataka and Telangana while Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh, and Madhya Pradesh are also pitched to see keen contests.

Sources say that top BJP leadership is contemplating a change in Madhya Pradesh but there is no confirmation yet on



the same, but in the reshuffle, new faces from Telangana, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, and Rajasthan could enter the Union Council of Ministers.

States like Bihar, and West Bengal could see downsizing but some performing ministers may be retained. A full-time minister for Cooperatives is also on the anvil.

98 PEOPLE DIED OF HEART ATTACK IN A WEEK IN KANPUR

Kanpur: The figures are scary enough to give a shock. In the past five days, 98 persons have died due to heart and brain stroke in Uttar Pradesh's Kanpur. Of the 98 deaths, 44 died in the hospital while 54 patients died before treatment. These statistics have been given by the L.P.S Institute of Cardiology. According to data released by Laxmipat Singhania Institute of Cardiology and Cardiac Surgery, Kanpur, 723 heart patients have come to the emergency and outpatient department of the hospital in the past one week. Fourteen patients suffering from severe cold, died of heart attack on Saturday while six people died during treatment at the Institute of Heart Disease. Eight persons were brought dead in the institute. Within the past 24 hours, 14 patients have died at the city's SPS Heart Institute. A total of 604 patients are under treatment at the Heart Disease Institute. These include 54 new and 27 old patients.

ICICI-VIDEOCON CASE

BOMBAY HC BAILS OUT KOCHHAR COUPLE, PULLS UP CBI

Team Absolute | Mumbai

The Bombay High Court on Monday granted interim bail to former ICICI Bank honcho Chanda Kochhar and her businessman husband Deepak Kochhar, while pulling up the Central Bureau of Investigation which arrested them flouting the provisions of the law.

A division bench of Justice Revati Mohite-Dere and Justice Prithviraj K. Chavan ruled that the Kochhars' arrest violated the CrPc's Section 41A which mandates sending a notice for appearance before the police official concerned. Accordingly, the high court ordered the couple's release on a cash bail of Rs 100,000 each and furnishing a bond with surety of Rs 100,000 each within two weeks.

Another co-accused in the same case, Videocon Group Ltd. Chairman V. N. Dhoot, who was also arrested later, continues to remain in judicial custody.

The Kochhar couple was nabbed on December 23, after which a Mumbai Special

CBI Court initially sent them to CBI custody and later on December 29, sent them to judicial custody.

Soon afterwards, the Kochhars had challenged their "illegal and arbitrary" arrest in the Bombay High Court, which pronounced its verdict on Monday, and posted the matter for further hearing on February 6.

The high court pulled up the CBI for the "casual and mechanical and perfunctory" manner of arrest without application of mind and absence of a woman officer when Chanda Kochhar was nabbed.

Justice Mohite-Dere and Justice Chavan said that "the petitioners' (Kochhars) arrest was not done in accordance with the provisions of the law... there has been non-compliance of Section 41A thus warranting their release".

The judges noted that after the CBI registered the case in December 2017, the Kochhars have always appeared before the investigators and submitted all details and documents.

MAINTAIN DATABASE OF ALL UNRULY PASSENGERS: DGCA TO AIR INDIA

New Delhi: Following two incidents of passenger misconduct in the Air India Paris-New Delhi flight on December 6, 2022, aviation regulator DGCA has asked the airline to maintain a database of all unruly passengers.

It also asked the airline to refer the incident to the internal committee which will decide the duration of ban for flying of the unruly passenger within 30 days and this can extend from zero day to life-time ban.

Two incidents of passenger misbehavior occurring on Air India flight AI-142 on December 6, 2022 from Paris to New Delhi, came to the notice of the DGCA. One passenger was caught smoking in the lavatory, was drunk and not listening to the crew. Another passenger allegedly relieved himself on a vacant seat and blanket of a fellow female passenger when she went to the lavatory.

A senior DGCA official said that the airline concerned shall refer the incident to the internal committee comprising three members including a retired district and session judge as Chairman, a representative from a different scheduled airline as member, and representative from a passengers association or consumer association or retired officer of the Consumer Dispute Redressal Forum as member.

During the pendency of the decision by the Internal Committee, the concerned airline may ban such unruly passengers from flying for a period not exceeding 30 days, said the DGCA official on Monday.

After the decision of the Internal Committee, the airline shall maintain a database of all such unruly passengers and inform the same to the DGCA who is the custodian for maintaining the "No-Fly List".

Soon watch Doordarshan channels without set top boxes

▶ To enable the reception of these free to air channels without use of set top box, there is a need for television receivers with inbuilt suitable satellite tuner.

▶ Apart from specifications for television receivers, BIS has published two more standards for common chargers and video surveillance systems.

▶ The second standard published by BIS is for Type C receptacles, plug and cables or simply put, common chargers.

▶ This specification provides requirements for USB Type-C port, plug and cables for use in various electronic devices like mobile phone, laptop, notebook etc.

▶ This standard would provide common charging solutions for smartphones and other electronic devices sold in the country.

▶ This would facilitate in reduction in number of charger per consumer as consumers will no longer need to buy different chargers every time they buy a new device.

Team Absolute | New Delhi

Soon television viewers would be able to watch all free to air channels of official broadcaster Doordarshan without set top boxes, with the help of digital television receivers with built-in satellite tuners.

These tuners would enable reception of free-to-air TV and radio channels by just connecting a dish antenna with LNB mounted on a roof top or side wall of the building.

The Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) on Monday came out with



specifications for digital television receivers with built-in satellite tuners. Television manufacturers

would follow these specifications while manufacturing such television sets.

Currently, television viewers are required to purchase set-top boxes for viewing various paid and free channels.

The viewer is required to use set top box even for the reception of free to air channels (non-encrypted) transmitted by Doordarshan.

Now, Doordarshan is in the process of phasing out analogue transmission. Free to air channels will continue to be broadcast using digital satellite transmission by Doordarshan.



'SERIOUS ISSUE, DON'T MAKE IT POLITICAL'

Supreme Court on plea against forced religious conversions

Team Absolute | New Delhi

The Supreme Court on Monday sought assistance of Attorney General R. Venkataramani on a plea seeking direction to the Central government and state governments to take action against forced religious conversions.

A bench, headed by Justice M.R. Shah, observed that religious conversion is a serious and important issue and it should not be given a political colour.

The bench, also comprising Justice C.T. Ravikumar, sought the AG's assistance on a petition filed by advocate Ashwini Upadhyay against religious conversions by force, allurement etc.

Justice Shah told the AG: "We want your assistance also, as Attorney General for India... it is a conversion matter, religious conversion by force, allurement or some other things, these are allegations... we are not opining anything, whether it has actually happened or not, we are just considering".

"What should be done in such a case?... there is a difference between right to freedom, right to religion, and right to convert anything by allurement,



if that is happening, then what will happen, what should be done... What further corrective measures can be taken... we want assistance from AG," he added. Senior advocate P. Wilson, representing the Tamil Nadu government, submitted that the petition is politically motivated and argued that

there was no question of such conversions in the state. At this, the bench said: "You may have different reasons to be agitated like this. Don't convert court proceedings into other things. We are concerned with the entire country... If it is happening in your state, it is bad. If not, then it is good. "Do not make it political."

The court was hearing a petition filed by Upadhyay seeking direction to the Centre and states to take tough steps to control fraudulent religious conversions. The top court scheduled the matter for further hearing on February 7.

The top court also renamed the cause title as "re: issue of religious conversion" as lawyers object to the PIL filed by Upadhyay in his own name.

On December 5, the Supreme Court had said the issue of forced religious conversion is a "very serious issue" and emphasised that charity is welcome, but the purpose of charity must not be conversion. The top court allowed the Centre to file a detailed counter after obtaining necessary response from various state governments in connection with anti-conversion laws and other relevant information.

Gandhi's statement a reflection of "Vinash Kaale Viprit Buddhi": VHP

Team Absolute | New Delhi

The Vishwa Hindu Parishad (VHP), in a response to Rahul Gandhi's statement, accused him of insulting priests and called his act a reflection of "vinash kaale viprit buddhi" (good sense going for a toss in times of crisis).

VHP's national spokesperson Vinod Bansal said that Congress' anti-Hindu face had been exposed by Gandhi's statement and that the people would never forgive him for this. Bansal alleged that Congress is responsible for making the



Hindus second-class citizens, for Muslim appeasement and for promoting Christian missionaries in the last 70 years, and of now turning opportunist in the wake of Hindu Rashtra.

He further said that Gandhi flaunted his Hindu identity to win elections, and now identifies as an ascetic.

Priests chide over 'tapasvi' and 'pujari' remark

New Delhi: Several priests slammed Congress leader Rahul Gandhi for insulting them for saying that India is a country of 'tapasvis' not 'pujaris'. Gandhi had recently said in Haryana that the Congress believes in 'tapasya', while the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) is an organisation of 'pooja'. He alleged that the BJP-RSS force people to worship them, adding that India is a country of 'tapasvis' (ascetics) and not 'pujaris' (priests). At some places, including Prayagraj in Uttar Pradesh, priests carried out protests and burnt Gandhi's effigies. Demonstration were held at many places against Rahul Gandhi and Congress.

RAGA'S SECURITY TO BE TIGHTENED

New Delhi: Security agencies have made elaborate preparations to tighten Rahul Gandhi's security during Bharat Jodo Yatra, which will enter Punjab and Jammu and Kashmir, this month.

According to sources, the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) has reviewed the security arrangements since both the areas are sensitive. The security agencies are engaged in the process of deploying forces and are coordinating with the local police. According to information, the Central agencies have sought information of the yatra's route from the local police. The security agencies have been alerted about the recent incidents in Punjab and J&K. They have conducted recce in all the locations of the route as well. According to sources, Gandhi is a Z plus protectee, which is why the security arrangements are being made on the same level.

Accused alighted car to check what was stuck, then continued driving: Police to court

Team Absolute | New Delhi

The Delhi Police on Monday told the Rohini court that one of the CCTV footage collected during investigation shows that the accused had got down from the car to check what was stuck and then continued driving.

Meanwhile, as the police custody of six individuals arrested in connection with the death of a 20-year-

old woman who was killed after being dragged by a car for several kilometres in Sultanpuri ended on Monday, the court sent the accused to 14 days' judicial custody.

The accused have been identified as Ashutosh, Deepak Khanna, Amit Khanna, Krishan, Mitthun and Manoj Mittal.

One of the accused, Ashutosh, who is accused of tampering with

evidence, had also moved a bail plea in the court which is scheduled to be heard on Tuesday.

As per sources, Ashutosh, the car owner and brother of Amit, Ankush Khanna had talks with the five accused and as Amit did not have driving licence, Deepak was told to tell police that he was in the driving seat at the time of incident. Ankush was granted bail by the court recently.

New system to measure, grade performance of hospitals under Ayushman Bharat

Team Absolute | New Delhi

With a view to shift the focus of measuring performance of hospitals from volume of services provided to the value of healthcare services, National Health Authority (NHA) is introducing a new system to measure and grade hospital performance under the flagship scheme Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB PM-JAY).

Traditionally, from the payer's perspective, the healthcare model has been focussed on the quantity of services delivered, where case-based bundled payment is made on the basis of the number of services provided.

Officials said that the new initiative will introduce the concept of 'value-based care', where payment will be outcome based and providers will be rewarded according to the quality of the treatment delivered. Under the new model, the providers will be rewarded for helping the patients improve their health, which consequently will reduce the effects of disease in the population in the long term.

The step promises significant increase in the overall health gains and is expected to be a win-win for all concerned stakeholders from patients to healthcare providers, payers and suppliers. While the patients will get better health outcomes and higher satisfaction out of the services they receive, providers stand to get better care efficiencies. Similarly, payers will be able to maximise the health benefits generated out of the spending incurred, said officials. Speaking on the initiative R.S. Sharma, CEO, National Health Authority said, "To ensure PM-JAY beneficiaries receive both cashless healthcare benefits and high-quality care at every empanelled hospital, NHA has implemented various measures. These measures include standardising the cost of treatment under the scheme and adding new and advanced treatment procedures. Additionally, NHA has made a provision to incentivise best performing hospitals that provide quality care to patients."



In a value-based healthcare system, the payers can also exercise strong cost controls. Officials said that a healthier population with fewer claims translates into less drain on payers' premium pools and investments. Suppliers would benefit from being able to align their products and services with positive patient outcomes and reduced cost. Altogether, value-based care promises to significantly improve healthcare landscape in India by incentivizing and encouraging healthcare providers to focus more on delivering patient centric services. Under value-based care, the performance of AB PM-JAY empanelled hospitals will be measured based on five performance indicators, including Beneficiary Satisfaction; Hospital Readmission Rate; the extent of Out-of-Pocket Expenditure; Confirmed Grievances and Improvement in patient's Health-Related Quality of Life.

punjab national bank
(A Government of India Undertaking)
ZONAL SAHTRA, CHANDIGARH - SCO 60-61, Bank Square,
Sector 17-B, Chandigarh, Ph.: 0172-5040788-89, E-mail: zsb340@pnb.co.in

DEMAND NOTICE

NOTICE U/S 13(2) OF THE SECURITIZATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT 2002 (SARFAESI)

KINDLY NOTE, THE DEMAND NOTICE DATED 07.06.2018 STANDS WITHDRAWN DUE TO SOME TECHNICAL GROUND

Announce is hereby given that the following borrower(s) have defaulted in the repayment of principal and interest of credit facilities obtained by them from the bank and said facilities have turned Non Performing Assets. The notice under section 13(2) of Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 were issued to Borrower(s) / Guarantor(s) at their last known addresses by registered / speed post. However the notices have been returned un-served and the Authorised Officer has reasons to believe that the borrower(s) / guarantor(s) are avoiding the service of notice, as such they are hereby informed by way of public notice about the same.

60 DAYS' NOTICE TO BORROWER

Borrowers Name & their Addresses:-	M/s Parenteral Drugs India Ltd., Corporate Office at:- Shri Ganesh Chambers, A.B. Road, Navlakha Crossing, Indore-452001
M/s Parenteral Drugs India Ltd., Registered Office at:- 340, Laxmi Plaza, Laxmi Industrial Estate, New Link Road, Andheri (West), Mumbai-400053	M/s Parenteral Drugs India Ltd., Corporate Office at:- Shri Ganesh Chambers, A.B. Road, Navlakha Crossing, Indore-452001
Sh. Manohar Lal Gupta S/o Sh. Uma Shankar Gupta (CMD), R/o 9, Janki Nagar, NX, Indore-452001	Sh. Vinod Kumar Gupta S/o Sh. Gyarsi Lal Gupta (MD), R/o 11, Janki Nagar, NX, Indore-452001
Sh. Govind Das Garg S/o Sh. Fakir Chand Garg (Director), R/o 5, Anand Bagichi, Agarwal Nagar, Indore-452001	Sh. Anil Mittal S/o Late Sh. Kulwantrai Mittal (Executive Director), R/o 330, A.D., Scheme No. 74-C, Vijay Nagar, Indore-452001
Guarantor/Corporate Guarantors Name & their Addresses:-	
Sh. Manohar Lal Gupta S/o Sh. Uma Shankar Gupta (Guarantor), R/o 9, Janki Nagar, NX, Indore-452001	Sh. Vinod Kumar Gupta S/o Sh. Gyarsi Lal Gupta (Guarantor), R/o 11, Janki Nagar, NX, Indore-452001
Sh. Govind Das Garg S/o Sh. Fakir Chand Garg (Guarantor), R/o 5, Anand Bagichi, Agarwal Nagar, Indore-452001	Sh. Anil Mittal S/o Late Sh. Kulwantrai Mittal (Guarantor), R/o 330, A.D., Scheme No. 74-C, Vijay Nagar, Indore-452001
Sh. Manohar Lal Gupta S/o Sh. Uma Shankar Gupta (as Karta of HUF of Manohar Lal Gupta), R/o 9, Janki Nagar, NX, Indore-452001	Sh. Vinod Kumar Gupta S/o Sh. Gyarsi Lal Gupta (as Karta of HUF of Vinod Kumar Gupta), R/o 11, Janki Nagar, NX, Indore-452001
Smt. Alpana Gupta W/o Sh. Manohar Lal Gupta (Guarantor), R/o 9, Janki Nagar, NX, Indore-452001	Sh. Govind Das Garg S/o Sh. Fakir Chand Garg (as Karta of HUF of Govind Das Garg), R/o 5, Anand Bagichi, Agarwal Nagar, Indore-452001
M/s Diamond Crystal Pvt. Ltd. (Corporate Guarantor), Registered Office at:- Shri Ganesh Chambers, A.B. Road, Navlakha Crossing, Indore-452001	M/s Rajratn Exports Pvt. Ltd. (Corporate Guarantor), Registered Office at:- 340, Laxmi Plaza, Laxmi Industrial Estate, New Link Road, Andheri (West), Mumbai-400053
M/s Parenteral Medicines Ltd. (Corporate Guarantor), Registered Office at:- 340, Laxmi Plaza, Laxmi Industrial Estate, New Link Road, Andheri (West), Mumbai-400053	M/s MVG Mercantile Pvt. Ltd. (Corporate Guarantor), Registered Office at:- 340, Laxmi Plaza, Laxmi Industrial Estate, New Link Road, Andheri (West), Mumbai-400053
M/s PDPL Holdings Pvt. Ltd. (Corporate Guarantor), Registered Office at:- 340, Laxmi Plaza, Laxmi Industrial Estate, New Link Road, Andheri (West), Mumbai-400053	M/s PDPL Securities Pvt. Ltd. (Corporate Guarantor), Registered Office at:- 340, Laxmi Plaza, Laxmi Industrial Estate, New Link Road, Andheri (West), Mumbai-400053
M/s Mahaganpati Investments Pvt. Ltd. (Corporate Guarantor), Registered Office at:- 340, Laxmi Plaza, Laxmi Industrial Estate, New Link Road, Andheri (West), Mumbai-400053	M/s Parenteral Commercial Services Pvt. Ltd., Registered Office at:- Mohan Nagar, Shree Ganesh Chamber, Navlakha Crossing, A.B. Road, Indore-452001

Description of the Secured Assets	Date of Demand Notice	Amount as per Demand Notice (Rs.)	Nature of Facility
Primary Securities	30.11.2022	Rs. 106,90,52,900.46 further intt. w.e.f. 01.03.2016 minus recovery after 31.03.2016 + other charges if any.	(1) CASH CREDIT (2) TERM LOAN (3) ILC/FLC/ILG
Facility			
Working Capital			
Term Loan, Corporate Loans, WCTL, FITL			
Collateral Securities			
Facility			
For all credit facilities			
Name of shareholding Company	No. of shares		
Rajratn Exports Pvt. Ltd.	5466665		
PDPL Holdings Pvt. Ltd.	3217120		
PDPL Securities Pvt. Ltd.	611506		
Mahaganpati Investment Pvt. Ltd.	1600000		
MVG Mercantile Pvt. Ltd.	9722966		
Parenteral Commercial Services Pvt. Ltd.	30986		
Total	20649243		

The above Borrower(s) / Guarantor(s) are advised to pay the amount mentioned in notice within 60 days from the date of the publication of this notice failing which we shall exercise all or any of the rights under section 13(4) of the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002. Your attention is hereby drawn invited to provision of Sub-Section (B) of Section 13 of the Act in respect of time available to you to redeem the secured assets. Please take notice that in terms of section 13(13) of the said Act, you shall not, after receipt of this notice, transfer by way of sale, lease or otherwise (other than in the ordinary course of business) any of the secured assets above referred to, without prior written consent of the Bank. You are also put on notice that any contravention of this statutory injunction/restraint, as provided under the said Act, is an offence. If for any reason, the secured assets are sold or leased out in the ordinary course of business, the sale proceeds or income realised shall be deposited/remitted with/to the Bank. You will have to render proper account of such realisation/income. **"We reserve our rights to enforce our secured assets."** Please comply with this demand under this notice and avoid all unpleasantness. In case of non-compliance, further needful action will be resorted to, holding you liable for all costs and consequences. *This notice is issued without prejudice to the bank taking legal action before DRT / Court, as the case may be. *This notice is issued without prejudice to the bank's rights in the suit/litigation pending before DRT / Court.

Dated: 10.01.2023 Place: Chandigarh **AUTHORIZED OFFICER**

OVER 100 SHANTIES GUTTED IN MASSIVE GURUGRAM FIRE

Gurugram: More than 100 shanties were destroyed on Monday after a massive fire broke out in Ghasola village in Gurugram's Sector-49.

Fire personnel evacuated residents from the huts and it took them about three hours to control the fire. No casualties or injuries have been reported. According to the fire officials, a call of the incident was received at around 11.55 a.m. at the Sector-29 fire station. Rajesh Kumar, a fire official, said that over 20 fire tenders were pressed into service.

"Teams of several fire personnel, civil defence and police personnel were deployed in the fire-fighting and evacuation operations. Most probably the incident was caused by an electric short-circuit," he said.

These huts are covered with plastic covers, tarpaulin sheets, wood and bamboo. These materials were another reason for the fire to spread across the area very rapidly.

MCD brawl: BJP leaders protesting outside Kejriwal's house detained

Team Absolute | New Delhi

Delhi Police detained several BJP workers including party leader Parvesh Verma after the protestors broke through the security layers installed at Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal's house on Monday.

Days after the brawl at the maiden meeting of the Municipal Corporation of Delhi, both AAP and BJP are holding protests in the national capital. While AAP protested outside the Delhi BJP office, the BJP staged a protest outside Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal's house alleging hooliganism by AAP councillors during the mayoral election. The ruckus erupted during



the MCD Mayor elections at the Civic Centre on January 6, as the members from the BJP and AAP protested inside the House. Following the protests by the BJP and AAP members, the MCD House was adjourned even before the commencement of voting for Mayoral polls.

267 Trains cancelled due to poor visibility amid thick fog in North India

Team Absolute | New Delhi

Over 260 trains were cancelled due to bad weather conditions on Monday, the railways said.

The services were affected as visibility was reduced considerably on Monday morning due to a dense layer of fog that extended from Punjab and adjoining Rajasthan to Bihar through Haryana, Delhi and Uttar Pradesh. "A total of 267 train, including 82 express trains, 140 passenger trains and 40 sub-urban trains, were cancelled," a railways official said. Visibility levels dropped to zero metres at Bhatinda and Agra; 25 metres at Patiala, Chandigarh, Ambala, Bhiwani, Safdarjung, Ridge, Ganganagar, Varanasi, Fursatganj and Bhagalpur, and 50 metres at Hisar, Karnal, Palam, Meerut, Lucknow, Bahraich and Patna. According to the weather office, 'very dense fog' is when visibility is

between 0 and 50 metres, between 51 and 200 metres is 'dense', between 201 and 500 metres 'moderate', and between 501 and 1,000 metres 'shallow'.

Cold wave sweeps Telangana, mercury drops below 5 degrees

Hyderabad: Telangana is gripped by cold wave conditions with the minimum night temperature in some places dropping below 5 degree Celsius. The Met Office has attributed the chilly conditions to low-level north-easterlies prevailing over the state. Minimum temperatures were below the normal by 3-5 degrees at many pockets over Telangana. Kohir in Sangareddy was the coldest in the state with the lowest temperature at 4.6 degree Celsius. With chilly winds blowing since Sunday evening, roads wore a deserted look.

SP TO LAUNCH 'JAIL BHARO' MOVEMENT AGAINST GOVT 'ATROCITIES'

Lucknow: The Samajwadi Party will soon start a 'jail bharo' movement to protest against the police excesses and failures of the state government. SP president Akhilesh Yadav accused the police and jail administration of acting as agents of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP). Yadav, who visited Lucknow district jail to meet party worker Manish Agarwal, who was arrested earlier on Sunday, said "I had come here with the party workers to show them the gates that we have to eventually enter in the days to come."



Pravasi Bharatiya Divas convention



Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan felicitated the NRIs, stayed at the homes of local residents in Indore at the PBD conference under the "Padharo Mhare Ghar" programme.



Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated and observed the Pravasi Bharatiya Divas digital exhibition set up at the Brilliant Convention Center on the occasion of the 17th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas convention in Indore.



Union Minister for External Affairs Dr. S. Jaishankar addressed the Pravasi Bharatiya Divas convention at the Brilliant Convention Center in Indore.



Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan held one-to-one discussions with NRIs and investors at the Brilliant Convention Center, Indore on the second day of the Pravasi Bharatiya Divas convention.

MANY NRIS COULD NOT GO TO THE VENUE IN INDORE, SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN APOLOGIZED

Team Absolute | Indore

Many NRIs who have come to participate in the ongoing 17th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas Convention at the Brilliant Convention Center in the commercial city of Indore, Madhya Pradesh, are angry that they could not enter the venue where Prime Minister Narendra Modi had come to address. The Congress has attacked the government by releasing videos of such NRIs. At the same time, Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan has apologized for the inconvenience.

Narendra Modi coming here and they wanted to see him with their own eyes, arrangements were also made at the venue, but the venue was filled hours before the arrival of the Prime Minister and many NRIs were forced to enter the hall. I was barred from entering. The Congress has attacked the government by releasing videos of the statements of the NRIs who could not reach the venue. Congress has written on its tweet, Shivraj made fun of Madhya Pradesh. Along with this, the video of Julie Jain who came from America has also been seen. She is telling that she had reached the spot in the morning, but she was stopped outside saying that the hall is full, sit outside and watch the program

on TV. On this she expressed anger and said that she had come to listen to Prime Minister Modi. Spent money for this too. If I wanted to watch it on TV, I could have watched it at home. There is another video of Prashant Singh from Jamaica, in which he is expressing his anger. Congress has written, Shivraj ji, how much more will he embarrass Madhya Pradesh, Shivraj made Madhya Pradesh proud. On the other hand, Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan referred to the doors of his houses opened by the residents of Indore for the guests and while thanking the people of Indore for the decoration of the houses, admitted that the venue had become small, for which he apologized.

Presidents of Guyana and Suriname and Foreign Minister of Panama visits Hriday Drishyam Festival

Team Absolute | Bhopal

The President of Guyana Dr. Mohammad Irfan Ali and the President of Suriname Chandrika Prasad Santokhi along with the Foreign Minister of Panama H.E. Janaina Tewaney Mencomo, who came to Indore to attend the Pravasi Bharatiya Divas convention, arrived at the Hriday Drishyam Folk Art Festival at Lalbagh. Tourism, Culture and Religious Trust



and Endowment Minister Sushri Usha Thakur accorded traditional warm welcome to the guests. The guests participated in the cultural programme and learnt about the culture, craftsmanship and literature of the state by observing the exhibition. Madhya Pradesh Tourism Board's Additional Managing Director Vivek Shrotriya and Director of Skill Department Manoj Singh were also present.

'We grind very fine'

Kamal Nath warned the officers and employees

Team Absolute | Bhopal

President of Madhya Pradesh unit of Congress and former Chief Minister Kamal Nath also targeted government employees and officials accusing BJP of winning the elections with the help of pressure. He said, we will also respond to the arbitrariness done by the government employees and officials in the elections, our mill will also run and you know that our mill grinds very finely. Addressing the panchayat representatives from all over the state in the Panchayati Raj Sammelan, Kamal Nath said, I know the circumstances through which you won, what are the circumstances you are facing today in the BJP rule. Politics of pressure was done on the basis of money, police administration and it is being done even today, it is a matter of great sadness that BJP had no solution, how arbitrariness was done and government's pressure was made on you, today BJP has nothing other than this, injustice has been done to you. Kamal Nath further said, we will also respond to the arbitrariness done by the government employees and officials in the elections, our mill will also run and you know that our mill grinds very finely, as soon as the Congress government is formed, the panchayat representatives will be given their administrative rights. Kamal Nath said that our government was formed after 15 years, it lasted for 15



months. Introduced unity in the government. BJP had given us such a government, which was number one in atrocities on women, suicides of farmers and unemployment. We had started that there should be a revolution in the agriculture sector, there should be arrangements for fertilizers and seeds for the farmers, they should get fair prices. We did the work of waiving the loan of farmers up to two lakh rupees. Kamal Nath said that it was our endeavor that Madhya Pradesh gets a new identity, for this we started a war for pure, started a war against mafias, the identity of Madhya Pradesh is a belief from which investment comes, the identity of which Today the state has a great need. Kamal Nath said that Rahul Gandhi is traveling on foot from Kanyakumari to Kashmir for India cou-

MP Tourism Board signs 8 MoUs at PBD 2023

Team Absolute | Bhopal

Madhya Pradesh Tourism Board signed MoUs with chapters of 8 countries of Global Organisation of People of Indian Origin (GOPIO) at MP Tourism Pavilion at Brilliant Convention Centre in Indore at 17th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas Convention. These MoUs were signed with France Metropole Paris, Mauritius, Reunion Island, Martinique, Sri Lanka, GOPIO International, Malaysia and Mauritius. The MoUs were signed by Principal Secretary Tourism and Culture and Managing Director Tourism Board Sheo Shekhar Shukla on behalf of Tourism Board and presidents of 8 countries of GOPIO. Principal Secretary Shukla said that these MoUs have been executed with the aim of boost-



ing co-operation in the development of tourism sector of the state, promotion and publicity of tourist places. It also seeks to strengthen, promote and develop co-operation in research, promotion and tourism development. Principal Secretary Shukla said that every person of Indian origin is actually a cultural ambassador of the country. He also appealed to all the overseas

2 Dead, 3 injured after Ambulance collides with Truck in Chhatarpur

Chhatarpur: Two women, one of whom was reportedly pregnant, and three others sustained severe injuries after an ambulance collided with a dumper in Madhya Pradesh's Chhatarpur district, the police said today. The accident took place at Chhatrasal crossroads in Kotwali police station limits on Sunday late night. The deceased were identified as Ramdevi (26), who was pregnant, and her sister-in-law Ramkali (38). The injured were identified as Daya Ram (29), husband of Ramadevi, Babulal Adivasi (35) and

Khembati (32). All of were residents of Bamitha village in Chhatarpur district. The injured were admitted to the district hospital. Their condition is said to be critical. One of the injured, Babulal Adivasi, said, "The pregnant woman had gone into labour and was on her way to the district hospital from Bamitha village, in an ambulance. However, the ambulance met with an accident at Chhatrasal intersection." District traffic in charge Kailash Kumar Patel said, "The police registered a case and further investigation is underway."

ADITYA BIRLA CAPITAL **ADITYA BIRLA HOUSING FINANCE LIMITED**
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 Branch Office- G Corporation Tech Park, Kasarvadavali, Ghodbunder Road, Thane - 400607 (MH)

DEMAND NOTICE
 (under Rule 3 (1) of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002)
SUBSTITUTED SERVICE OF NOTICE U/s. 13 (2) OF SECURITISATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT, 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the borrowers as mentioned below that since they have defaulted in repayment of the Credit facility availed by them from Aditya Birla Housing Finance Limited (ABHFL), their loan accounts have been classified as **Non-Performing Assets** in the books of the Company as per RBI guidelines thereto. Thereafter, ABHFL has issued demand notices under section 13(2) of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (SARFAESI Act) on the last known addresses of the said borrowers thereby calling upon and demanding from them to repay the entire outstanding amount together with further interest at the contractual rate on the aforesaid amount and incidental expenses, cost, charges etc. as stated in the said demand notices. However, the demand notice is also being served by way of publication, as per Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 (SARFAESI Rules).

Sl. No.	Name and Address Borrower/ Co-Borrower and Guarantor / Co-Guarantor & Loan A/C No.	NPA Date	Date of Demand Notice	Amount due as per Demand Notice / as on Date
1	1. UMA KRISHNA DODDAMANI, Flat No. 201 And 202 Second Floor, South Part Of Plot No. 23, Palskar Colony, Riddhi Siddhi Apartment, Indore, Madhya Pradesh 452001. 2. KRISHNA SHANKAR DODDAMANI Flat No. 201 And 202 Second Floor, South Part Of Plot No. 23, Palskar Colony, Riddhi Siddhi Apartment, Indore, Madhya Pradesh 452001. 3. UMA KRISHNA DODDAMANI 1550 Sr. No. 50 Ambegon Khurd Waghajai Nagar, Pune, Maharashtra 411046. 4. KRISHNA SHANKAR DODDAMANI 1550 Sr. No. 50 Ambegon Khurd Waghajai Nagar, Pune, Maharashtra 411046. 5. UMA KRISHNA DODDAMANI C/O UMA UDYOG 101 Anaj Mandi Chhawani, Indore, M.P. 452001. 6. KRISHNA SHANKAR DODDAMANI, C/O UMA UDYOG 101 Anaj Mandi Chhawani, Indore, M.P. 452001. Loan Account No. LNINDOHL-10200076358 & LNINDOHL-10200076357	09.12.2022	02.01.2023	Rs. 65,88,069/- (Rupees Sixty Five Lakh Eighty Eight Thousand Sixty Nine Only) by way of outstanding principal, arrears (including accrued late charges) and interest till 26.12.2022.

DESCRIPTION OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY/PROPERTIES MORTGAGED: All That Piece And Parcel Of Flat No. 201 & 202, Admeasuring 991 Sq. Ft., I.E. 92.10 Sq. Mtrs., & 1580 Sq. Ft., I.E., 146.84 Sq. Mtrs., Respectively, Totally Admeasuring 2571 Sq. Ft., I.E., 238.94 Sq. Mtrs., 2nd Floor, Of 'Riddhi Siddhi Apartment' Constructed On Southern Part Of Plot No. 23 Situated At Palskar Colony, Indore, M.P., And Bounded As: Flat No. 201: North: Rest Part Of Said Plot South: Common Passage Of Building East: Lift And Stairs Of Building West: Lane Of Colony Flat No. 202: North: Rest Part Of Said Plot South: Common Passage Of Building East: Service Road West: Lift & Stairs After Flat No. 201.

"We hereby call upon the borrower stated herein to pay us within 60 days from the date of this notice, the outstanding amount (s) together with further interest thereon plus cost, charges, expenses, etc. thereto failing which we shall be at liberty to enforce the security interest including but not limited to taking possession of and selling the secured asset entirely at our risk as to the cost and consequences.

Please note that as per section 13(13) of the SARFAESI Act, all of you are prohibited from transferring by way of sale, lease or otherwise, the aforesaid secured assets without prior written consent of the Company. Any contravention of the said section by you shall invoke the penal provisions as laid down under section 29 of the SARFAESI Act and / or any other legal provision in this regard.

Please note that as per sub-section (b) of section 13 of the Act, if the dues of ABHFL together with all costs, charges and expenses incurred by ABHFL are tendered to ABHFL at any time before the date fixed for sale or transfer, the secured asset shall not be sold or transferred by ABHFL, and no further step shall be taken by ABHFL or transfer or sale of that secured asset.

Date: 10.01.2023
 Place: INDORE
 Sd/- Authorised Officer
 (Aditya Birla Housing Finance Limited)



EDITOR'S SPECS

Leopard at the gate

The residents of a housing society in Greater Noida have been living in constant dread and panic, with a leopard on the loose since earlier this week. The leopard was first sighted at an under-construction site in the Ajnara Le Garden society on January 3, and a Forest Department team has been trying to trap it ever since. The team reached the location after a video of the animal surfaced online. Several teams from other districts, including Special Rangers, have been carrying out search and rescue operations for the big cat, but to no avail. With claims of the leopard being seen by people along with its videos, the authorities want to make sure whether the leopard is still lurking around in the premises. The Forest Department team and other officials from Meerut and Agra have been camping in the society for the same. Poultry and goats have been left as baits to trap the animal, while a big cage has also been installed in the premises. Along with this, the team has also laid nets to catch the leopard. A team of more than 40 officers and employees of the Forest Department have been engaged in the operations. District Forest Officer (DFO) Pramod Kumar apprised that cameras and camera traps were being installed in the area. Delhi resident Pawan Tripathi informed that a team of 70 from the Forest Department conducted a search operation in the under-construction tower, on Friday morning. Police personnel have also been deployed in the society to prevent people from entering the area. The DFO said that a 42 metre-high Hydraulic platform, to monitor the animal, was arranged from the Fire Department after not achieving any success by using drones. Many surrounding societies have issued advisories regarding the presence of the wild animal and have instructed the residents to be extremely cautious, and not go outside unnecessarily.

India for world peace

One of the great foreign policy feats of Prime Minister Narendra Modi is that he stood upfront on the military conflict between Russia and Ukraine -- sparked by the launch of Russian military operation in February 2022 to support the Russian-speaking eastern provinces of Ukraine against the alleged suppression of their rights by Ukraine -- and took a line that both sides had concerns which should be resolved through peaceful negotiations. The US-led West joined the fray in support of Ukraine amid appeals from President Volodymyr Zelensky for grant of NATO membership to Ukraine and the conflict went on to assume the proportions of a 'war' with no end in sight. The US and its allies are merely supplying arms, ammunition and sophisticated war material to Ukraine, creating an impression that they were conducting a 'proxy war' against Russia. It is possible that the US saw in its strategy a parallel with the anti-Soviet armed campaign in Afghanistan that had ultimately led to the withdrawal of the Soviet army and the demise of the USSR. However, it is becoming increasingly clear that Vladimir Putin's Russia is not getting worn down and it is Ukraine that is taking the real hit in terms of loss of life and assets. President Putin has referred to the effectiveness of tactical nuclear weapons, but clearly not betrayed any desperation about using them in this conflict. He is still pursuing the original aim of protecting the eastern provinces of Ukraine closely identified with Russian interests and has again gone on record to claim that he wants to end the conflict. The total scene around this military confrontation of geopolitical significance suggests that it is still not an irreversible case for return to peace. What is needed is a credible global level mediation acceptable to both sides. It is noteworthy that beyond the UN that faced resolutions critical of Putin in the Ukraine-Russia conflict, India's position as a possible mediator acceptable to both sides, has been acknowledged more than once by the unbiased sections of the international community. Prime Minister Modi became the first world leader to call for cessation of hostilities and recourse to peaceful negotiation to resolve the Ukraine-Russia conflict. He told the Russian

President that 'this is not an era of war', and subsequently voiced India's firm opposition to use of nuclear weapons when there were speculations about possible induction of tactical nuclear missiles by Putin to achieve his goal in the war with Ukraine. These responses made India the sane voice in the world and established Prime Minister Modi as a global counsel on issues of war and peace. Modi has spoken to the two Presidents more than once and has kept up hopes in the prospects of return to peace sooner than later. The success of India's foreign policy in the Modi regime can be measured by the fact that India's friendly bonds with Russia do not come in the way of the deep and natural strategic friendship of India with the US, which was the hallmark of convergence between the two largest democracies of the world and - what is even more significant - by the fact that US President Joe Biden and Putin both understood India's geopolitical position. Interestingly, Putin now taking decisions on the readings of his own intelligence set up would be doing so with much greater confidence since he has a first-hand experience of the flaws and strong points of the latter and perhaps could see things in the wider global perspective even better than before. Any attempt at mediation between Russia and Ukraine can hope to succeed only if the background of the conflict is clearly understood and steps recommended to establish lasting trust among the two neighbours accordingly. When the Cold War ended consequent on the dismemberment of USSR and the termination of the Warsaw Pact, the emergence of East European states as independent nations, besides the rise of Central Asian Republics (CARs), left the residual Soviet Russia as a much smaller empire. The US-led West might have done well to work for peaceful coexistence between Russia and its neighbours. Certainly, a high-pitch combative alliance like NATO did not hold the earlier ground as American hostility towards Russia did not have to exist at the level of the Cold War era. In fact, in the unipolar world order, the US was expected to work for world peace while militarily safeguarding American interests across the globe. Former US President Donald Trump treated Russia at par with European nations and seemed to have little problem with Putin - he was in the process able to deal with China on a stronger note of military and economic deterrence. The advent of Biden Presidency saw a reversal of US attitude towards Russia - this could be in part because of the controversy that the crucial Presidential poll had left behind on the issue of Russian 'interference' in the American elections. Biden declared Russia as the prime adversary for the US and underlined the trans-Atlantic alliance with Europe in a manner that

underscored the continued use of NATO as a deterrent against Russia. Putin's action against Ukraine gave Biden a justifiable ground for confronting Russia. The Ukraine-Russia conflict precipitated in February 2022 as Putin ordered 'military operation' in eastern Ukraine, ostensibly to safeguard the rights of the Russian speaking population there in the face of a simmering agitation continuing in those parts. The situation rapidly worsened because of the declared policy of Zelensky to seek NATO membership to militarily respond to Russia and the decision of the US-led West to join the Ukrainian side by pumping in arms and ammunition into Ukraine. The backdrop of the continuing tension between Russia and Ukraine going back to the annexation of Crimea by Russia in 2014 - with the West beginning the spell of sanctions on Russia to express its support to Ukraine then - is also linked to the aggravation of the Russia-Ukraine military conflict this time. The development regarding Crimea - a territory of vast strategic import for Russia on the Black Sea - had preceded an anti-Russia uprising there in which Islamic fundamentalists blessed by the West had played a major part. Significantly, Putin also supported Syrian President Assad in the 'civil war' precipitated by Islamic militants against him - with US backing. Russia might have been specially sensitive to the 'destabilisation' of Crimea because of what the USSR had experienced in Afghanistan - perhaps Putin considered it legitimate to get the territory 'back to Russia' since it was earlier 'gifted' by Nikita Khrushchev to Ukraine internally, according to some authentic accounts. The whole point is that there was no push back on the part of the West from the Cold War confrontation even after the USSR had collapsed in 1991 and international Communism on which it rested, had ended. An international team of negotiators, including Indian representatives, can start a dialogue with Ukraine and Russia with their consent. As mentioned earlier, mediators have to acknowledge the security concerns of the two warring nations and try to find their redressal in a mutual peace agreement that neighbours with different governance models could adhere to. An immediate ceasefire pending a negotiated settlement would be necessary and supply of armament and ammunition to Ukraine from outside would have to be halted. Restoration of democratic government in Ukraine based on 'one man one vote' and equal rights for all citizens regardless of language, community and region is extremely important. Ukraine must declare that it is not seeking NATO membership. Lifting of sanctions against Russia may be

considered consequent on a withdrawal of Russian troops from Ukraine to their side of the border. An effective peace pact between Russia and Ukraine governing their future relationship should be the final outcome of the mediation. The US would do well not to create a geopolitical situation where Russia and China would jointly deal with the West and accelerate the reemergence of Cold War between two matching powers. This will, among other things, impede the processes of international economic cooperation already set in motion. The virtual summit between Putin and Xi Jinping on December 30 reaffirmed that Russia-China strategic friendship is deepening further and blamed those who were, according to them, instigating the Cold War mentality. The meeting acquires special significance in the backdrop of the ongoing Russia-Ukraine military conflict. The polarisation between the US-led West and China-Russia combine will no more be totally 'ideological', considering the 'Sinicization of Marxism' initiated by Xi Jinping and the emphasis placed on Russian national pride by Putin, and this would minimise the possibility of internal differences cropping up among them over claims on Marxist-Leninist thought. The two countries shared a system of dictatorship that opposed the US - and this in fact would act as the more important binding element for them. As far as India is concerned, Indo-Russia friendship is one reason why China at least pretends that it wants to maintain good relations with India. India has to watch out against China continuing to practice its 'two steps forward one step backward' policy in spite of such pretences. In the final analysis, the US and Europe should work to return to democracy in all countries that were once a part of the USSR. This will be a useful long-term strategy for the US to maintain its geopolitical hold and global acceptability. Enlargement of the democratic order can be an effective counter to Chinese expansionism and Russia's possible strategic aim of bringing back the former USSR territories under its influence. This provides an additional non-military route for the US for maintaining its supremacy as the leader of the democratic world. Prime Minister Modi's mandate that 'this is not an era of war' in fact strengthens Biden's hands. India must continue to press for a peace negotiation between Russia and Ukraine without any preconditions being set by either side. (The writer is a former Director of Intelligence Bureau. The views expressed are personal)

D.C. Pathak

international

Russian claim of killing 600 Ukrainian soldiers rejected by Kiev as 'propaganda'

Kiev | Agencies
Russia's claim of killing more than 600 Ukrainian soldiers in an attack in the eastern city of Kramatorsk has been rejected by authorities in Kiev and labelled it as "propaganda". Russia claimed the toll without providing any evidence and said the "mass missile strike" in Kramatorsk was in retaliation for a Ukrainian attack at a college for conscripts in Makiivka (Donetsk region) that killed at least 89 Russian soldiers on New Year's Day. But rejecting the claim, Serhiy Cherevaty, a spokesman for the Ukrainian army, told the BBC on Sunday night that "this is another piece of Russian propaganda". In a statement, the Russian

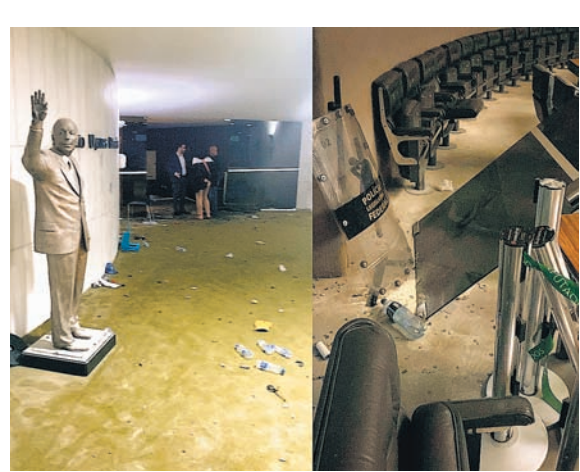


Defence Ministry said more than 1,300 Ukrainian troops were housed in two buildings during the attack on Sunday. Moscow is however, yet to offer any proof of its claim about the Kramatorsk deaths. Besides Kramatorsk, there was further shelling in various parts of Ukraine overnight after the end of

what Russian President Vladimir Putin said was a 36-hour ceasefire so Orthodox Christians could celebrate Christmas, reports the BBC. Ukrainian officials said at least one person was killed in the Kharkiv region, while explosions were also reported in the southern cities of Zaporizhzhia and Melitopol.

Bolsonaro's supporters storm Brazil's SC, Congress and presidential palace

Brasilia | Agencies
Supporters of former Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro have stormed the country's Supreme Court, Congress and the presidential palace against Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva taking over the helm of the country after narrowly defeating his predecessor. Wearing shirts in the colours of Brazil's flag -- yellow and green -- the protesters on Sunday vandalised the buildings in capital Brasilia that house the South American nation's key democratic institutions, reports the BBC. The rioting came exactly a week after Lula, who was President between January 2003 and December 2010 and defeated Bolsonaro by a narrow margin in a run-off



election on October 31, 2022, was sworn into office. The police resorted to firing tear gas when the demonstrators wrapped in the national flag surrounded the presidential palace. While addressing a press conference here, Justice

Minister Flavio Dino said at least 200 of the rioters have been arrested so far and the situation in and around Congress, the Supreme Court and the presidential palace is under control after security forces managed to expel the protesters.

"This is terrorism, it's a coup. We are certain that the vast majority of the population doesn't want this darkness to be implemented," the BBC quoted Dino as saying at a press conference. He also accused the security forces in the region, commanded by a Bolsonaro ally, of being "negligent". "I want to believe that the Governor will determine the responsibilities in relation to those who didn't fulfil their constitutional duties." Meanwhile, Cabinet Ministers have claimed that the rioters took weapons from the presidential palace. In a tweet, Paulo Pimenta, chief minister of communications, said: "We are in the Institutional Security Office room. In each of these briefcases (there) were both lethal and non-lethal weapons.

They were stolen by criminals." Late Sunday night, Bolsonaro, who has been living in Florida since late December 2022, said on Twitter that "peaceful demonstrations, in the form of the law, are part of democracy", before going on to condemn the "invasions of public buildings as occurred today". In a statement, Lula, who had declared emergency powers before dispatching the national guard into the capital to restore order, said the storming was "without precedent" and labelled those behind it "fanatic fascists". The President took aim at security forces whom he accused of "incompetence, bad faith or malice" in the failure to stop demonstrators accessing Congress.

JAPAN CULLS 9.98 MN BIRDS AS AVIAN FLU RAGES

Tokyo: A record high of 9.98 million birds at poultry farms have been culled in Japan this season amid the nationwide surge in cases of avian influenza, the government said on Monday. Earlier on Monday, a poultry farm in the town of Shirosato in Ibaraki prefecture, confirmed a bird flu outbreak, and has started culling about 930,000 chickens at the farm, according to the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries. The case brought the number of outbreaks of avian influenza to 56 across 23 prefectures this season, topping the previous record, while the number of birds culled has exceeded the level during the 2020-2021 season, Xinhua news agency quoted the Ministry as saying. The season's first case of bird flu was confirmed in October last year on a poultry farm in Okayama prefecture. Under the current situation in Japan, it is impossible for consumers to contract bird flu from eating meat or eggs from infected chickens, the Ministry added.

13 killed in clashes between Houthis, govt forces in Yemen's oil-rich province

Sanaa | Agencies
Heavy clashes between the Yemeni government forces and the Houthi militia in the oil-rich central province of Marib have killed 13 government soldiers, a government military source said. The fighting that erupted on the frontline of the southern district of Al-Jubah also wounded several soldiers, the source in Marib said on condition of anonymity on Sunday. "The clashes erupted after the Houthi fighters moved in groups through three directions toward the sites of the government forces," the source said, adding the fighting lasted eight hours throughout the night till morning.



"It was a very deadly, fierce attack, in which heavy machine guns, rockets and artillery were used in the battle," the military source added. The government forces are still estimating the

casualties from the Houthi side, while the Houthi group, which rarely reported its casualties, has not commented on the clashes yet, Xinhua news agency reported. While the Yemeni govern-

ment controls most of Marib and its oil and gas fields, the Houthis have launched intense offensives over the past years trying to take over the strategic province, which is considered a stronghold between the Houthis and the southern provinces. The escalation came nearly three months after a six-month nationwide truce expired in October 2022. Yemen has been mired in a civil war since late 2014 when the Iran-backed Houthi militia stormed several northern cities and forced the Saudi-backed Yemeni government out of the capital Sanaa. The war has killed tens of thousands, displaced 4 million and pushed the country to the brink of starvation.

INDIAN-ORIGIN WOMAN GETS 14-YR JAIL FOR FATALLY TORTURING DOMESTIC HELP IN S'PORE

Singapore | Agencies
An Indian-origin woman, who joined her daughter in assaulting a domestic help until she died of a brain injury last year, was sentenced to 14 years' jail on Monday in Singapore. Prema S. Narayanasamy, 64, did not react and looked down at the ground when the judge announced the sentence, The Straits Times reported. "The deceased is no longer with us to speak of her suffering but footage from the CCTV showed the shocking picture of the abuse and how emacipated and weak she was before her passing," Principal District Judge Toh Han Li said. After 14 months of repeated torture, Piang Ngaih Don, a 24-year-old from Myanmar, died of brain injury with severe blunt trauma to her neck on July 26, 2016. Narayanasamy's acts of abuse included, pouring water on the victim; kicking, punching and slapping her; grabbing her by the neck; pulling her up by her hair; and "spinning" her head violently. On multiple occasions, she assaulted

the victim herself, or with her daughter, Gaiyathiri Murugayan, the court was told. Deputy Public Prosecutor Senthilkumaran Sabapathy told the court that this was one of Singapore's worst abuse cases involving a high degree of physical and psychological harm. "The deceased was dragged and thrown around the house like a rag doll... Many of us would not even treat inanimate objects in such a manner. Her life was nothing short of a living nightmare and this was in no small due to Prema's actions," Sabapathy was reported as saying in The Straits Times. In November last year, Narayanasamy pleaded guilty to 47 charges of voluntarily causing hurt to the victim, and one charge of attempting to voluntarily cause hurt. Her daughter Murugayan, 41, was sentenced on June 22, 2021 to 30 years in prison -- the longest jail term meted out in a domestic worker abuse case in Singapore. Narayanasamy, the court noted, hit the victim with a spatula, towel and a detergent bottle, and watched as the victim used the toilet.



MAHA ATS, PUNJAB'S AGTF NABS 3 DREADED PUNJAB MAFIOSI HIDING IN THANE

Team Absolute | Mumbai

In a major joint operation, the Maharashtra and Punjab Police arrested three dreaded criminals of the Sonu Khatri gang, with reported terrorist links, from Thane, an official said here on Monday.

They were identified as Shivam Avtarsingh Mahalo, 22, Gurmukh Nareshkumar Singh, 23, and Amandeep Kumar Gurmehchand, 21, all residents of Shaheed Bhagat Singh Nagar in Punjab.

Following a tip-off, DSP, Punjab Police's Anti-Gangster Task Force, Mohali, Rajan Parvinder made a request to the Maharashtra Anti-Terrorist Squad for assistance to nab the culprits on Sunday.

The AGTF suspected that the Sonu Khatri gangsters were in touch with wanted terrorist Harvinder Singh alias Rinda and were holed up in Kalyan town of Thane district.

These criminals were also believed



to be in possession of certain foreign-made firearms and thus the ATS' help was sought to track and nab them.

The ATS set up several special teams for the operation who managed to trace the wanted trio hiding in the Yadavnagar area of Ambivali in Kalyan and swooped on them on Sunday evening.

The trio of Mahalo, Singh and Gurmehchand is wanted for a series of serious crimes like murders, attempted murders, illicit trade in weapons and explosives, etc.

They have been taken into custody by the Punjab AGTF and the entire operation was carried out with the collaboration of the ATS units of Kalachowki and Vikhroli in Mumbai, Thane and Navi Mumbai police forces.

The Punjab Police have booked them under various laws including the Indian Penal Code and the Arms Act, and will produce them before the appropriate court, said an official.

Diamantaire Nirav Modi's HCL House price slashed, DRT orders re-auction in Feb

Quaid Najmi | Mumbai

Finding no takers for fugitive diamantaire Nirav D. Modi's one property, its price has been slashed and the DRT has ordered its re-auction, along with certain other prime assets, in one of the cases pertaining to the Punjab National Bank (PNB) scam.

Last week, the DRT-I Recovery Officer Ajeet Tripathi put up the HCL House in Marol for e-auction -- plus three other lots of properties -- to recover a portion of the outstanding of a staggering Rs 22,13,16,39,411.

When it went on the block in September 2022, the unsold HCL House, comprising the entire building with the land, carried a reserve price tag of Rs 52 crore, which has now been slashed to Rs 40 crore, as per the DRT-I announcement.

Besides, the DRT-I has put on the auction block other assets of Modi, including Offices No. 2001-2002 on the 20th floor of the posh Peninsula Park B in Lower Parel with a reserve price of Rs 66 crore, plus over Rs 1.72 crore outstanding maintenance dues till December 2021.

Another property of Modi, the 6th floor of the Mafatal Centre in Nariman Point along with four parking slots will also go under the hammer with a reserve price of Rs 62 crore, besides unpaid maintenance charges for five years coming to over Rs 1.17 crore till May 2022.

Modi's huge residential 4-



BHK flat in Grosvenor House at Peddar Road is going up for auction sale with a reserve price of Rs 15.87 crore, further details of which are not available. Modi also has another address in the prestigious Al Shera Towers, Dubai. The encumbrances or outstanding on HCL House and Grosvenor House are not known and all the properties shall be auctioned off on the basis of 'as is where is' and 'as is what is'.

The e-auction is scheduled for February 10 -- a week after the DRT-I ordered the sale of Modi's two tony flats in the YOOPUNE housing scheme in Pune, valued at a total of Rs 18 crore, on February 3.

In the fresh auction list concerning PNB versus Firestar International Ltd, the names figuring are Modi and his group companies like Bentley Properties Pvt. Ltd., MAK Business Enterprises Pvt. Ltd., ANM Enterprises Pvt. Ltd., NDM Enterprises Pvt. Ltd., Neeshal Trading

Pvt. Ltd. -- all operating from a common address at Opera House.

The other companies are: Firestone Trading Pvt. Ltd., Paundra Enterprises Pvt. Ltd. and Radashir Jewellery Co. Ltd. -- all registered in a single address at the Bharat Diamond Bourse (BDB) in Bandra Kuria Complex.

The February 3 and 10 e-auctions may help the PNB and a consortium of around 15 banks to recover a minuscule portion of massive dues, pending since the past five years after the country's mega-banking scam was admitted by these banks in February 2018.

After the PNB's complaint on the scam, estimated at over Rs 14,000 crore, the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) registered the first offence in January 2018 -- but by then Modi, his wife Ami and other accused had already fled India.

Later, other probe agencies like Enforcement Directorate (ED) and Income Tax Department (ITD) entered the picture targeting the two prime accused -- Modi and his maternal uncle Mehul C. Choksi -- but both had flown the coop well before the scam erupted to shake the roots of the Indian banking sector.

Later it came to light that Modi was holed up in London and Choksi has since settled as a citizen of Antigua & Barbuda Isles, West Indies, and both are awaiting their extradition to India -- expectedly soon.

3 OF FAMILY KILLED, 4 HURT IN GRISLY ROAD ACCIDENT



Team Absolute | Palghar

Three persons were killed and four others seriously injured -- all from a single family -- in a ghastly road accident while proceeding from Nala Sopara town here to Bhilad in Gujarat, police said on Sunday. The accident occurred this afternoon shortly after the van in which

they were travelling crosses the Mahalaxmi Bridge on the road towards Gujarat, under the jurisdiction of the Palghar police. The impact of the crash was quite severe, and the van in which they were travelling was badly damaged. The victims have been identified as -- Narottam C. Rathod, 65, his son Ketan R. Rathod, 32, and a one-year old grandchild, Arvi Dipesh

Rathod. The injured persons are -- the other son Dipesh N. Rathod, 35, who was driving the van, his wife Tejal, their 2-year-old daughter Snehal, and his mother, Madhu N. Rathod, 58, who have been rushed to a nearby hospital. The family hailed from Nala Sopara town and the Kasa Police is investigating the exact cause behind the road crash, said an official.

NAVI MUMBAI YOUTH NABBED FOR LEWD ACTS BEFORE A WOMAN IN BUILDING LIFT

Team Absolute | Mumbai

The Navi Mumbai Police arrested a 30-year-old man from Taloja for indulging in lewd acts in front of a woman in the lift of a building in a housing society, here on Monday. The police swung into action after CCTV footage of the embarrassing incident was highlighted on social media by a social activist Binu Varghese.

"A young man is seen making inappropriate, obscene gestures to a woman in an elevator. Incident has taken place at Marble Arch CHS, in Taloja," said Varghese in a tweet on the Sunday night development.

The man, later identified as one Asif Shahid Sayyad, is seen indulging in the objectionable acts while staring at the sole woman there, and after getting off the elevator, touches her inappropriately in the building lobby. Taking cognisance as the video went viral with sharp reactions from the twitterati, the Taloja Police called the victim woman and summoned Sayyad for investigations. After recording the woman's statement in the matter and surveying the building site, the police lodged a case against the culprit and arrested Sayyad under various charges including molestation, said the police.



YOUTH HELD FOR VANDALIZING CHURCH CEMETERY IN MAHIM

Mumbai: A 22-year-old man was arrested by the Mumbai Police on Sunday for allegedly vandalising as many as 18 crosses in a cemetery attached to St Michael's Church in Mahim, Mumbai on Saturday, the police said. The exact motive behind the act is being investigated, a police officer said, as per the report. He was nabbed from from Navi Mumbai, the official said. After allegedly damaging the crosses in the cemetery, the accused sat in the church for some time. The accused who works in the shop of his uncle was traced to Kalamboli in Navi Mumbai by special teams which were

formed after the incident. The teams worked on the technical clues to reach the suspect.

His picture had also gone viral on social media platforms. "Certain things have emerged during the investigation which cannot be shared as the case is related to a religious place," the police officer said.

A First Information Report (FIR) was registered under various sections of the Indian Penal Code including 153-A (promoting enmity between two groups), 295 (injuring or defiling places of worship), and criminal trespass. Further investigation is underway, he said.

AMRUTA FADNAVIS GROOVES TO HER NEW SINGLE 'MOOD BANALEYA'

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Singer Amruta Fadnavis, who is the wife of Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis, was seen shaking a leg to her newly released song, Mood Banaleya.

In the clip, shared by the official Twitter handle of Amruta Fadnavis, she grooves to peppy beats and nails the hook step. Ms Fadnavis looks beautiful in an all-black ensemble.

"Show us what you've got! Take Mood Banaleya hook step challenge and create your own reel using the song hashtag and tag us in them," the caption read.

The clip soon gained traction and amassed more than 2 lakh views. Many users seemed impressed by her dancing

skills. "Great dancing. Bollywood should learn these new steps from you," a user wrote. "Can't get enough of this party anthem. Hearing on loop," a comment read. A person wrote, "You are a rockstar". "Great ma'am. Keep rocking," another user said.

Created by artists Meet Bros and Amruta Fadnavis, Mood Banaleya was released on January 6. Amruta Fadnavis also features in the video, which has so far collected over 22 million views on YouTube. The music has been produced by Aishwarya Tripathi. You can listen to it here. As per Amruta Fadnavis, Mood Banaleya is "an electrifying, biggest bachelorette anthem of the year".

Amruta Fadnavis routinely updates her fans by sharing glimpses on her



social media. In December, she presented awards at the India Fashion Awards in New Delhi and dropped a few pictures from the event on her Instagram page. The singer also received the award for "The Most Stylish Change Maker". In the photos, she is also seen presenting the award to ace Bollywood fashion designer Manish Malhotra.

Maharashtra State Pharmacy Council attempts to snatch away clerical posts meant for reserved category

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Maharashtra State Pharmacy Council (MSPC), Mulund is a statutory body of Maharashtra Government, it is working under administrative control of Medical education department.

The shocking fact revealed is that it has six vacant post of Jr. Clerk to be filled permanently, earlier MSPC has attempted to fill this post but the Government Auditor has objected on it and remarked that as per constitutional norms it need to be examined in Roster and reservations shall apply. If it happens then all this six posts will go to SC



STVJ,NT category as backlog, but still in arbitrary way again now at behest of few members of MSPC a meeting is scheduled on 11th Jan.2023 with agenda to recruit a 55 year age bar women of open category on permanent basis directly on this post without competition by back door

entry. Earlier this same proposal is also rejected by Governments Medical Education Department and Law and Judiciary Dept. Still MSPC president is pushing to recruit a candidate who is said to be relative of one council member, so in interest of institution the vice

president of MSPC Vinay shroff himself wrote to state Govt to dissolve this body and appoint an administrator to avoid abuse and misuse of power till next committee is appointed as elections for same is already conducted. Also one more social worker Rajratan Sonawane working for upliftment of weaker sections complained to State Government for injustice on reserved category. He also filed a complaint with National commission for SC to look into the matter. The pharmacist fraternity is curious about what action state Govt takes for such unconstitutional functioning of MSPC?

COVID SITUATION IN INDIA BETTER THAN ELSEWHERE: ADAR POONAWALLA

Team Absolute | Pune

Serum Institute of India CEO Adar Poonawalla on Sunday praised India's fight against the Covid pandemic, saying the government and the healthcare workers contributed largely to tackling the pandemic in the country.

He made the remark at the inauguration ceremony of a Super Speciality Hospital in Pune. "Everyone is looking at India today, our Covid management is one of the major reasons why. It was all possible because of the government, healthcare workers and a common goal to tame the virus," he said. "I have been all over the world but the Covid situation in India is better than anywhere else. I would urge everyone to stay in India," Poonawalla added. Meanwhile, Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya on Thursday asked the public not to panic amid the ongoing global Covid surge but to be alert and follow the guidelines issued by the Centre. He added that while Covid would keep mutating and more strains or variants will come to the fore, the citizens shouldn't be needlessly alarmed and only believe in the information shared by government sources to avoid panic. "We have seen the work done by the Serum Institute team, Aadhar and Cyrusji to show the world what power India is on the back of the world. We are proud of this leadership and team!," tweeted Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis. "@adarpoonawalla ji, We always wanted to say Thank You. The entire nation wanted to say Thank You. So, it is on behalf of the entire nation we say 'Thank You for saving us!'," Fadnavis posted. The Health minister said the government is alert and making all necessary preparations to put up a robust pandemic defence.



'TheGreenBillions' joins hands with Pune civic body on plant to extract green hydrogen from waste

- This waste will comprise biodegradable, non-biodegradable and domestic hazardous waste and would be segregated at the TheGreenBillions' facility in Pune using optical sensor technology.
- The wet waste from the facility will be used to generate humic-acid rich bio-fertilisers, which are considered better than conventional bio-fertilisers and has low carbon emissions.
- This project aims to demonstrate the technological and financial feasibility of waste to hydrogen generation.
- With a strong focus of the government of India on hydrogen adoption, the projects like these will not only help India achieve decarbonisation goals but will also reduce significant emissions from waste disposal.
- Once achieved, the goals will help India achieve the vision of Swachh Bharat and also match the hydrogen ambitions.

Team Absolute | Mumbai

TheGreenBillions Limited (TGBL), a company specialising in consulting, managing, and executing sustainable initiatives, has announced its association with the Pune Municipal Corporation (PMC) to set up first plant in India to extract green hydrogen from biomass and municipal solid waste.

TGBL's wholly owned subsidiary Variate Pune Waste to Energy Pvt. Ltd. (VPWTEPL) will be managing and utilising the municipal waste of 350 TPD of Pune for generating hydrogen for a period of 30 years. The project aims to extract clean hydrogen from municipal solid waste in a pioneering initiative. The company is discussing with other state municipalities across India to implement and set up similar plants in the future.

Broadcast Engineering Consultants India Limited (BECIL), a Central Public Sector



Enterprise of Government of India will provide the Project management consulting and Variate Pune Waste to Energy Private Limited, a wholly owned subsidiary of TheGreenBillions Limited, will implement the project to convert Pune's municipal non-recyclable waste into hydrogen.

The Refuse Derived Fuel (RDF) from the waste would later be utilised to generate hydrogen using Plasma gasification technology. The technology has been developed while closely working with the

Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC) and the Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru. Mahatma Phule Renewable Energy & Infrastructure Technology (MAHAPREIT), a Maharashtra government undertaking, has proposed to off-take the hydrogen generated at the facility and develop logistical infrastructure for hydrogen transportation to industries for this.

For the first phase of the project, MAHAPREIT proposes blending in the city gas distribution network in Pune by part-

nering with Maharashtra Natural Gas Ltd -- a joint venture of GAIL (India) Ltd and Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd (BPCL).

The joint efforts by MAHAPREIT and GAIL can help the proposed hydrogen blending project set a benchmark for a circular economy with hydrogen generated from the city's waste and blended back into its gas distribution network.

An official statement from Broadcast Engineering Consultants India Limited (BECIL) said: "With this project, Pune city can reduce upto 2.5 million MT CO2e, more than 3.8 million MT waste would be diverted from the landfill and around >1,80,000 estimated households will be served directly. The Municipal solid waste (MSW) otherwise being dumped in low lying urban areas will be diverted, saving upto 689.5 cubic meter space every day and 25.16 hectare of precious land per year."



Helen Flanagan had never thought of getting a boob job

Los Angeles | Agencies

English actress Helen Flanagan, who is known for her role of Rosie Webster in 'Coronation Street', has revealed that she has had a procedure done as her breasts were left "really saggy" after nursing her three kids. The 32-year-old actress said that she had the surgery to uplift her breasts and she did it for her "confidence", in a candid video shared on her Instagram account, where she said she was recovering from surgery, reports The Mirror.

Sharing a lengthy video on Instagram, Helen, who wore a green hoodie and grey tracksuit, said: "I wanted to pop on here. I'm actually really nervous about sharing this actually but I've had a boob job. I had it done on Thursday. Yeah, so I'm in recovery at the moment."

She further mentioned: "I have been really nervous about sharing this, because you always get some, like, not very nice comments or what have you. It's just something that I did for myself, I really wanted to do it for my confidence."

"I have been really nervous about sharing this. Obviously I am very much for body confidence, and very much for supporting other women, but supporting women in all choices that they decide to do." Helen went on: "I think if something really is bothering you, then I think, you know, it's a good thing to do something about it."

She said she was on day two of her recovery and she couldn't shower properly so a friend helped her wash and dry her hair.

Helen, known for playing Rosie Webster in Corrie for 12 years, said that she never thought she would get a boob job due to her "busty" figure.



Lizzo would jump at the chance to play flute for Adele

Los Angeles | Agencies

Singer Lizzo wants to collaborate with the British superstar Adele but she's not looking for a traditional duet because she'd be happy playing music on one of the 'Easy On Me' singer's ballads.

"We've never talked about that. You know, what I'd do with Adele is play the flute. I'd play flute as she is that kind of artist," she said when asked about the possibility of collaboration.

Lizzo is thankful for the 'I Drink Wine' singer's support and advice, but she admitted their journeys to fame were very different because of the rise in social media over the last few years, reports aceshowbiz.com.

She told the Sunday Mirror newspaper: "When she first came out the culture was so different, and especially with social media. Adele called me and was like, 'Lizzo, how do you f***ing do it? Are you okay? Do you want to come over and drink some wine. Do you want to talk?' And I was like, yeah..."

"Adele saw me literally in a different font. It was really sweet. Shouting out my documentary the other day she didn't have to. She texted to say, 'I f***** hate documentaries unless you're Tina Turner or The Beatles, but this is so f***** good.' And I was like, thank you."

The singer praised Adele's authenticity. She said: "I look up to her a lot. She knows who she is and she honours that with every album. She gave us piano ballads that go to number one, which is so hard and rare. She's the rarest gem of all time. We need her. I am grateful for her."

'For me, life is going at least 90 miles per hour'

Los Angeles | Agencies

Actress-singer Keke Palmer, who is expecting her first child with boyfriend Darius Jackson, is already experiencing a range of different emotions.

She is "very excited, nervous, and curious", reports 'Female First UK'. She said, "More than anything, I can't wait to get my hands on my baby."

Keke also revealed how her pregnancy has already transformed her life.

She told the 'New York Post' newspaper's Page Six column: "I'm a naturally fast-paced person. For me, life is going at least 90 miles per hour, that's me cruising. So yeah, I think in general, whether it's the holidays or this transition I'm having in my life, slowing down is definitely not something that comes naturally to me."

Keke, whose film credits include 'Hustlers' and 'Lightyear', told the audience: "There's some rumours going around, people have been in my comments saying, 'Keke's having a baby, Keke's pregnant,' and I wanna set the record straight - I am."

She added: "I gotta say, though, it is bad when people on the internet spread rumours about you y'all, but it's even worse when they're correct. I mean, like, I was trying so hard to keep it on the down low, but because I got a lot of stuff going on, you know? ... But honestly this has been the biggest blessing, and I am so excited. Guys, I'm going to be a mom."

Keke Palmer experiences swirl of emotions as she awaits her first child

'WHO SAYS TWO WRONGS DON'T MAKE A RIGHT??'

Blake Lively shared some ingenious maternity style tips

Los Angeles | Agencies

Actress Blake Lively is sharing some ingenious maternity style tips on Instagram. After a couple of fashion mishaps turned into a moment of realisation on Sunday, the pregnant mother of three posted an image of herself wearing an open dress to reveal her baby bump underneath in a long skirt, reports People. "When the back of your skirt won't

zip and the front of your dress won't button, wear both," Lively wrote. "Who says two wrongs don't make a right?!"

In the photo, Lively rocked a black dress with white polka dots, layered over a black skirt, each serving a necessary function. With a smile on her face and a necklace of pearls to complete the ensemble, Lively seems to be making her own style rules for baby No. 4 with Ryan Reynolds.

The actress revealed in September that she and Reynolds are expecting their fourth child when she debuted her baby bump at the 10th Annual Forbes Power Women's Summit. The couple, who tied the knot in 2012, also shares daughters James, Inez and Betty.

In November, Reynolds said in an interview with Entertainment Tonight that their daughters are "ready" for having a new sibling.



HUGH JACKMAN TO REPRIS HIS WOLVERINE CHARACTER FOR UPCOMING MOVIE

Los Angeles | Agencies

Hollywood star Hugh Jackman will reprise his Wolverine character in the upcoming third installment of 'Deadpool' and will star opposite Ryan Reynolds.

In a new interview on 'Who's Talking To Chris Wallace', the actor talks about how long it will take to get back in shape to portray the superhero.

"I've learned you can't rush it. I've learned that it takes time," he said (via People).

"So, we have six months from when I finish (Broadway's The Music Man) to when I started filming. And I'm not doing any other work. I'm going to be with my family and train. That's going to be my job for six months."

Jackman continued: "And I'm really fit right now. There's one thing that about eight shows a week being on Broadway singing and dancing, is I'm fit. So, I'm healthy. I have a good place to start. And apologies, chickens. Run a mile. Start running now because I'm coming for you."

The X-Men star also recently teased that his character would not be seeing eye to eye with Reynolds' Deadpool when they link up in the upcoming movie. In an interview with The Empire Film Podcast, he was asked to categorise the relationship between the two superheroes and he said: "How do I categorise it?"

"Ten being really close, zero being the reality, we're zero, we're opposites, hate each other. I'm just talking from my perspective, (Logan's) frustrated by him, wants to be a million miles away from him or wants to punch him in the head."

"Unfortunately, he can't be a million miles away from him in this movie, so I'm probably going to punch him in the head a lot."



ABSOLUTE PIC OF THE DAY



Rita Ora



IND v SL 1st ODI

INDIA'S BUILD-UP TO ODI SERIES OPENER AGAINST SRI LANKA

Guwahati | Agencies

After a 2-1 T20I series win against Sri Lanka, India are all set to turn their focus towards ODIs against the Dasun Shanaka-led side, with the series kickstarting from ACA Stadium in Guwahati.

With the series all set to mark the start of a crucial year as the ODI World Cup will be held in India in October-November.

At the same time, there is some cheer for India as captain Rohit Sharma is back to lead the side since he sustained a left thumb injury during the ODI series in Bangladesh in December 2022. Alongside him, Virat Kohli, Shreyas Iyer and K.L. Rahul are expected to slot back into the playing eleven in Guwahati after not being a part of the T20I series against Sri Lanka.

With Rohit set to open and Kohli at number three, India need to see how they fit in Iyer, Shubman Gill and Ishan Kishan. Kishan played a sensational career-best 210 against Bangladesh in Chattogram, while Gill showed he can be a solid opening option through his performances in the format in 2022.

Iyer, on the other hand, was the key figure in India's middle order for



ODIs in 2022. Moreover, the maverick Suryakumar Yadav is there in the squad too, itching to carry his T20I form into ODIs and get a spot in the Indian scheme of things for the ODI World Cup. With the ball, veteran quick Mohammed Shami's return will be good for India and can pair up with Mohammed Siraj, and either Arshdeep Singh or Umran Malik. It remains to be seen how India use Hardik Pandya's overs in the format apart from seeing how Washington Sundar and Yuzvendra Chahal fare in the spin department. Sri Lanka, on the other hand, will be banking on skipper and seam-bowling all-

rounder Dasun Shanaka to lead by example after doing the same in the T20I series. They would wish for young opener Pathum Nissanka to give a solid start with Avishka Fernando, Charith Asalanka and Kusal Mendis chipping in. Wanindu Hasaranga and Maheesh Theekshana will take care of the spin bowling department with leg-spinner Jeffrey Vandersay coming in too. In the fast-bowling unit, they have options in Dilshan Madushanka's left-arm fast-bowling apart from pacers in Lahiru Kumara, Kasun Rajitha and Pramod Madushan.

JASPRIT BUMRAH RULED OUT FROM ODI SERIES

New Delhi | India pace spearhead Jasprit Bumrah has been ruled out of the upcoming three-match ODI series against Sri Lanka. As per an official statement from the BCCI, Bumrah, who was set to join the team in Guwahati ahead of the ODI series, will need some more time to build bowling resilience.



It added that the decision has been taken as a precautionary measure, with no replacement being named in Bumrah's absence, further delaying the competitive cricket comeback of the right-arm fast-bowler.

Bumrah was not a part of India's original ODI squad for the series against Sri Lanka announced on December 27. But he was included in the squad for the three-match series on January 3.

Bumrah has been out of cricketing action since September 2022, when his back injury resurfaced after playing two home T20Is against Australia and was subsequently ruled out of the ICC Men's T20 World Cup in Australia.

It is yet to be known if India will pick Bumrah for the ODI series against New Zealand which begins from January 18. In his absence, Mohammed Shami, Mohammed Siraj, Arshdeep Singh and Umran Malik will form the fast-bowling department for the series against Sri Lanka, apart from pace-bowling allrounder and Vice-captain Hardik Pandya in the mix. After the first ODI in Guwahati is played between India and Sri Lanka, it will be followed by matches in Kolkata and Thiruvananthapuram on January 12 and 15 respectively.

National Hockey Conclave to be held at Konark



Bhubaneswar | Agencies

The Hockey Association of Odisha, in association with the Sports & Youth Services Department of Odisha, is organising the National Hockey Conclave 2023 at the Eco-Retreat Konark.

The conclave will provide a platform to various stakeholders from more than 20 states and Union Territories around the country for discussing ways to develop Indian hockey holistically starting from player performance, coaching, grassroots talent identification, administration as well as global emerging trends, opportunities and challenges, an official said here on Monday.

The Hockey World Cup will be hosted at the iconic Kalinga Stadium at Bhubaneswar and the newly-constructed Birsu Munda Hockey Stadium at

Rourkela from January 13 to 29.

It is being organised on the occasion of the state hosting the FIH Odisha Men's Hockey World Cup 2023 for the second consecutive time. The Odisha government has taken several steps to promote hockey and its players, Jena stated. It has also constructed the world's largest seated hockey stadium in Rourkela, as a tribute to the hockey players of the nation, which will play a pivotal role in the development of Indian Hockey, he said, adding, "We look forward to showing them around and making them a part of this World Cup."

Following the conclave, the representatives of Hockey India member units will also get to experience the Hockey World Cup celebrations in Cuttack, witness the World Cup matches and visit the Panposh Sports Hostel in Rourkela.

Dembele's goal moves Barcelona three clear in La Liga

Madrid | Agencies

FC Barcelona reopened a three-point lead over Real Madrid at the top of La Liga with a 1-0 win away to Atletico Madrid. Ousmane Dembele's goal midway through the first half after good work by Pedri and Gavi was enough to give Barca the win, reports Xinhua news agency.

The league leaders struggled at times to create clear chances without the suspended Robert Lewandowski, but produced a much-improved defensive display to frustrate an Atletico side in which Joao Felix failed to make a difference.

Tempers frayed in the closing moments and both Barca's Ferran Torres and Atletico defender Stefan Savic were sent off for fighting moments before Ronald Araujo cleared off the line to deny Antoine Griezmann.

Real Sociedad enjoyed a comfortable 2-0 win away to Almeria thanks to second-half goals from David Silva and Alexander Sorloth to strengthen their position in third. Real Betis won 2-1 away to Rayo Vallecano with Luiz Henrique scoring the winning goal.



Before the Brazilian's 40th-minute winner, Betis had taken the lead when Rayo keeper Stole Dimitrievski punched the ball into the head of his teammate Ivan Balliu for it to rebound into the net. Sergio Camello leveled for Rayo in the 20th minute after an error from Rui Silva, but Henrique's goal proved decisive. Marcos Acuna's first-half header and another header from Rafa Mir 10 minutes from time gave Sevilla a vital 2-1 win at home to Getafe. Borja Mayoral pulled a goal back for the visitors in the closing minutes, but it wasn't enough to save a point and Sevilla climb out of the bottom three.

Asian WTTC Continental Stage

INDIA PADDLERS REGISTERED EASY 1ST ROUND WIN

Doha | Agencies

India's Manika Batra won her first round match of the Asian WTTC Continental Stage with considerable ease while scripting an 11-2, 11-3, 11-2, 11-7 win over Magdieva Markhabo of Uzbekistan on Sunday at the Lusail Sports Complex in Doha. Chengzhu, ranked 93 on the ITTF computer, defeated Sri Lanka's Bandara Bimandee in straight games to set up the challenge with India's Batra.

Elsewhere, the other women players in the fray Sreeja Akula, Diya Chitale, Reeth Tennisson and Swastika Ghosh all won their matches and made it to the next stage.

Akula overcame the Amruta Phadke of Bahrain, Chitale got the better of Mirkadirova Sarvinov (Kazakhstan) by 4-0, Tennisson defeated Zhang Wanling of Singapore by 4-



1 and Ghosh overcame Akasheva Zauresh (Kazakhstan) by 4-1.

In the men's section, Sathiyam Gnanasekaran, Achanta Sarath Kamal, Manush Utpal Shah, Sanil Shetty and Harmeet Desai all won their respective matches and will play their second round matches on Tuesday. Desai defeated Abdulla Albaloooshi of UAE, 4-2, while Shah also registered an identical win over Alan Kurmangaliyev of Kazakhstan. Shetty had a close 4-3 success against Amir Hossein Hodaee of Iran while Gnanasekaran kept his cool to register a fighting 4-3 win over Izaaq Quek of Singapore.

Veteran Kamal stormed to the next round with a fluent 4-0 win over Jann Mari Nayre of Philippines.

The Mixed Doubles will see Batra pairing up with Sathiyam and Kamal playing alongside Akula while the men's pair include Men's Doubles pairs consisting of Sathiyam/Kamal and Desai/Shah.

FA Cup

MAN CITY THRASH CHELSEA, STEVENAGE SHOCK VILLA

London | Agencies

Manchester City beat Chelsea for the second time in less than a week to ensure their place in the fourth round of the FA Cup.

The result was never in doubt after three goals in 15 minutes in the first half left Chelsea groggy and Pep Guardiola's team flying, reports Xinhua news agency.

Riyad Mahrez, who had scored the only goal in the two sides' midweek match, netted the first goal with a thumping free kick. Julian Alvarez scored from the penalty spot after a handball by Kai Havertz seven minutes later, and Phil Foden added a third from close range after good work from Kyle Walker.

Mahrez scored his second of the match late in the second half to



increase the pressure on Chelsea coach Graham Potter. Morgan Sanson put Aston Villa

ahead in the 33rd minute, and although Villa were far from brilliant, they looked to have done enough

until Leander Dendonker was sent off in the 85th minute after conceding a penalty.

Jamie Reid scored from the spot and Dean Campbell shocked Unai Emery's side four minutes later when he scored a left-footed shot following a corner to give Stevenage an unlikely win.

Sonny Perkins grabbed an injury-time equalizer for Leeds United as Jesse Marsch's side came back from 2-0 down to draw 2-2 away to Championship outfit Cardiff City.

Things looked to be going perfectly for Cardiff when Jaden Philogene-Bidace and Sheyi Ojo put them ahead with goals after 24 and 31 minutes.

The home team was hurting Leeds on the break, but the Premier League side pulled a goal back through Rodrigo Moreno with 25 minutes left to play.

Team Absolute | New Delhi

American Mixed Martial Arts (MMA) athlete Victoria Lee died at the age of 18, her sister Angela Lee shared the news on social media.

The American, who competed in One Championship, passed away on December 26. However, the cause of her death is unknown.

"On December 26, 2022 our family experienced something no family should ever have to go through... It is incredibly difficult to say this... Our Victoria passed away," Angela said. Victoria had earned three victories in her ONE career, last defeating Victoria Souza via second-round TKO in September 2021.

ONE Championship Chairman and CEO Chatri Sityodtong paid tribute to Victoria on social media. "I am heartbroken by Victoria Lee's passing. I first met Victoria when she was 11 years old. I watched her blossom over the years as a martial artist and a human



being. She was an extraordinary martial arts prodigy even back then, but I could see that she was so much more than that. She wanted to use her life to help the world. I will always remember Victoria for the beautiful and precious soul that she was. May you rest in peace, Victoria. We will all miss you," Sityodtong said.

"Unbelievable and Heartbreaking. Rest in peace my condolences to the Family," India's MMA fighter Ritu Phogat also paid her condolences on Victoria's tragic death.

Lagad downs world champ to emerge triumphant in men's air rifle T1 trials

Team Absolute | New Delhi

Saurav Gorakh Lagad of the Indian Navy experienced the high of getting the better of a reigning World Champion, when he emerged triumphant in the men's 10m air rifle T1 trials for Group A shooters, here at the Dr Karni Singh Shooting Range (DKSSR).

Lagad won the gold medal match over Maharashtra's Rudranksh B. Patil with a 17-9 score in his favour, the National Rifle Association of India (NRAI) informed in a release on Monday.

Earlier in the eight-man ranking round, Rudranksh had finished on top with a score of 261.5 even as Lagad ended second on countback. A second Navy shooter, Kiran Ankush Jadhav won bronze.



In the women's 50m rifle 3-position (3P), Punjab's Sift Kaur Samra finished first out-gunning statemate and India's top woman 3P shooter Anjum Moudgil 17-5 in the decider. Anjum had earlier topped the ranking round and had also finished second in qualification ahead of Sift, who had qualified in fourth place. In the men's 25m rapid fire pistol (RFP), Vijayveer Sidhu won gold for Punjab.

Adelaide International 2

Petra Kvitova continues perfect season start

Adelaide | Agencies

Petra Kvitova has continued her perfect start to the 2023 season in Australia, with smooth progress into the Adelaide International 2 second round.

Following match wins over Jessica Pegula and Laura Siegemund at the United Cup in Sydney last week, the player launched her Adelaide campaign with a 6-2 7-5 win over Elena Rybakina, reports adelaideinternational.com.au.

It was a clash of two Wimbledon champions in South Australia, with Kvitova lifting trophies at the All England Club in 2011 and 2014, while Rybakina triumphed at The Championships last year. Another factor that favoured Rybakina, a player



from Kazakhstan, was her performance as runner-up to Ash Barty in Adelaide last year.

From the outset, however, it was Kvitova who competed with greater authority in the first-round encounter, the Czech claiming a service break in the sixth game to take control of the first set.

After a tighter second set, Kvitova closed out victory after an hour and 25 minutes to set up a second-round clash with the winner between Anett Kontaveit and Paula Badosa. Kvitova, the runner-up at Australian Open 2019, was equally grateful to return to a favourite setting in Australia. Currently ranked world No.16, Kvitova has claimed two of her 29 professional singles trophies in Sydney and noted that participating in the inaugural United Cup mixed teams tournament last week added to confidence, especially on Australia's hard courts.



WHY EDUCATION RELATED TO SEX SHOULD BE AN OPTION?

Rakul Preet asks if we talk about key health, mental health, and emotional health then why not about sexual health.

Team Absolute | Mumbai

The prettiest Rakul Preet Singh has been an actor on roll with interesting and variety of projects in her kitty in 2022. She always won the hearts of the audience with her charm in her films.

Recently the trailer of her upcoming romantic comedy 'Chhatriwali' has been released; she truly left everyone impressed by bringing a bold and mindful

topic to the screen.

Recently during the trailer launch event, Rakul was seen speaking about why she chose this topic. She said, "I think for me it's not about the subject being bold, I think the entire conversation is that it's not bold it is as normal as it can be and I am a believer that if we talk about key health, mental health, emotional health then why not about sexual health. You know 'It's not an option it is compulsory. I

truly believe this is the only thing we don't have an option in life so why education related to it should be an option and I think it's very important and it's a need of the hour."

She further added, I connected with the script so much that nobody has ever spoken about the effects of it on women's health like it's talking about abortion, miscarriages but can anyone of us tell how many abortions can a women's body take

and what are the ill effects and how does it traumatize women you know mentally, emotionally, physically and these are the conversations we need to have for a society to hope and to move forward, Right?"

Moreover, while concluding, the actress said, "So, yeah I just felt that this was something that I really connected with and hence the film. Whether it's bold or not but the thought is it should not be considered as a bold topic."

ANIL KAPOOR TO PLAY A POWERFUL 'PHILANTHROPIST' IN HIS UPCOMING MOVIE



Team Absolute | Mumbai

Bollywood actor Anil Kapoor will be seen essaying the role of a powerful philanthropist in the upcoming streaming show 'The Night Manager'. The show is a high-octane thriller wrapped in lavish drama and picturesque sights, and also stars Aditya Roy Kapur, Sobhita Dhulipala, Tillotama Shome, Saswata Chatterjee and Ravi Behl. Talking about how he came to be associated with the project, Anil said: "I have always loved working on differentiated content and characters. The first time I read the script, I just fell in love with the character of Shelly Rungta."

"Shelly is a powerful man, a philanthropist and a perfect balance of wit and evil with imperceptible menace just like the the show - a perfect blend of entertainment and great story-telling. I thoroughly enjoyed working with some of the finest from the industry."

'The Night Manager' has been created and directed by Sandeep Modi and co-directed by Priyanka Ghosh. Anil's co-actor, Aditya Roy Kapur, who plays the titular role in the show, said in a statement: "I have always wanted to perform a multi-layered character in a series with a complex narrative arc, and when the platform approached me to play the title role in 'The Night Manager', I knew this was just the one I'd been looking for." The series is produced by The Ink Factory and Banijay Asia and will release soon on Disney+ Hotstar.

RAASHII'S CHARACTER IN HER UPCOMING MOVIE IS 'A WOMAN OF SUBSTANCE'

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Actress Raashii Khanna is all geared up for her first pan-India release this year with Raj and DK's 'Farzi'. She said that her character is a "woman of substance" and a "proof of ardent feminism" the makers practice.

'Farzi' will be followed by her big Dharma Productions' debut 'Yodha'.

Revealing the first look of Raashii from Farzi, the makers introduce 'the woman in the man's world' of this original story of copying.

Beaming with confidence, class and power, Raashii Khanna exudes headstrong, boss lady vibes in the poster, stirring the excitement for her character.

Talking about the poster of Farzi, Raashii Khanna shared: "Farzi has been our labour of love and one of my most special roles in life. The poster perfectly tries to emulate the strength, power and confidence of my character, breaking her way as a woman holding her ground in a world dominated by men."

"She's a woman of substance and proof of the ardent feminism Raj and DK practise. I am excited to unravel the world of Farzi to the audience."



'These pictures made my day'

Sonu Sood feels 'humbled' as Army calls him 'real hero'



Team Absolute | Mumbai

Bollywood actor and humanitarian Sonu Sood said that he is humbled by the appreciation he received from the Indian Army. Sonu took to Instagram where he shared a slew of pictures of jawans in snow-capped mountains with "Real Hero Sonu Sood" written by hand in snow. Overwhelmed with love, Sonu captioned the image: "Somewhere in Himalayas."

"These pictures made my day. Humbled. My Inspiration Indian Army Indian army himalaya."

Sonu is known for helping those in need. From helping migrant workers during the Covid wave to medical arrangements amid the devastating pandemic, his work did not

get unnoticed. In September 2020, Sood was chosen for the 'SDG Special Humanitarian Action Award' by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) for his humanitarian works during the pandemic. On the Bollywood front, Sonu will next be seen in 'Fateh', which is inspired by real-life incidents and will feature high-octane action sequences.

The action-thriller is helmed by Abhinandan Gupta, who earlier worked as an assistant director on films such as 'Bajirao Mastani' and 'Shamshera'.

After 'Fateh', he will begin work on another movie 'Kisaan'.

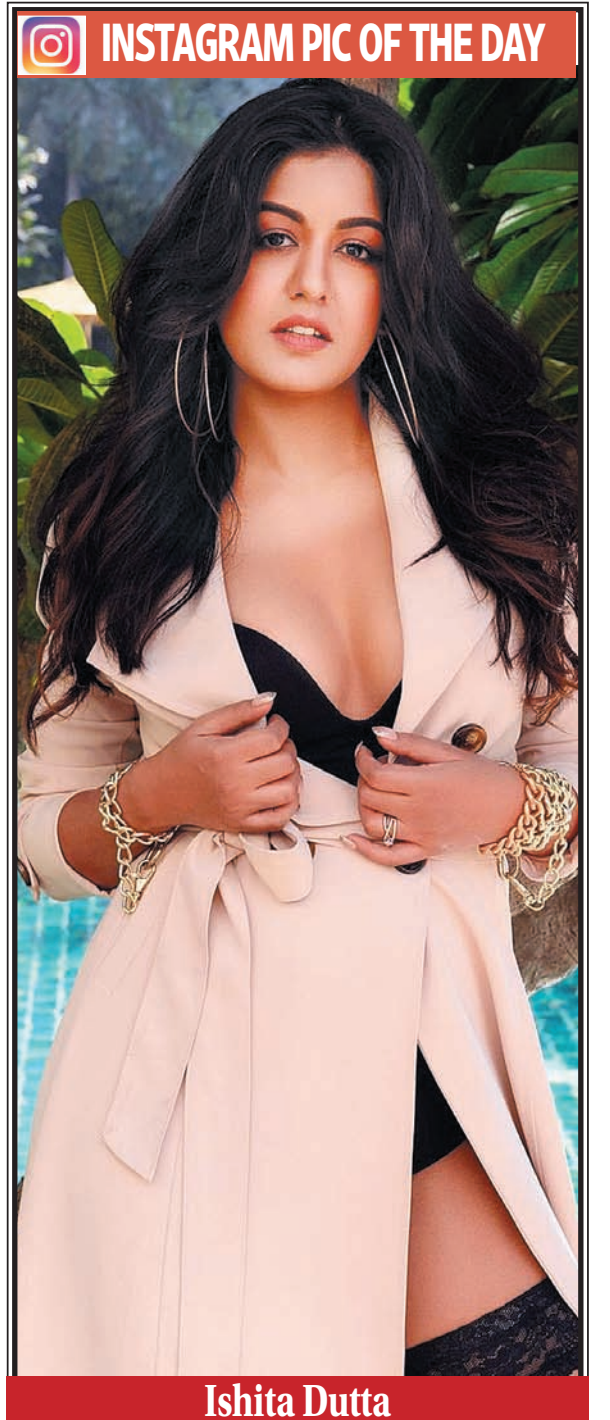
Team Absolute | Hyderabad

The makers of 'Project K' have been steadily raising the intrigue by releasing a series of enigmatic posters, one after the other. Recently, on occasion of Deepika Padukone's birthday, the makers unveiled her first look from the film that instantly broke the internet. The tantalising poster offered a glimpse of Deepika silhouetted by the setting sun, with the tagline: 'A Hope In the Dark'. Earlier, the makers unveiled pithy posters of Prabhas' and Amitabh Bachchan's characters. Each poster told its own story without giving away tell-all details about the Nag Ashwin directorial.

Prabhas' poster, for instance, showed just a futuristic hand with the words: "Heroes are not born, They Rise..." The motif of the victorious fist was also present in Big B's poster, which read, "Legends Are Immortal". The minimalist approach chosen by the makers is quite unique and interesting. Unlike other big-ticket pan-Indian films, where first looks and trailers are revealed full-scale, this hide-and-seek with the viewers' expectations has kept them invested. Fans have followed the breadcrumbs to string together fascinating theories about Project K's setting and plot. All of which, of course, has only intensified the aura and intrigue surrounding the upcoming film, a unit member said. Project K is Nag Ashwin's sci-fi film starring Prabhas, Deepika Padukone, Amitabh Bachchan and Disha Patani. The film is simultaneously being shot in Hindi and Telugu.



MAKERS OF THE PRABHAS AND DEEPIKA-STARRING FILM RAISE THE BAR FOR INTRIGUE



Ishita Dutta