

# absolute india

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## Court acts as protector & defender of fundamental rights and liberties: CJI

Addressing a programme to mark the 73rd anniversary of the establishment of the Supreme Court, the Chief Justice said: "If we peruse the history of this court, we realise that the history of the Supreme Court is the history of the daily life struggles of the Indian people." Citing the daily case mentioning list, he stressed that through these seemingly requests, one can sense the pulse of the nation.

Team Absolute | New Delhi

The Chief Justice of India (CJI), D.Y. Chandrachud said on Saturday that for the court, there are no big and small cases - every matter is important, and the court has sought to use the language of the Constitution to humanise law and act as the protector and defender of fundamental rights and liberties.



process. Psychiatric assessment of death row convicts is a humanising influence on the law. Thus, the court has sought to use the language of the Constitution to humanise law and act as the protector and defender of fundamental rights and liberties," he said, adding that the Supreme Court has made a constant endeavour to ensure access to justice for everyone.

Citing public interest litigation (PIL), he said anyone can approach the constitutional courts in India to seek redressal of a violation of the fundamental rights of any person.

"By doing so, the court opened its door to persons bereft of means to approach the courts because of their social and economic disadvantages. This has provided a space for citizens to converse with the state on equal terms. In turn, the court has been using its jurisdiction to make the 'rule of law' a daily reality for persons belonging to marginalised communities," the Chief Justice said.

He also said that in the recent Budget, the Centre has announced a provision of Rs 7,000 crore for Phase III of the e-Courts project.

said, adding that the Supreme Court serves the world's most populous democracy and is in true aspect a 'people's court' because it is a collective heritage of the citizens of India.

The Chief Justice added that the court has also ensured that the criminal justice administration is not de-linked from the framework of human rights.

He said, for instance, while the death penalty has been upheld to be legal, the Supreme Court laid down various mitigating and aggravating circumstances that a judge should take into account before awarding the death sentence.

"This ensures fairness in the

## Indians need to shun fear, come forward for early cancer screening: Doctors

- On the occasion of World Cancer Day, doctors said that most cancers can be cured and many can be controlled, particularly if they are identified and dealt with as soon as possible.
- About 83 per cent respondents attributed prolonged tobacco consumption, unhealthy and junk meals, and relevant family history to increased risk of cancer.
- Breast cancer is also very common among Indians. Early detection and screening can play a huge role in battling this cancer.
- The risk of breast cancer can be reduced by maintaining a healthy weight, avoiding poor lifestyle choices like alcohol and smoking while exercising regularly.



Team Absolute | New Delhi

In order to detect cancer at its earliest stage to prevent millions of untimely deaths worldwide, Indians need to shun fear and come forward for early screening if symptoms persist of any kind, healthcare providers said on Saturday.

"The mere mention of the word 'cancer' sends a shiver down the spine. The mental states of cancer patients and caregivers in such a situation

are beyond description," said Dr Sudarsan De, Director, Department of Radiation Oncology, Jaypee Hospital.

In a Fortis Hospital Mumbai study, 81 per cent respondents stated that fear of diagnosis was a major problem associated with early screening and timely intervention.

Dr Boman Dhabbar, Senior Consultant-Medical Oncology, Fortis Hospital, Mulund said access to care is a key aspect of this study.

"When it came to challenges faced by patients and their caregivers, the study found that 28 per cent respondents highlighted the need to build public awareness, 26 per cent respondents highlighted the need for affordable care and 15 per cent respondents highlighted the need to enable cancer care across all geographies," said Dr Dhabbar.

Dr Priya Eshpunyani, Consultant-Thoracic OncoSurgery, Hiranandani Hospital, Vashi, said that having a robust, during and post-treatment ecosystem is as important as getting diagnosed and treated on time.

"As patients and their caregivers continue to work towards completing treatment and returning to near normalcy, having an ecosystem that enables this progression is key. Healthcare organisations must make efforts to offer this support to patients," she added.

According to Dr Malay Nandy, Director, Department of Medical Oncology, Jaypee Hospital, cancer thrives on late presentation of the disease.



## Kiara and Siddharth arrive in Jaisalmer for their wedding

Jaipur | Agencies

The countdown to Kiara Advani-Siddharth Malhotra wedding has started, now that mehendi artist Veena Nagda has arrived in Jaisalmer from Mumbai to apply henna on the bride.

Earlier on Saturday, Siddharth arrived in Jaisalmer with his bride-to-be Kiara Advani in a chartered plane. They were accompanied by fashion designer Manish Malhotra. The functions related to their wedding will start from Sunday. Members of the families of the couple kept arriving throughout the day. The remaining guests and relatives will come on Sunday. Wedding arrangements have been made at The Suryagarh, a palace hotel in Jaisalmer.

## KASHMIRI YOUTH DRAWS PRAISE FOR SETTING UP LIBRARY-CUM-READING ROOM

Zubair Qureshi | Srinagar

While the youth of Jammu and Kashmir are showcasing their talent in different fields like art, sports and others, some are also striving for a better future for other youth like them.

A good example of this is Irfan Ali from Budgam district in central Kashmir, who has established a library-cum-reading room in the district at an individual level.

The establishment of such a library at an individual level is a first of its kind initiative, where all the necessary books and other resources are provided to the youth to shape their future, and to prepare for the competitive exams.

Irfan, who himself is a civil service aspirant, does not want to let other aspir-



ing youngsters face the difficulties he faced in preparing for competitive exams.

"I don't want other aspirants to miss out on the guidance and proper counselling which were not available to me. Due to lack of resources, I could not prepare properly. So I took this initiative so that the other youth can prepare better for the competitive exams," he said.

Irfan got the inspiration for this initiative during his stay in Delhi where he

went for coaching in 2019 after receiving a scholarship from the Zakat Foundation of India.

"During the few months I spent in Delhi, I saw beautiful libraries where all the necessary materials were available to prepare for competitive exams. So I was inspired to start a similar library in my own hometown where the youth could study. The idea was to help those who cannot afford books or other study materials,"

Irfan said.

The year after he returned from Delhi, Irfan started his library from a small rented room in his hometown, where he got good response from the students. As the number of visitors grew, Irfan shifted to a bigger complex.

At present, the library consists of individual single cabins for reading purposes and has more than 300 books of UPSC alone. According to Irfan, he had to take a loan to fulfil his dream.

"I have named the set up 'Iqra Library-cum-Study Hall', and its salient features include IAS, KAS, JKSSB, SSC, NEET, JEE, and GATE materials. The library provides students with free books, study materials, notes, and daily newspapers, among others," Irfan said.

## ILT20: Naman Ojha to replace Dinesh Chandimal in Desert Vipers squad

Dubai | Agencies

Former India wicketkeeper-batsman Naman Ojha has been drafted into the Desert Vipers squad for the ongoing ILT20 in the UAE as a replacement for Sri Lanka batter Dinesh Chandimal. Chandimal will be leaving ILT20 as he has been called up for domestic duty by the Sri Lanka Cricket (SLC). Ojha is expected to join the squad on February 5, ahead of the Vipers' first playoff game, on February 8 in Dubai. "We're sorry that we're losing Chandimal; although he didn't play, he was a superb influence around the squad and provided great backup to Sam Billings; we're delighted to get Naman in as his replacement."

"He's a player who's played at the top level, has played high-level franchise cricket in the IPL and he's someone I have worked with at Hyderabad, so I know his qualities. He will be a terrific addition to the squad as we move to the business end of the DP World ILT20," said Tom Moody, Director



of Cricket, Desert Vipers, in a statement. Ojha began his cricket career playing for the Madhya Pradesh side in 2000-01 as a 17-year-old, and he has represented India in one Test (2015 against Sri Lanka), an ODI and two T20Is. In the Indian domestic circuit, Ojha has played 146 First Class matches, 143 List A and 182 T20 games, with impressive tallies of 9,753, 4,278 and 2,972 runs respectively. He has played for Hyderabad Sunrisers, Rajasthan Royals and Delhi Daredevils (now Delhi Capitals) in the IPL.

Following a successful two-decade-long domestic career, Ojha retired from all forms of cricket in 2021 to explore opportunities in global franchise leagues.

# 'The first step is crucial for everyone'

## INDIA'S YOUNGEST EVERESTER POORNA MALAVATH

Thiruvananthapuram | Agencies

Taking the first step is very important and one should have the courage to move away from one's comfort zone, said mountaineer Poorna Malavath, the youngest Indian to climb Mount Everest.

On 25 May 2014, Poorna climbed the Mount Everest aged 13 years and 11 months to become the youngest Indian and the youngest female to have reached the summit. Poorna also climbed Mount Elbrus, the highest peak in Europe in July 2017.

Speaking at the Mathrubhumi International Festival of Letters (MBIFL 2023) here, the climber from Telangana recalled her jour-



ney to the top of the world. Poorna said she had no idea about mountain climbing when she grew up in

Pakala in Telangana, which was part of Andhra Pradesh when she was born. "My village was so remote

that even to get a matchbox, we had to travel 7 km to the nearest shop. The nearest hospital was 60 km from my

village," she said.

Poorna recalled that the first rock climbing training had her literally shivering when one of the participants from her group fell down and suffered head injury which needed medical attention.

But the successful completion made her determined to continue her journey in adventure sports.

"Many people were questioning me about my choice and they were wondering why anyone, let alone a girl, would want to go climbing mountains. For them, a girl was supposed to go to school for a while, then get married and settle down," she said.

The champion climber, who features in the elite group of climbers to conquer the seven summits (seven highest peaks across the

globe), said her decision to continue despite the scary rock climbing training she got initially changed her life trajectory.

"At 13, I decided to pursue rock climbing and here I am, standing in front of you as a postgraduate who has climbed Mt Everest and the seven summits. My friend who got married at 13 now sends her children to the same school where we studied together," she said.

Poorna said she got her parents to support her passion by instilling confidence in them about her ability and seriousness.

Poorna, who was listed on the Forbes India list of self-made women in 2020, said she plans to personally help anyone who wants to know about adventure sports.

## WhatsApp may soon let users pin messages within chats, group

San Francisco: Meta-owned messaging platform WhatsApp is reportedly working on a new feature which will allow users to pin messages within chats and groups.

The feature is useful as it will allow users to pin important messages to the top of the chat, reports WABetaInfo.

If a message is pinned and the recipient is using an old version of the application, then the app will show a message in the conversation to ask to upgrade to the latest version available on the store.

Moreover, pinned messages will improve organisation in the groups which receive a lot of messages, by allowing users to easily access important messages.

The ability to pin messages within chats and groups is currently under development and is expected to be released in a future update of the application, the report said.

On Thursday, it was reported that the messaging platform was working on a new feature which will allow users to create calling shortcuts.

The feature will be helpful for users who frequently make calls to the same person and do not want to go through the same process again-and-again, that is, opening the application and searching for the contact every time.





# DELHI CM AGAIN APPEALS L-G TO ALLOW TEACHERS TO VISIT FINLAND FOR TRAINING

Team Absolute | New Delhi

Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal on Saturday made a fresh appeal to Lt Governor V.K. Saxena to allow Delhi government schools' teachers to go to Finland for the training.

After Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann flagged off the first batch of 36 state government school principals for a visit to Singapore for training, Kejriwal in a tweet requested Saxena to allow Delhi's teachers to go to Finland for training.

Sharing the tweet of Punjab CM, Kejriwal said, "The first batch of 36 principals from Punjab has left for Singapore today for training. This is for the better future of the children of Punjab. I request LG Sahib, let the teachers of Delhi also go to Finland for training. Why do you hate the teachers and children of Delhi so much?"

Meanwhile, Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia had also on Thursday said that LG Saxena should not stop Delhi government school teachers from going to Finland on a training programme by unconstitu-



tionally misusing the law.

"Because of the unconstitutional power given to the LG by the central government of BJP, the Delhi government is not able to send its teachers for training abroad. If the teachers have to be sent abroad for training, then the consent of the LG is not

required, but due to the unconstitutional amendments made in GNCTD Act by the Central Government, the LG is stalling everything," Sisodia had told in a Press briefing.

Delhi CM made a series of tweets on several issues on Saturday. In another tweet, he accused the BJP

government at the Centre of 'fighting with everyone' including states, judges, farmers as well as traders.

Citing a news report on the collegium system of appointment of judges, Kejriwal tweeted in Hindi, "Why does the central government fight with everyone? With judges, Supreme Court, state governments, farmers and traders? The country will not progress by fighting with everyone. Do your job and let others do theirs. Don't interfere in other's work."

The Centre on Friday had informed the Supreme Court that the collegium's recommendations for five new judges would soon be appointed.

In another tweet, Kejriwal lashed out at the Centre for the poor allocation of funds to the Delhi Government.

Sharing news that Taliban welcomes Indian Budget 2023-24, Delhi Chief Minister said, "Is it right to give funds to Taliban by cutting the funds of education, health and Delhi in our country? People are strongly opposing it."

# Piyush Goyal 'avoids' questions on graft allegations against BJP govt in K'taka

Bengaluru | Agencies

Union Minister for Commerce and Industry, Piyush Goyal on Saturday did not provide straight answers to the questions posed by the media about graft allegations against the BJP-led government in Karnataka, including the much-discussed "40 per cent commission charges".

Goyal ducked questions on corruption by mediapersons, stating the matter could be discussed later and "it is time to discuss the Budget".

However, he said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi has decided to end corruption in the country. "Any allegation on the government will be probed. PM Modi will initiate action on 40 per cent commission charges. He has decided to bring the BJP back to power in Karnataka," the Minister said.

"We will not let corruption be practiced in the state. The people will not bother about the propaganda by the Congress party. The people will give BJP power in the upcoming assembly elections. The cabinet expansion is left to the CM Basavaraj Bommai," he maintained. Talking about the collapse of shares in the Adani group, Goyal said that the share market regulatory authorities will look into the matter. The SBI and LIC have given their opinion already and stated that their investments are intact. He refused to comment on whether the issue of collapse of shares by the Adani group is being used to target PM Modi. Commenting on rumours of former CM



B.S. Yediyurappa being snubbed, he maintained that Yediyurappa is the supreme and senior leader in the party. He is also a member of the Central Parliamentary Committee.

"He will play an important role in all decisions of the party. The party is treating him with all respect and dignity presently and he will be treated the same in the future also. The elections will be fought under his guidance," he stated.

# Gambling syndicate busted in Dwarka, 17 including kingpin held

Team Absolute | New Delhi

In a major breakthrough, Delhi Police have arrested 17 gamblers, including the kingpin of a gambling syndicate in Dwarka, and recovered around Rs 3.95 lakh from their possession, an officer said on Saturday.

A team from the Bindapur police station received specific inputs regarding some gang members, who used to gather at a house in Vani Vihar and indulge in gambling.

"On February 2, a police team raided the house following which a total of 17 gamblers were apprehended. They were found making bets on playing cards," said Manoj C., Deputy Commissioner of



Police (Dwarka).

"A case under Sections 3/4/9/55 of the Gambling Act has been registered at the Bindapur police station and all the accused have been placed under arrest," said the DCP, adding that Rs 3,95,000 in cash was recovered from

the spot.

On investigation, it was revealed that the kingpin, Manoj Jindal, ran a stationery shop at Vikas Nagar where he suffered huge losses and in order to recover the same, he started an illegal gambling racket at his residence.

# WOMAN DRUG PEDDLER HELD, HEROIN WORTH RS 5 LAKH SEIZED

Team Absolute | New Delhi

Delhi Police have arrested an active woman drug peddler in North Delhi and recovered 44 grams of heroin worth Rs 5 lakh in international market from her possession, said an official on Saturday.

The accused identified as Kiran (40), a resident of Aruna Nagar, Majnu Ka Tila is also found previously involved in conspiracy of a gang rape case registered in Civil Lines police station.

Police said that she used to bully locals and no one dared to give information about her to police.

"We had launched a special drive against the active drug peddlers especially in the area of Majnu Ka Tilla, to break the chain of drug supply. A team was working relentlessly and developing information about drug peddlers when some inputs about Kiran, engaged in drug peddling, was received," said Sagar Singh Kalsi,



Deputy Commissioner of Police (north).

"But despite best efforts, she could not be nailed down, due to extra precautions taken by her. The team

relentlessly kept looking for the right opportunity to nab her. Local people were afraid of giving any information about her misdeeds because she belongs to the Sansi community and

used to bully and threaten the locals for passing information about her misdeeds," said the DCP.

However, on February 3 at 04:00 p.m., Kiran while carrying 44 grams heroin in one black colour polythene bag was nabbed.

During interrogation, Kiran disclosed that she used to purchase the contraband drugs from a person known as Achhu who meets her in the area of Bhajanpura, Delhi on a regular basis. "She takes the stock of contraband drugs i.e heroin/smack after paying Rs 5,000 per pack of five grams. She used to make small packets and then she sold the same to the drug addicts of the local areas for Rs 300 to earn easy money," said the official. Police raids were conducted at the possible whereabouts of the main supplier of contraband drugs, but he was found absconding.

"Efforts are being made to nab him and to ascertain the role of others in this racket," the official added.

# Chennai-based Pharma company recalls eye drops from US market after 55 adverse cases

Chennai | Agencies

A Chennai-based company has recalled its eye drops from the US market after a US government agency has informed the company that several adverse events had taken place, probably due to the usage of the eye drops.

The US government agency Centre for Disease Control and Prevention said there were 55 adverse cases including eye infections, permanent loss of vision and one death due to a blood stream infection. Five people turned completely blind on using the eye drops.

Global Health pharma's product lubricant eye drops distributed by Ezicare, LLC and Delsam Pharma in the US was being investigated by the Centre for Disease Control and Prevention. However, the eye drops are not sold in India.



The US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) had instructed doctors and consumers not to purchase the product from the market

and warned those who have already purchased not to use it. The warning issued by the FDA read, "Using contaminated artificial tears increases

risk of eye infections that could result in blindness and death."

The company has now been placed on the US FDA's import alert list that is aimed at preventing the company's products from further entering the US.

The FDA has also stated that it had recommended the recall of the drug from the market due to manufacturing violations of the company that include lack of appropriate microbial testing, formulation issues and lack of proper controls regarding tamper-evident packaging.

After the US FDA had issued the warning, a group of drug inspectors from the Union government and Tamil Nadu government conducted an inspection at the company premises which is 40 km south of Chennai.

However, the company authorities did not speak to the media even after repeated questions.

# Another video of Bihar IAS officer hurling abuses goes viral

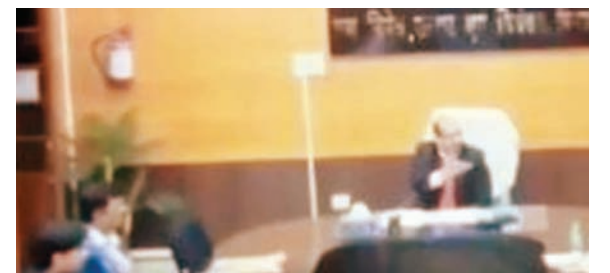
Patna | Agencies

Another video of senior IAS officer and additional chief secretary of liquor prohibition department went viral on social media on Saturday in which he can be seen hurling abuses at his juniors during a meeting.

In the latest video, he can be seen abusing the officers of Bihar state cooperative department. The words used by him in a meeting were extremely objectionable.

He can be seen saying that the officers don't work till the time they "listen abusive words" (are abused).

During the meeting, Pathak lose his cool and said: "Remove all cooperatives, I will distribute fertilisers and other equipment on my



own."

He can be heard abusing common people of the state.

Earlier on Thursday, a video surfaced on social media where Pathak abused some IAS officers during the meeting of liquor prohibition department. He also abused the officials of Bihar Administrative Service Association (BASA) officials as well. Basa had also registered an FIR against Pathak in Secretariat police station

on Thursday.

Following the rude behaviour of Pathak, he faced criticism from all sections.

Even Chief Minister Nitish Kumar took cognisance of the matter and directed the authority for the investigation against him. Deputy Chief Minister Tejashwi Yadav also slammed him for his unparliamentary behaviour with junior officers. Pathak, however, apologised for his behaviour later on.

# Congress in Kerala says 'no' to hartal

Thiruvananthapuram | Agencies

In a major move, the Congress in Kerala on Saturday announced that they will no longer call for hartals (shutdown) in the state.

Kerala Pradesh Congress Committee (KPCC) Sudhakaran was responding to a question whether his party will call for a day-long shutdown in the state to protest the Rs 2 cess on petrol and diesel imposed in the budget announced on Friday by Finance Minister K.N. Balagopal.

"Even without hartals, protests can be registered. From now on, our party will not call for hartals," he said.

"We are now going to go forward organising massive protests across the state against the state budget and we will not call hartals again," added Sudhakaran.

Incidentally, shut downs in Kerala are the biggest weapon used by political parties. When a bandh call is given by practically any political party, the state comes to a standstill and public vehicles and shops fail to do business.

And this is a phenomenon limited to just



Kerala as in the past when nationwide protests are called, barring Kerala, in the rest of the place normal life is rarely disrupted.

One of the reasons why the Congress has decided against hartals is the Kerala High Court's order last month directing attaching assets of the Popular Front of India activists.

The PFI members were arrested for going on a rampage on September 23 in a flash shutdown called by them after the Centre banned them.

# Grenade blast near Sunny Leone's fashion show venue in Imphal

Imphal | Agencies

Imphal: A powerful hand grenade exploded on Saturday in Imphal's Hapta Kangjeibung where a fashion show is expected to be held with actress Sunny Leone in attendance, police said.

There were no reports of any injuries, the police said, adding that it suspected underground militants to be behind the blast.

The explosion occurred only 100 metres from the venue of Sunday's fashion show.

No militant outfit or individual has claimed responsibility so far. A case was lodged at the Porompat police station. The fashion show was planned to promote Manipur's handlooms, khadi products and tourism.

# Naga body withdraws Feb 27 Nagaland polls boycott call

Kohima | Agencies

The influential Naga body Eastern Nagaland People's Organisation (ENPO) on Saturday withdrew its call to boycott the February 27 Assembly polls.

The boycott call was withdrawn after the ENPO received an assurance from the Central government regarding its demand for a separate 'Frontier Nagaland' state.

ENPO secretary W. Manwang Konyak told reporter that the organisation has withdrawn the boycott call after getting an assurance from the Central government that its separate 'Frontier Nagaland' state demand would be considered.

Union Home Minister Amit Shah expressed his happiness over the ENPO's decision to withdraw the boycott call.

He tweeted: "I am grateful for their positive gesture reaffirming ENPO's commitment to democratic processes. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has made untiring efforts to assure the people of northeast that the government is with them and the ENPO's move is an approval of these endeavours." "It is heartening that in an expression of trust in the Modi government, the Eastern Nagaland Peoples Organisation (ENPO) in Nagaland has withdrawn its call to boycott the assembly elections. The decision will help in keeping the ongoing process of peace & development unhindered," Shah said in a separate tweet. In January, the Eastern Nagaland Legislators' Union (ENLU), comprising Ministers, MLAs and Advisors to various departments, announced that it has decided to participate in the elections.



Immediately, after the announcement of the schedule of assembly polls in three northeastern states by the Election Commission, the influential Konyak Union also had rejected the state government's appeal, and reiterated to boycott the February 27 elections until the Central government grants the demand for a separate 'Frontier Nagaland' state.

“ It always seems impossible until it's done. ”



Nelson Mandela

## PM MODI TOPS LIST OF MOST POPULAR GLOBAL LEADER

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has been pegged as the world's most popular leader with an approval rating of 78 per cent as per a survey by a US-based consulting firm 'Morning Consult.' As per the rating, PM Modi's ratings trump those of other leaders including US President Joe Biden, French President Emmanuel Macron and UK Prime Minister Rishi Sunak. The poll surveyed 22 global leaders for the ratings.

Team Absolute | New Delhi

The "Global Leader Approval" survey is based on data collected from January 26-31 this year, said the Political Intelligence research firm which collated a seven-day moving average of adult residents in each country, with sample sizes varying by country. PM Modi garnered 78 per cent of approval ratings, way ahead of US President Joe Biden, who received 40 per cent ratings. Mexican President Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador came in second with 68 per cent ratings and Swiss President Alain Berset occupied the third position with 62 per cent approval rating.

The year 2022 has been a phenomenal year in the history of India's foreign policy, under Prime Minister Narendra Modi whose advice "this is not an era of war" to Russian President Vladimir Putin found an echo around the world.

The Russia-Ukraine war has put the world on the brink of World War



III, with every country choosing sides. However, PM Modi put his faith in United Nations and chose the side of peace, asking both countries to solve the problem through "dialogue and diplomacy."

In September, on the sidelines of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization Summit, PM Modi said,

"now is not the time for war" -- a statement welcomed by the US and other Western countries.

India's strategy in a multipolar world appears to be avoiding great-power competition and forging its own, nonaligned path.

According to the data shared on the the US-tracking firm's website, 78

per cent of people approve of PM Modi while 18 per cent disapprove of him. PM Modi's approval rating has recently increased, standing at 79 per cent in the third week of January.

The list is updated regularly with US President Joe Biden currently ranking number seven. Out of the 22 countries, Norwegian Prime Minister Jonas Gahr Store, South Korean President Yoon Seok-young and Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida ranked among the last three in the list.

The newly elected far-right leader Giorgia Meloni of Italy, the first female Prime Minister of the country is placed in 6th place with 52 per cent ratings.

The survey also featured Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese in 4th place with a 58 per cent approval rating. Brazil's newly elected President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva was placed at number 5 with 50 per cent ratings, the Canadian Prime Minister was at number 9th position with 40 per cent approvals and UK's Prime Minister Rishi Sunak was in 12th position with 30 per cent approvals.

## Centre notifies appointment of 5 new judges to Supreme Court



Team Absolute | New Delhi

Amid the long-drawn tussle between the Centre and the judiciary over appointment of judges, the Centre on Saturday cleared the names of five judges for appointment to the Supreme Court.

On December 13, 2022, a statement uploaded on the apex court website had said: "The Supreme Court collegium in its meeting held on December 13 has resolved to recommend elevation of the following chief justices/judges of the high courts as judges in the Supreme Court: Justice Pankaj Mithal, Chief Justice, Rajasthan High Court (parent high court (PHC): Allahabad); Justice Sanjay Karol, Chief Justice, Patna High Court (PHC: Himachal Pradesh); Justice PV. Sanjay Kumar, Chief Justice, Manipur High Court (PHC: Telangana); Justice Ahsanuddin Amanullah, Judge, Patna High Court; and Justice Manoj Misra, Judge, Allahabad High Court."

The Centre has now notified all the above five names as judges to the apex court.

The Supreme Court collegium is headed by Chief Justice D.Y. Chandrachud. The top court has a sanctioned strength of 34 judges and is presently functioning with 27 judges. Thus, there are seven clear vacancies.

On Friday, Attorney General R. Venkataramani had informed a bench comprising justices Sanjay Kishan Kaul and Abhay S. Oka that the names of the five judges will be cleared very soon.

The Supreme Court had warned the Centre over the delay in clearing the transfer of high court judges recommended by the apex court collegium, saying it may result in both administrative and judicial actions which may not be palatable.

The bench had said, "Don't make us take a stand which will be very uncomfortable," adding that if transfer of judges is kept pending, it becomes a serious issue.

## MORBI BRIDGE COLLAPSE

### Section of Patidar community throws weight behind Orega's MD

Team Absolute | Rajkot

Umiyadham Sidsar, a section of Patidar community, has pledged its support to Orega Group's Managing Director Jaysukh Patel in the 'Morbi bridge collapse case.'

Jaysukh Patel is the prime accused in the Morbi suspension bridge collapse accident, in which 132 persons, including 35 children had lost their lives. Police in its charge sheet, filed before a court on January 27 had named him as prime accused.

Patel surrendered before the court on January 31, and was sent to judicial custody. On Wednesday, the First Class Judicial Magistrate court granted his police remand till February 8.

On February 4, The Umiya Sidsar trustees issued an open letter addressing the community members



defending Jaysukh Patel. According to the appeal, "Jaysukh Patel is a 'Bhamasa', who had taken up the suspension bridge repair work as a social responsibility. He did not have any commercial interest and knew that he was not going to recover the full cost incurred in repairs work."

The appeal further states, if such people, who have only worked for society's development are harassed, no entrepreneur will come forward

for social cause. Former BJP MLA Bavanji Metaliya has extended his support to Jaysukh Patel accusing the social media of portraying him in a bad light. "I stand with Umiya Sidsar trusts' decision to extend support to Jaysukh Patel. Let the law take its own course, but we condemn all comments made on social media against Jaysukhbhai. To protect the Morbi's heritage, he had taken the responsibility of bridge repair work."

## FAMOUS SINGER VANI JAYARAM PASSES AWAY

Chennai: Days after her

fans celebrated the President conferring the Padma Bhushan on noted singer Vani Jayaram, she passed away at her home in Chennai. She was 78 years old. The cause of her death is not yet known.

One of the immortal voices of the South Indian film industry, Vani Jayaram rendered songs in 19 languages. She was living at her Haddows Road home in Chennai. Her husband Jayaram passed away in 2018. Since then, she had been living alone.

Vani Jayaram won three National Awards and sang more than 10,000 songs in 19 languages, including in Tamil, Malayalam, Telugu, Kannada, Hindi, Gujarati, Odia, Marathi, Haryanvi, Assamese, Tulu and Bengali.



## Abducted Kashmiri businessman rescued from Punjab

New Delhi | Agencies

A 40-year-old Kashmiri businessman, who was abducted by his two business partners from Delhi's Kashmiri Gate area, was rescued from Punjab, an official said on Saturday.

After six hours, Delhi Police along with its counterpart Punjab Police managed to rescue the victim and nabbed the kidnapers from Phagwara in Punjab.

The accused have been identified as Nishar Ahmad (48) and Imtiaz Ahmad (48) --both residents of village Pahroo Navgav, district Budgam in Jammu and Kashmir. Deputy Commissioner of Police (north), Sagar Singh Kalsi, said that on Friday, a Police Control Room (PCR) call was received at Kashmiri Gate police station regarding the kidnapping of a man from the area.

"The call was received from a Kashmir-based number and on initial enquiry, it was revealed that two Kashmiris have abducted one man from Hare Rama Travels in the area. The CCTV footage near the travel agency was analysed and it was revealed that the accused abducted Sayad Tarikh in a taxi," said the DCP.

"A case under relevant sections of Indian Penal Code was registered and after scanning CCTV footages, it was found that the taxi-swift dzire -- is going towards Kashmir through G.T. Karnal Road. The police teams

tasked with investigation immediately chased and a W.T. message was also flashed subsequently to police of Haryana and Punjab," said the DCP.

The taxi was intercepted at Phagwara, with the help of Punjab Police and the victim was safely rescued from the clutches of the accused.

During interrogation, it was revealed that both the victim and the accused are business partners and there is a monetary dispute of Rs 55 lakh between them.

"The victim was not in a position to repay his debt. When the victim opposed paying his debt, both the accused threatened to kill him and asked him to quietly go with them to Jammu and Kashmir and if he spoke to someone in-between, his dead body would not be found," said the official.

"The duo accused was planning to recover Rs 55 lakh from the family members of the victim after the abduction. The accused also impersonated police officers before the taxi driver who was hired by them," said the official.



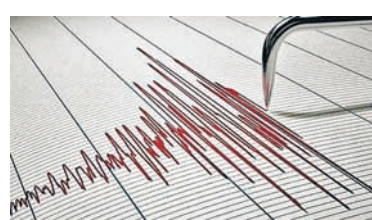
## 4 WOMEN DIE IN TN STAMPEDE DURING FREE DISTRIBUTION OF SAREES



Chennai: Four women died in a stampede at Vaniyambadi in Tamil Nadu where a private organisation was distributing free sarees as part of the Thaipooym festival celebrations.

Police said that around 1,000 women reached the place where the sarees were being distributed. A stampede ensued leading to many women getting injured. Several women were admitted to a hospital in Vaniyambadi Taluk and four of them, who were serious, died in the hospital. Many of the injured are serious. Police have commenced an investigation. Further details are awaited.

## EARTHQUAKE OF MAGNITUDE 4.0 HITS MANIPUR'S UKHRUL



Imphal: An earthquake of magnitude 4.0 on the Richter scale hit Manipur's Ukhrul district on Saturday morning, the National Centre of Seismology (NCS) said.

According to National Center for Seismology, the earthquake occurred at 6.14am with a depth of 10 km. No casualties were reported.

"Earthquake of Magnitude: 4.0, Occurred on 04-02-2023, 06:14:55 IST, Latitude: 25.13 & Longitude: 94.67, Depth: 10 km, location: Ukhrul, Manipur, India," NCS said in a tweet.

Earlier, a magnitude 3.2 struck parts of western Uttar Pradesh and Haryana on Friday night. With its epicenter in Shamli, the quake hit the region at 9.31pm, the nodal agency for monitoring earthquake activity in the country said. Earlier, an earthquake of magnitude 3.2 struck parts of Haryana and western Uttar Pradesh on Friday night.

## Obesity can lead to 13 different types of cancer: Experts

Team Absolute | Bengaluru

Obesity can lead to the development of 13 different types of cancer, experts said, adding people with obesity or severe obesity are 1.5 to 4 times at risk of developing cancer in organs like oesophagus, stomach, liver, pancreas, colorectal, gallbladder, kidney, and thyroid.

Tausif Ahmed Thangalvadi, Medical Director at NURA, a collaboration between Fujifilm Healthcare and Kutty's Healthcare offering AI-enabled imaging in Bengaluru, highlighted key findings from a working group document of the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) on the occasion of World Cancer Day. Research has shown that obese women also face the impact of reproductive organ cancers like endometrial (4-7 times the risk compared to non-obese women), breast cancer (1.5 times) and ovarian cancer (1.1 times). Breast cancer and colorectal cancer are the most common obesity related cancers in women and men, respectively, with 30 per cent higher risk compared to non-obese people. A 2019 study found that obesity related cancers accounted for nearly 4 per cent of the global burden of cancers, Thangalvadi said.



As per Unicef's World Obesity Atlas 2022, India is predicted to have 2.7 crore children with obesity by 2030, he said.

Thangalvadi said: "There are many ways in which obesity can increase the risk of cancer. Fat tissue in the human body releases excess levels of oestrogen, which in women leads to

an increased risk of breast, endometrial, and ovarian cancer. High levels of insulin and insulin-like growth factor (IGF-1) in obese people increases risk of colorectal, kidney and prostate cancer. Obesity also leads to chronic inflammation and oxidative stress on tissues, further increasing the risk of cancer."

## Delhi court discharges Sharjeel Imam in 2019 Jamia violence case

New Delhi | Agencies

Delhi Court on Saturday discharged former Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) student Sharjeel Imam and co-accused Asif Iqbal Tanha in a case related to the incidents of violence at Jamia Millia Islamia University in December, 2019.

The violence had erupted after a clash between Police and people protesting against the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA).

Additional Sessions Judge of Saket court, Arul Verma passed the order.

Both Imam and Tanha were charged under multiple Sections of the Indian Penal Code related to rioting and unlawful assembly.

The court framed charges



of unlawful assembly and rioting against one of the co-accused named Mohammed Ilyas.

However, Imam, who is also an accused under Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA) in the conspiracy case related to the 2020 North-East Delhi riots case, will remain in custody.

A detailed order is awaited.



# WILL MAKE DEVELOPMENT A MASS MOVEMENT WITH THE HELP OF YOUTH POWER: CHIEF MINISTER

Facilities will be given to the students of social work course and honorarium will also be given for the evaluation of the schemes. Jan Abhiyan Parishad will be the nodal agency of the Community Leadership Development Program. Selected students will get the opportunity to participate in the schemes. Community engagement and internship project will be arranged. State-Level Community Leadership Youth Samagam

Team Absolute | Bhopal

Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan has said that nation's upliftment is possible only through village upliftment. It is necessary to make development a mass movement. Will work together with youth power to make Madhya Pradesh self-reliant. The youth have to take the responsibility of changing the lives of the people. If there is passion, stubbornness and passion, then no work is impossible. The public should get the benefit of the leadership potential of the youth. The youth who have completed the leadership training course will work to take the schemes of the government to the public. Youth associated with Madhya Pradesh Jan Abhiyan Parishad have done wonderful work in various fields. He is expected to play such a role in the future as well. Various facilities will also be provided to the youth associated with the Community Leadership Training Program.

**Major announcements**  
Chief Minister Chouhan today said at the Community Leadership Youth Samagam under the Chief Minister's Community Leadership Capacity Development Program (CMCLDP) at Bhopal's Jambore Ground that the Jan Abhiyan Parishad will be the



nodal agency for the community leadership training programme. This course will be considered at par with the students of other regular courses of the government. The students of this course will get the benefit of schemes of higher education and other departments. In order to ensure public participation in the schemes of the selected students of the Community Leadership Training Scheme, arrangements will be made for community engagement/internship projects in the concerned departments. Students will be authorized to evaluate the schemes of the government. There will also be a system of honorarium for them.

**MP is ahead of all, the budget will cross Rs 3 lakh crore**  
Mentioning the development of Madhya Pradesh, Chief Minister Chouhan said that the state's growth rate is 19.7 percent, which is more than all other states. It is mentioned in the report of the Government of India. The budget of Madhya Pradesh which used to be 10 to 20 thousand crores, is now going to exceed 3 lakh crores. The per capita income in the state has increased from Rs 13 thousand to Rs one lakh 37 thousand. The contribution of Madhya Pradesh in the country's economy has increased.

A miracle has happened in the agriculture sector also in terms of production.  
**Youth have hope**  
Chief Minister Chouhan said that the general public should get the benefits of the schemes under the leadership of the youth. Swami Vivekananda considered 100 energetic youths necessary for development. We have more than 22 thousand energetic youth, who will get involved in the development of the society by taking leadership training. The Chief Minister said that pride day is being celebrated in every village and city. Citizens of Madhya Pradesh are coming forward. Everyone is involved in some or the other creative work. These include the work of planting saplings, adopting schools, anganwadi centers and hostels and improving the arrangements there.  
Chief Minister Chouhan inaugurated the community leadership youth gathering by lighting the lamp. He also inaugurated the newly created Learning Management Portal and Student App <http://cmcldp.mpjpmis.org/> by CRISP. Crisp's MD Dr. Shrikant Patil told that all the students will come on one platform through the portal. E-library is also available on the portal. Bhopal Mayor Malti Rai was present.

# Digvijaya Singh gets bail in defamation case filed by BJP

Team Absolute | Bhopal

A special court on Saturday granted bail to Congress Rajya Sabha member Digvijaya Singh in a defamation case filed by a BJP leader whom he had accused of being involved in the Vyapam scam that rocked Madhya Pradesh in 2013.  
The court dealing with cases against MPs and MLAs granted relief to the Congress leader in the defamation case filed in 2014, Singh's lawyer Ajay Gupta said. Singh had been asked to appear in the court.  
The Vyapam scam relates to alleged manipulation in the selection process for government colleges and jobs conducted by the then Madhya Pradesh Vyavsayik Pariksha Mandal (Vyapam), a professional exam board. It involved the alleged impersonation of candidates, rampant copying and other malpractices.  
Talking to reporters later, an undeterred Singh said he faces cases in four states.  
"The court has granted bail to me. I have written all these letters (waving papers) in 2014-15... Our demand for a CBI investigation (in Vyapam scam) was accepted. The Shivraj Singh Chouhan government of MP has so far not taken any action against the (Vyapam) accused. They are still living in government accommodations," he said. Singh accused the present BJP government headed by Chouhan of



indulging in corruption through "middlemen".  
BJP's current state president VD Sharma had filed a defamation case in 2014 after Singh accused him of being involved in the Vyapam scam.  
Sharma on Saturday said that in his defamation case, the court in December 2022 had ordered the registration of a criminal case (under IPC section 500) against Singh.  
Sharma expressed surprise that Singh was boasting that he faces cases in four states.  
"Madhya Pradesh was a BIMARU (backward) state under Digvijaya Singh before

2003. Chouhan is working for the welfare of the poor and developing the state. We don't want to use the words people use for the Congress leader (Singh). The entire country knows who the middlemen are," Sharma said.  
Sharma also accused Singh of questioning the Army, a reference to the latter's recent remarks questioning the authenticity of India's surgical strike across the Line of Control in 2016.  
The CBI had taken over the investigation into the Vyapam scam following the Supreme Court's order in 2015. The Vyapam is now named MP Employees Selection Board.

# "Ladli Bahna Yojana" will bring happiness in the lives of women: Agriculture Minister

Team Absolute | Bhopal

Farmers-Welfare and Agriculture Development Minister Kamal Patel on Saturday inaugurated 2 cc worth Rs. 12 lakh in village Sontalai of Harda. Performed Bhoomi Poojan for construction of road and a roof platform costing Rs. 2 lakh. He said that the State Government has decided to implement "Ladli Bahna Yojana" on the lines of "Ladli Laxmi Yojana", which would bring prosperity in the lives of women.



said that the government will deposit Rs. 1000 per month in the bank accounts of poor and middle class women

through "Ladli Bahna Yojana". He told that the work of taking applications for this scheme will start from March 8, 2023, on Women's Day in every village and in every ward of the city. Minister Patel said that from the coming month of June, the amount will start being deposited in the bank accounts of the women selected in this scheme. District Panchayat Vice President Darshan Singh Gehlot along with other public representatives and officers were also present in the programme.

# BJP MLA'S SUPPORTERS RUSH OUT OF CAR, SURROUND AND THRASH COP

Bhopal: The supporters of a BJP MLA thrashed a policeman after making fun of him while he was going home at night in Madhya Pradesh's Dewas city. The policeman said the men were drunk.  
A video of the assault has been shared widely on social media. A first information report (FIR) has been filed against the men by the police.  
The policeman, Ramendra Singh Bhaduria, said he was driving home at 8 pm on Friday when a group of men came in a Skoda sedan and started mocking him. "Thulle, kahan jaa rahe ho (thulle, where are you going)?" the men said, according to the FIR. "Thulle" is a derogatory word to refer to police personnel. The men, who are supporters of BJP MLA Manoj Chaudhary, then stopped their car and came out. They surrounded the policeman and punched him. One of them is seen in the video holding the policeman's collar. "I was driving home. The car came from behind and the men shouted at me, 'how are you driving?'. I asked them the matter. They told me to stop, which I did," Bhaduria told reporters.

# Chief Minister Chouhan planted saplings with cricketer Susmya Tiwari

Team Absolute | Bhopal

Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan planted saplings along with Soumya Tiwari, member of under-19 Indian women's cricket team and her coach, Suresh Chenani. It is noteworthy that Soumya Tiwari of Bhopal has played an important role in India's victory in the recently held ICC Under-19 Women's T20 World Cup. Along with Chief Minister Chouhan, social worker Amit Meena also planted saplings on his birthday. Rajesh Meena and Nachiket Meena were with him.



# Doondapati Jayara and Tamanna are the fastest Boys and Girls

Hosts Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra in close fight for top spot. Dev Kumar Meena breaks national youth Pole Vault record with a vault of 4.91m

Team Absolute | Bhopal

Doondapati Jayara of Odisha and Tamanna of Haryana emerged as the fastest Boy and Girl of the Khelo India Youth Games 2022 Madhya Pradesh (KIYG2022MP), but found their thunder stolen in track and field by the host's Dev Kumar Meena, who won gold in Boys Pole Vault by breaking the national youth record with a vault of 4.91m. The earlier record stood at 4.90m. That effort of Meena could not stop Maharashtra from holding on to the top spot in the medal tally at the end of day five on account of having more silvers, as both they and the hosts Madhya Pradesh (M.P) tallied 14 golds thus far.  
Besides Dev Kumar, the stars of the day certainly were Jayara, whose time of 10.53 secs would have been a national youth record but for wind assistance and Tamanna, who breasted the tape first in a time of 12.16 secs to take the Girls 100m dash, widely considered the most prestigious events in any multi-sport event.  
M.P's golds came in Athletics (3), as they had a great time at the T.T. Nagar



stadium in the capital city picking up eight medals on the first day of track and field and one each in Archery, Kayaking and Yogasana. Nitin Verma of M.P. also won his third gold of the games when he won the K-1 200m Kayaking race in the Upper Lake area of the capital.  
**Athletics take centre-stage**  
Athletics as always took centre-stage dishing out the first gold of the day which went to Shailabh of Delhi when he won the Boys 1500m, the first medal event of a three-day track & field roster, with a timing of 3:57.00 min. Sakir of Haryana was second while Telangana's Sumit Kumar took bronze in the 12-man field. Likewise Asha Kiran Barla of Jharkhand also took the Girls 1500 in a canter finishing

almost a minute and a half ahead of Bushra Khan of M.P. who won silver. Gujarat's Laxita Sandilea was third. Among other notable



winners at the T.T. Nagar stadium were the host's Aditya Raghuvanshi, who leaped 2.01m for the Boys High Jump gold, while Vidhi of UP flung the Shot put 17.07m for the Girls gold in the event. Haryana won the Boys Hammer throw while Isha Rajesh Yadav of Maharashtra won the Girls 400m and Abiram P of Kerala won the Boys 400m. Apart from Doondapati, Odisha had a second gold from track and field when Sabita Toppo jumped a best of 5.73m to win the Girls long jump gold.

# Oral Cancer Screening was organised at CFM OPD AIIMS Bhopal

Team Absolute | Bhopal

Oral Cancer Screening Camp was Organised in the Community and Family Medicine OPD at AIIMS Bhopal and at the UPHC Gulabi Nagar, Bagmugaliya Bhopal with the support of CMHO Bhopal Dr. Prabhakar Tiwari, UPHC Gulabi Nagar Incharge Dr. Ashwin Bhambal by the Department of Community and Family Medicine with the support of the Department of ENT.  
Oral Cancer Screening Camp was Organised in the Community and Family Medicine OPD in the Presence of Associate Professor Dr. Sanjeev Kumar,



Residents, Staff and Students. The Camp began with an educating session by Dr. Sudhir Verma who elucidated to the audience about oral Cancer screening, the importance of early diagnosis of Cancer, and Oral Cancer Care facilities available at AIIMS Bhopal. Followed by Oral Screening was conducted by the Senior

Resident of the ENT and CFM Department. The Oral Cancer Screening Camp was Organised at the UPHC Gulabi Nagar, Bagmugaliya Bhopal to reach the unreached population of 30 years to aware them of the Oral Cancer, the benefit of screening, Possible Treatment options available for Cancer Care at AIIMS Bhopal in the presence of Associate Professor Dr. Sanjeev Kumar and UPHC Gulabi Nagar In-charge Dr. Ashwin Bhambal, Residents and Staff. Oral Cancer Screening was conducted by the Senior Resident of the Dept. of ENT Dr. Rahul Verma and the Senior Resident of the Dept. of CFM Dr. Pushpendra Sahu.

WE WIN LIMITED								
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CIN: L74999MP2007PLC019623								
EXTRACT OF STANDALONE/CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE QUARTER AND NINE MONTHS ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 2022								
Particulars	STANDALONE				CONSOLIDATED			
	For the quarter ended on 31.12.2022	For the quarter ended on 30.09.2022	For the year to date ended on 31.12.2022	Previous year ended on 31.03.2022	For the quarter ended on 31.12.2022	For the quarter ended on 30.09.2022	For the year to date ended on 31.12.2022	Previous year ended on 31.03.2022
	(UnAudited)	(UnAudited)	(UnAudited)	(Audited)	(UnAudited)	(UnAudited)	(UnAudited)	(Audited)
Total Income	1,231.86	1,145.76	3,536.41	4,227.03	1,231.86	1,145.76	3,536.41	4,227.03
Net Profit Before Tax	55.65	60.83	220.80	323.22	55.65	60.83	220.80	323.22
Net Profit After Tax	31.68	44.43	153.17	209.97	31.68	44.43	153.17	209.97
Total Comprehensive Income for the period (Comprising Profit/Loss for the period (after tax) and Other Comprehensive Income (after tax) ]	24.18	60.54	168.99	225.40	24.21	60.15	168.12	229.33
Paid up Equity Share Capital (Face Value of Re.10 Each)	1,016.10	1,016.10	1,016.10	1,016.10	1,016.10	1,016.10	1,016.10	1,016.10
Reserve (excluding Revaluation Reserves as per balance sheet of previous accounting year)	-	-	-	1,086.59	-	-	-	1,096.28
Earnings per share (before and after extraordinary items) (Face Value of Re.10/Share)								
(a) Basic	0.24	0.60	1.66	2.22	0.24	0.59	1.65	2.26
(b) Diluted	0.24	0.60	1.66	2.22	0.24	0.59	1.65	2.26

NOTES:  
1. Unaudited financial results for the quarter and nine months ended 31st December 2022 reviewed by the Audit Committee were taken on record at the board meeting held on 3rd February 2023.  
2. The Company is primarily engaged in the business of Customer Relationship Management (CRM) Services including Call Centres and support centre services. There are no reportable segments, which singly or in aggregate qualify for separate disclosure as per provision of the relevant Ind AS 108 "Operating Segments".  
3. Previous period figures have been regrouped and/or reclassified, wherever necessary.  
4. The same are available on the website of the Stock Exchange at [www.seindia.com](http://www.seindia.com) and [www.bseindia.com](http://www.bseindia.com) and also on the website of the company at [www.wewinlimited.com](http://www.wewinlimited.com).

For & on behalf of Board of Directors of  
We Win Limited  
sd/-  
Abhishek Gupta  
DIN: 01260263  
Managing Director  
Place: Bhopal  
Date: 03.02.2023



# MAHA FARMER CONFINES 14 TRIBAL LABOURERS

Team Absolute | Ahwa

A farmer in Maharashtra has allegedly confined 14 tribal labourers from Gujarat after a contractor fled with Rs 7 lakh advance meant for salary of workers.

Families of the labourers who have been confined by the farmer for the past two to three months have sought the Gujarat government's help to rescue them.

Nagin Gavit, former Sarpanch of Manmodi village panchayat told media, "A labour contractor had taken Mota Malunga's 14 labourers to Tamkheda Pawar Vadi village of Maharashtra, for farm work, a few months ago. Once the labourer reached the farmer Yogesh Thengil's farm, the contractor took Rs 7 lakh advance from the farmer in the name of salaries. However, the contractor neither came back to the village, nor returned the advance money to the farmer."

"Since the last two months, confined labourers Sunil Vaghmare, Ushiben, Mohanbhai and others have been calling up their relatives to the village and narrating their plight. They have even told family members that farmer Yogesh is threatening to sell our kidneys to recover Rs 7 lakh advance," said Gavit.

Thengil was unavailable to tell his version. When reporter dialled his cell number, a female member of his family said, "Thengil



had left his cell phone at home and gone out."

Dangs Additional District Collector Padmaraj Gamit told reporter, "Labourers' family members have not complained to him or the authorities, but he came to know about the allegations from media, he will look into the matter, and will take it up with respective authorities to rescue the labourers."

# BMC: For 1st time, civic body's budget shoots over Rs 50K cr - higher than many states

Team Absolute | Mumbai

For the first time in its 134-year-old history, the country's richest civic body, BrihanMumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC)'s budget for 2023-2024 has crossed a staggering Rs 50,000-crore mark -- higher than many of the smaller states in the country.

The budget estimates, presented on Saturday by BMC Commissioner I.S. Chahal came ahead of the civic elections which are likely to be announced soon, and promised sustainable local economic development for the country's commercial capital.

The budget estimates for the new fiscal is proposed at Rs 52,619.07 crore, an increase of 14.52 per cent over last year's Rs 45,949.21 crore (2022-2023) and the previous year's Rs. 39,083 crore (2021-2022).

"Targeting a 'net zero' on the environment front in the near future, the budget emphasises rapid infrastructure development, cleanliness, health, education, urban greening and making monsoons hassle-free



for the citizens.

For the first time in 38 years, the BMC is being run by an Administrator in the absence of an elected civic body and hence there was no Mayor, a General Body or Standing Committee for the budget presentation exercise on Saturday.

Chahal has also proposed a total Budget Provision of Rs 2,650-crore is proposed in the Revised Estimates (RE) for 2022-23 and Rs 3,545-crore in Business Estimates (BE) 2023-24

for the Coastal Road Project, one of the mega-infrastructure projects taken up by the BMC.

Hoping to give relief to Mumbai residents from monsoon floods, of the 386 chronic flooding spots, 306 have been tackled, 34 will be completed before the monsoon season 2023, and the remaining 6 later.

The BMC plans to plant 100,000 trees through ecologically sustainable planting practices, and Rs 1,729-crore shall be spent on various beau-

tification initiatives for Mumbai bridges, footpaths, dividers, trees, etc.

Under the Ashray Yojana, the budget makes a provision of Rs 735.12-crore in the RE 2022-23 and Rs 1,491.50-crore in BE 2023-24.

A sum of Rs 227.07-crore is proposed to enhance the city's fire-fighting forces in this budget.

There is a provision of Rs 887.88-crore (RE) and Rs 1,376-crore for the Water Supply Project, and Rs 2,021.06-crore (RE) and Rs 3,566.87-crore for the Mumbai Sewage Disposal Project department.

The city's BEST will get an assistance of Rs 800-crore for its various schemes, setting up a dedicated Climate Action Plan Cell (CAPC) and installing Air Purifiers at the most congested areas like Dahisar Toll Post, Mankhurd, Mulund Toll Post, Kalanagar Junction, and Haji Ali Junction, in 2023-2024.

Chahal assured that coming off the Covid-19 pandemic of the past two years, the civic body will make the citizens' life more comfortable but will be "well-prepared" for a Covid wave or any other pandemic.

# Court asks Nagpur Jail to provide books to 2006 Mumbai train blasts convict

Team Absolute | New Delhi

The Delhi High Court on Friday asked the Nagpur Central Jail's Superintendent to provide certain books, either as hard or soft copy, to Ehtesham Qutubuddin Siddique, who is a death row convict in the 2006 Mumbai train bombings case.

A single-judge bench of Justice Pratibha M. Singh said that the books should be provided within four weeks' time failing which he is at liberty

to file an appropriate plea before the court.

Justice Singh said, "Considering this stand, the Superintendent of Nagpur Central Jail shall make available the books to the petitioner either in physical form or a soft copy within four weeks."

The counsel for the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting (I&B) told the court that they have asked the prison authorities to purchase the books and give them to Siddique if he is not entitled to access the internet in jail. His petition seeking copies of

certain publications free of cost under the RTI Act was disposed of.

The I&B's counsel argued that the books he has requested for are quite pricey.

Earlier on Friday, the high court had said that intelligence agencies' reports and dossiers cannot be made public under the RTI Act, especially if doing so will jeopardise the sovereignty or integrity of the nation.

Justice Singh rejected Siddique's request for the reports that the governments of

Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh had submitted on 2006 Mumbai train bombings investigations.

Siddique, a death row convict in the case under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA), has claimed that he was falsely implicated in the case and it amounts to violation of his human rights.

On July 11, 2006, seven explosions had ripped through seven western line local trains in Mumbai, leading to the death of 189 people and injuring 829.

## FIRE BREAKS OUT AT DUMPING GROUND IN MUMBAI, NO CASUALTIES

Mumbai: A massive fire broke out at the dumping ground in Turbhe in Navi Mumbai on Friday evening.

There was no report of any injury in the fire till the time of filing this report.

"The fire broke out at 7.30 pm. Seven fire tenders are at the spot. The fire is under control now and no casualties have been reported. The reason of fire is not yet known," said Anil Chavan, an officer of Turbhe police station.

# BJP names candidates for 2 Pune Assembly bypolls

Team Absolute | Mumbai

On anticipated lines, the Bharatiya Janata Party has fielded Ashwini L. Jagtap, the widow of the late MLA Laxman P. Jagtap for the Chinchwad Assembly by-elections scheduled for February 27, here on Saturday.

For Pune's Kasbapeth, the party has nominated Hemant N. Rasane as the candidate for the seat which was vacant after the demise of the late Mukta S. Tilak.

Both Jagtap (Chinchwad) and Tilak (Kasbapeth) were sitting BJP MLAs who succumbed to cancer in December-January 2022 after



which the Election Commission of India announced the by-elections. As per the ECI schedules, the last date for filing nomi-

nation papers is February 7, the polling shall be held on February 27 and the results will be declared on March 2.

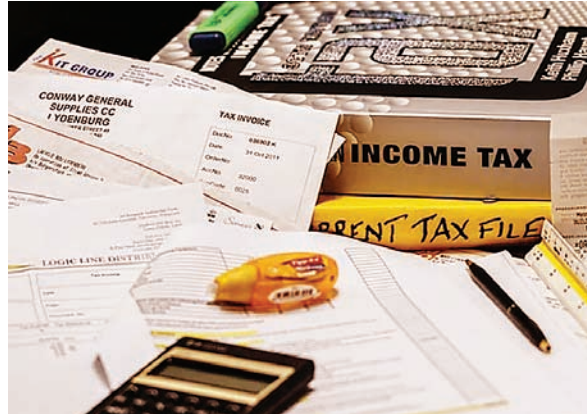
# 10 Lakhs insurance for tax payment: Maharashtra village top body's offer

Latur | Agencies

In a bid to increase revenue, the authorities of a village in Maharashtra's Latur district have decided to provide accident insurance coverage of ? 10 lakh to those villagers who completely pay off their tax charged by the local panchayat.

This novel decision was taken during a gram sabha meeting held at Panchincholi village located in Nilanga tehsil on Friday.

Panchincholi sarpanch (village head) Geetanjali Hanumante presided over the meeting, where her predecessor Shrikant Salunkhe proposed a resolution that personal accident insurance cover of ? 10 lakh will be provided to the villagers on 100



per cent payment of the panchayat tax.

His resolution was welcomed by all members and passed unanimously.

"The population of Panchincholi village is 5,947 and there are around 930 tax

payers. This decision was taken to motivate the villagers towards paying their taxes," Salunkhe said.

Some other resolutions aimed at the development of the village were also passed during the meeting, he said.

# "WARNED UDDHAV THACKERAY ABOUT REBELLION...": AJIT PAWAR

Nearly eight months after the split in the Shiv Sena, which eventually led to the collapse of the previous Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) government in Maharashtra, NCP leader Ajit Pawar on Friday claimed that then Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray was 'warned' about a rebellion brewing in the ranks but he failed to act on it.

Pune | Agencies

Pawar was the deputy chief minister in the previous MVA regime.

"Two-three times, we had informed Uddhav Thackeray about a growing rebellion in his party and a few meetings had also taken place on this matter. (NCP chief) Sharad Pawar had also spoken to him about it, but he said he had full confidence in his MLAs and that they wouldn't take such an extreme step," Ajit Pawar said while being interviewed at a media conclave in Pune on Friday.

Pawar's NCP is part of the MVA, which also features the Shiv Sena (Uddhav Balasaheb Thackeray) and the Congress.

"After the first batch of 15-16 MLAs left the party (Uddhav faction of the Shiv Sena), the party needed to stem the tide and keep its flock together. But no such efforts were made. In fact, the general sense as



was evident in the media reports at the time was that whoever wanted to leave the party was free to do so," the former deputy Chief Minister added. He further claimed that the then Chief Minister preferred to repose his trust in his MLAs with his

'eyes closed'.

"The Shiv Sena leaders had trusted their fellow party members with their eyes closed and were betrayed. I fail to understand why their leaders let this happen," Pawar said.

On when exactly did he get an inkling that a rebellion was about to break in the Sena ranks, the NCP leader said he suspected something was afoot as much as six months before the split happened.

"In June (of 2022), some hustle and bustle had started. Then also I had informed Uddhav-ji about Eknath Shinde but he told me that he was aware of it and will speak with Shinde. He assured me that the matter would be resolved," he added.

Shinde, who emerged as the leader of the rebel Sena faction, eventually unseated the MVA from power and formed the government with the support of the BJP. The revolt saw 39 Sena MLAs and 10 independent MLAs joining the rival camp, thereby reducing the MVA to a minority in the Assembly.

# Frank dialogue necessary between writers and government: Eknath

Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde on Friday said a frank dialogue between the writer community and government is necessary for society's well-being.

Team Absolute | Nagpur

He was speaking on the inaugural day of the 96th Akhil Bharatiya Marathi Sahitya Sammelan (All India Marathi Literary Meet) in Wardha in eastern Maharashtra.

Justice (ret'd) Narendra Chapalgaonkar, an eminent writer, is presiding over this year's meet.

"There should be a frank dialogue and conversation between the literary fraternity and government so that good decisions can be taken for society's well-being," chief minister Shinde said in his speech.

He also said that writers should take notice of the changes taking place in the rural areas of Maharashtra.

Literature coming out of the rural areas has enhanced Marathi's glory, he said.

The government is working for the conservation of rural dialects, he said.

A good writer is born out of sensitivity towards social issues and social consciousness, the chief minister said.

A group of people in the audience shouted slogans in support of a separate Vidarbha state during Shinde's speech. Police quickly escorted them out of the pandal.



# Court to give order on Rahul Gandhi's exemption request in defamation case

A COURT AT BHIWANDI IN THANE DISTRICT WHICH IS HEARING A CASE OF ALLEGED DEFAMATION FILED BY AN RSS WORKER AGAINST RAHUL GANDHI ON SATURDAY SAID IT WOULD PASS ORDER ON THE CONGRESS LEADER'S PLEA SEEKING PERMANENT EXEMPTION FROM APPEARANCE ON MARCH 4.

Thane | Agencies

Gandhi has sought exemption on the ground that he is a resident of Delhi and Lok Sabha member, and the trial can proceed in his absence as he would be represented by his lawyer.

Advocate Narayan Iyer, who represents Gandhi, argued for exemption before Judicial Magistrate First Class L C Wadikar.

Kunte, a local worker of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh, in 2014 filed the case against Rahul Gandhi over the latter's speech in Bhiwandi on March 6, 2014,



where he alleged that the RSS was behind the killing of Mahatma Gandhi.

Gandhi allegedly said at the election campaign rally

that "the RSS people had killed (Mahatma) Gandhi." Kunte claimed that the statement slandered the reputation of the RSS.



## VANESSA HUDGENS IS OFFICIALLY A BRIDE-TO-BE, ENGAGED TO BOYFRIEND COLE TUCKER

Los Angeles | Agencies

**T**ick, Tick... Boom! star Vanessa Hudgens is officially a bride-to-be. The actress is engaged to boyfriend Cole Tucker. The pair met on a Zoom meditation group call, and Hudgens later revealed that she made the first move, reports People magazine. TMZ was the first to report the news. Hudgens and Tucker first sparked dating rumours in November 2020 when they were seen holding hands in Los Angeles. "I get on the Zoom, and I'm like, 'Who is that?'" she shared on 'The Drew Barrymore Show' in May 2021. "I found him, and we started talking." She continued, quoted by People: "If I want something or someone, I'm going after them. I fully just slid into his DMs and was like, 'Hey, it was nice to meet you.' So I think there is no shame in making the first move!" Hudgens made her red carpet debut with Tucker, a professional baseball player for the Reno Aces, in November 2021 at the premiere of her film 'Tick...Tick...Boom!'. Most of the public insight into her relationship with Tucker comes from Instagram. Hudgens shared photos from the premiere, and a tropical vacation she took with Tucker shortly before.

## Rihanna gears up for tour comeback and new music



Los Angeles | Agencies

Rihanna is making her comeback with a huge tour after she takes to the stage at the 'Super Bowl'. The 'Diamonds' hit maker will headline the half-time show next Saturday marking the kick-off of her new tour and plans to make new music, it has been claimed, reports Mirror.co.uk. Insiders have said that she's already got her North American dates planned and will soon be focusing on European dates, which will also

reportedly see her gig in the U.K. The singer is said to be "working overtime" as she prepares for the tour. As per Mirror.co.uk, she is also said to be planning "mini residencies" in huge cities for fans to watch her perform. A music insider told 'The Sun': "Rihanna's 'Super Bowl' halftime performance will be one of the best of all time. The list of songs that made the cut is pretty comprehensive and touches on every era of Rihanna including the new one she's about to embark on." The source further said, quoted by Mirror.co.uk: "She has her North American dates ready to announce for 2023 after the 'Super Bowl' and it will be a matter of time before European dates are announced for 2024."

She will perform on February 12 when the Kansas City Chiefs take on the Philadelphia Eagles.

## BRITTANY FURLAN TAKES DIG AT PAM ANDERSON AFTER 'ANNOYING MARRIAGE' REMARK

Los Angeles | Agencies

**T**ommy Lee's wife Brittany Furlan appeared to take some serious digs at Pamela Anderson in a now-deleted video. Brittany, who married the rockstar in 2019, appeared to hit out at Pamela, 55, in a TikTok video, which has since been removed, reports Mirror.co.uk. Model Brittany's video referenced 'Pam', following the 'Baywatch' star's recent admissions about her marriage to Brittany's husband Tommy Lee, which Pamela confessed would "annoy" his now wife.

As per Mirror.co.uk, Pamela claimed she never got over the breakdown of her divorce with Tommy. The pair got married after just four days of knowing one another and share two sons. Brittany's removed the clip that reportedly showed the model with a Pamela-style filter on her face and had the words "Pam if I died" written underneath. Mirror.co.uk further stated that earlier, she took to her TikTok to thank fans for their support after Pamela said her new documentary would "annoy" the 'Motley Crue' drummer's wife. She said in a video: "Hi guys, I just wanted to come on here to let you know that I'm okay. Because I know people have been checking on me which is really nice, and I'm good, don't worry - and don't worry about all the people that are saying all the mean things that they're saying."



## Ozzy Osbourne flashes peace sign in new pic after hanging his boots

Los Angeles | Agencies

**B**lack Sabbath frontman Ozzy Osbourne has been seen for the first time since cancelling his U.K. and Ireland shows, and retiring from touring for good.

The 'Paranoid' singer recently had extensive spinal surgery following a fall at his home in 2019, which had further aggravated injuries from a near-fatal quad bike crash in 2003, reports Mirror.co.uk. The music legend released a statement earlier this week, revealing that he is 'not physically capable' of performing. Recently, Ozzy was seen for the first time since cancelling his tour - and he appeared in high spirits as he flashed a peace sign at the cameras which snapped him using a walking stick.

As per Mirror.co.uk, the rocker used the walking aid to help him up some steps as he emerged from a private car. Although he is in ill health, Ozzy appeared to be in good form as he entertained the cameras - waving and holding up a peace sign following his sad tour cancellation and early retirement.

As always, Ozzy was dressed in an all-black ensemble as he wrapped up warm in a long-lined coat to beat the spring chill. Announcing the sad news of his tour retirement to fans, Ozzy said that it was "probably one of the hardest things he's ever had to share" and that he "never would have imagined that [his] touring days would have ended this way." Explaining that his body is "still physically weak," he shared his despair at "disappointing" fans.



## MICHELLE YEOH recalled when her mom and her date accidentally held hands

Los Angeles | Agencies

**G**olden Globe winning actress Michelle Yeoh recalled the hilarious time when her mom and her date accidentally held hands.

On Friday's episode of BBC One's 'The Graham Norton Show', the Oscar nominee revealed that her mother not only used to join her on dates, but she even unintentionally got close with one of them, reports People magazine. "At what age were you when she insisted on coming on a date with you," host Graham Norton asked the actress.

"Now, you have to remember moms are very protective, right, for all the right reasons," Yeoh said, quoted by People. "She always went on a date. Always, until I went to England to study."

When Yeoh was 17, she shared that "One time, I was sitting like this (arms crossed) and I suddenly realised, 'Why are there two hands on my leg?'"

"It was his hand on my mom's hand," she said, breaking out into laughter. Acting out the situation with fellow guest and Oscar nominee Austin Butler, Yeoh continued: "He was holding the hand he thought was mine, and then I looked at it like, 'Excuse me guys.'" As per People, the 'Everything, Everywhere, All at Once' star also shared the story of how she ultimately has her mom to thank for winning Miss Malaysia in 1983. When she went home for the holidays after graduating from the Royal Academy of Dance, the Malaysian-born actress said her mother "suddenly looped into this whole thing" about how she should audition for more projects at age 21 since there won't be as many the older she gets. "I'm thinking, 'What on Earth is she on about?'" Yeoh recalled, adding that her mother even roped her brother into encouraging Yeoh to pursue being onstage. "The next thing I knew was...she had entered me for Miss Malaysia," Yeoh revealed. "She actually signed the form, so technically, I'm not legit. I did it to shut her up because she wouldn't stop about it, so we had a deal. If I do this, you are never going to do something like this again."

## ABSOLUTE PIC OF THE DAY



Laura Anderson



## Border-Gavaskar Trophy

# TEAM INDIA DOGGED BY TOP-ORDER WORRIES, ABSENCE OF PANT AND JASPRIT BUMRAH

Team Absolute | New Delhi

With India completing its white-ball matches against Sri Lanka and New Zealand, its next assignment in the current home season is the highly anticipated four-match Test series against Australia for the Border-Gavaskar Trophy, starting from February 9.

We take a look at the strengths and weaknesses of the Indian team ahead of a marquee Test series:

**Strengths:** Experienced bowlers: When one matches the bowling attacks of Australia and India, then the hosts' bowling attack having an upper hand over the visitors' can be felt, especially when it comes to playing at home.

Ravichandran Ashwin has picked up 58 wickets in eight Tests at home since the start of 2020, while Axar Patel has 39 wickets in six matches and Ravindra Jadeja has 15 wickets in only three games he's played due to missing the England series due to an injury. With Mohammed Shami, Mohammed Siraj, Umesh Yadav and Jaydev Unadkat around with their experience of playing in home conditions, this is a sure shot advantageous point for India.

Moreover, in 50 Tests between these two teams in India, 21 of them



have been won by the hosts and since 2004; they haven't lost at home to Australia. Weaknesses: Absence of Pant and Bumrah: India will be entering this series without two of their mainstays for the series against Australia - Rishabh Pant and Jasprit Bumrah. While Bumrah is unavailable for the first two games of the series, Pant's absence for an indefi-

nite period will be more felt in the Indian think-tank. Pant's keeping, especially against spinners at home, had significantly improved. His fearlessness with the bat in the middle order had turned the course of Test matches for the Indian team at a crucial juncture. India now have to make a choice between KS Bharat, an understudy to Pant for a long time

and Ishan Kishan, who is more in his mould. Top order worries: In the absence of Pant and Shreyas Iyer (his participation for the first Test is unknown), India's top-order will have to take up the responsibility for the scoring and not be dependent on the middle order for bailing them out of trouble, something which had been the case on most occasions.

# Lionel Messi considering playing on until 2026 World Cup: Reports

Buenos Aires (Argentina) | Agencies

Argentina captain Lionel Messi has left open the possibility of playing at the 2026 FIFA World Cup, but says his participation will depend on 'many things'.

The Paris Saint-Germain forward previously declared the 2022 World Cup in Qatar would mark his last appearance in football's showcase event.

But Argentina's triumphant campaign -- in which Messi scored seven goals and won the best player award of the tournament -- has prompted him to reconsider the possibility of playing in a sixth World Cup.

Messi will turn 39 during the tournament in the United States, Canada and Mexico, reports Xinhua.

"I don't know, I always said that due to age it seems to me that it will be very difficult to make it to 2026," the player said. "I love playing football, I love what I do and as long as I'm good and feel fit and continue to enjoy it, I'm going to do it. But it seems like a lot to go until the next World Cup.



I'm going to see where my career is going, what I am going to do and it depends on many things."

Argentina manager Lionel Scaloni told reporters in December last year that he would keep the No. 10 shirt for Messi for as long as he wants to play on.

Meanwhile, Messi said he was still on an emotional high after Argentina's penalty shootout victory over France in the World Cup final in Lusail on December 18, 2022.

It came less than 18 months after the Albiceleste beat Brazil in the Copa America final - the team's first major trophy since the 1993 Copa America.

"Achieving it at the end of my career was amazing," Messi said. "If it had happened earlier, it would have been great too, obviously. But then you have your whole career ahead of you. My career has almost ended and I don't think there's a better way to finish than that."

## Kenya Ladies Open

# Aditi Ashok leads by five shots

Nairobi | Agencies

Indian golfer Aditi Ashok produced a second round of 70 (-3) to hold a five-shot lead heading into the weekend at the Kenya Ladies Open.

The Indian star, who won the 2016 Hero Women's Indian Open, followed up her first round of 67 (-6) with another consistent day at Vipingo Ridge to sit at the top of the leader board on nine-under-par after 36 holes at Vipingo Ridge.

The 2022 Hero Women's Indian Open runner-up Amandeep Drall made the cut as she shot 74-74 and waw 2-over through 36 holes and is tied 21st. Indian amateur Avani Prashanth also



made the cut despite shooting 75 in the second round, the same as the first day. She was tied 33rd.

Diksha Dagar, Vani Kapoor and Seher Atwal missed the cut. Three-time LET winner

Ashok only dropped one shot during the second day and rolled in four birdies on the Baobab Course. After the second round, the cut fell at +9 with 62 players making it through to the weekend.

## Davis Cup

# HUESLER, ZVEREV WIN TO LEAVE SWITZERLAND-GERMANY LEVEL

Paris | Agencies

Alexandor Zverev picked an opportune moment to record his second competitive win in eight months, defeating Stan Wawrinka 6-4, 6-1 to draw Germany level with Switzerland in their Davis Cup Qualifier in Trier, Germany.

In Bogota, it was all square for Great Britain and hosts Colombia after Colombia's Nicolas Mejia earned his first Top 100 win with a 6-2, 2-6, 6-4 result against Daniel Evans, Cameron Norrie levelled the tie at 1-1 by beating Nicolas Barrientos 6-2, 7-5, according to information available on daviscup.com website.

The focus was on Zverev in the Switzerland v Germany tie.

Zverev, whose return to competitive action after ankle ligament surgery yielded three defeats from four



matches in Australia at the turn of the month, looked much more like

his old self in a commanding victory over the three-time Grand Slam

champion.

The world No. 14 saw off Wawrinka in an hour and 36 minutes to cancel out Marc-Andrea Huesler's battling 2-6 6-2 6-4 triumph over Oscar Otte earlier in the day.

"I think it's important to go into tomorrow's ties with a 1-1 [scoreline]," said Zverev. "Obviously I'm very happy with my game. I think that was the best match since my injury. It's going in a positive way, and I hope I can continue progressing," he was quoted as saying in a report on the ATP Tour website.

Wawrinka had lost all four of his previous meetings with Zverev and was unable to break that duck on Friday night.

"I think I played a lot more aggressively and maybe Stan's spirit went down a little bit, but in the end, I picked up my level and I'm very happy with that," said Zverev.

# I League

Hyderabad | Agencies

Sreenidi Deccan provisionally moved to the top of the I-League 2022-23 tables after recording a comfortable 3-0 victory over Churchill Brothers at the Deccan Arena.

The Deccan Warriors now have 31 points in 15 matches, a point ahead of RoundGlass Punjab who has a game in hand against Sudeva Delhi.

All the goals came in the second half. Captain David Castaneda was on target from the spot to net his 13th goal of the season before substitutes Ramhlunchunga and Louis Ogana added their names to the scoresheet to pick up three important points for the Deccan Warriors.

The second half started in blistering fashion at both ends. A minute in, Churchill's Ponif Vaz gave away the ball to Castaneda just outside the



area, but to his relief, the Colombian striker was off target with his volley. On the other end, Kapil Hoble and Kingslee Fernandes saw their shots

blocked inside the penalty area.

Eight minutes later, Gabriel got into space on the right wing before sending the ball into the six-yard box for

Castaneda. It took a deflection off Joseph Clemente's hand in an unnatural position, leading referee Lalit Singh Rawat to point to the spot. Castaneda was reliable as always from the spot, sending his penalty right into the top corner.

Lalromawia, who was an active force for Sreenidi on the wing, hit the post from his left-footed shot just minutes before the host doubled their advantage. Ramhlunchunga was played on the left wing by Castaneda, and the substitute continued his run into the box before finding the bottom corner with a precise finish.

While the scoreline may not suggest that, Sreenidi custodian Ubaid had a busy afternoon. He saved an effort from Abdoulaye Sane in the 56th minute and was again well-positioned in the 78th and 82nd minute to save shots from the Senegalese and Emmanuel Yaghr respectively.

## Golf

# Arjun Atwal way down at 130th in Pebble Beach Pro-AM; Kitayama leads

Pebble Beach (USA) | Agencies

India's Arjun Atwal had another tough day in extremely windy conditions as he shot a 3-over 75 at Spyglass Hill Golf Course in the AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-AM.

With rounds of 73-75, the Atal is now 4-over and way down in 130th place on the leader board at the PGA Tour event.

Kurt Kitayama moved into sole lead after opening with 10 straight pars and then had three birdies against one bogey for a 2-under 70 at Pebble Beach.

Kitayama was at 9-under 134 and led by one shot over Keith Mitchell, Brandon Wu, Joseph Bramlett and Hank



Lebiola.

In his last start on the PGA Tour, Kitayama was second at the CJ CUP in South Carolina at Congaree after being tied for the lead going into the weekend with Jon Rahm.

He also finished runner-up to Rahm in Mexico last year, and to Xander Schauffele in the Genesis Scottish Open. This is the second time in his career that

Kitayama holds a 36-hole lead/co-lead and the fourth time after any round.

Kitayama is one of two players with multiple 36-hole leads/co leads on Tour this season (first came at THE CJ CUP in South Carolina). Four of the five players at T2 or better have not won on the PGA TOUR (Kitayama, Brandon Wu, Joseph Bramlett and Hank Lebiola).

## National Rally Championship

# Aishwarya Pissay to go for her 6th straight title

Nashik | Agencies

Aishwarya Pissay, the only FIM World Cupper from India, is all set for the final round of the FMSCI National Rally Championship (INRC-2w) 2022 and will be chasing her sixth straight national title when action resumes after a gap of over two months with the Rally of Nashik.

The Bengaluru racing star is the favourite in the sixth and final round of GodSpeed Racing's MRF MoGrip FMSCI National Rally Championship - 2W 2022 here on Sunday.



Aishwarya is the 2019 FIM Bajas World Cup champion in the Ladies' class, and after her brief stint in the 'Big Boss Kannada' back in November, returns to the circuit to do what she loves the most - biking. The Petronas TVS Racing factory rider had won the fifth round in Pune to set up a grand finale. Later, the final round here was put off. The multiple-National

title holder, Aishwarya Pissay is leading the championship table in her class, despite missing a round earlier, and is raring to defend her title once again. She has put in over a month's training on her reliable TVS TR 200R, including on-tarmac sessions, and is ready for the final hurrah. Supported by Petronas TVS Racing, Aishwarya, won the first round in Chikkamagaluru by a mile after which the 27-year-old missed the second round. Pissay then came back strongly to reclaim the title lead with splendid victories in the next three rounds in Coimbatore, Bengaluru, and Pune respectively.

# Breezy knocks by Md Waseem, Pollard take MI Emirates to playoffs

Abu Dhabi | Agencies

Breezy knocks by consistent opener Muhammad Waseem and skipper Kieron Pollard backed by Dwayne Bravo's three-wicket spell carried MI Emirates into the playoffs with an impressive 18-run win over Abu Dhabi Knight Riders in the 26th match of the DP World ILT20.

Abu Dhabi Knight Riders' winless run continued after they let MI Emirates post 180 for 4 in 20 overs through some poor fielding and unimpressive bowling at the Zayed Cricket Stadium.

Dropping Waseem thrice, they let the high-scoring UAE opener flourish and hit 60 runs off 43 balls with six sixes and one boundary. Skipper Pollard's cameo of 43 off just 17 balls with four boundaries and three sixes swelled the total.

Chasing the target, Abu Dhabi were bowled out for 162 in 19.2 overs with Dwayne Bravo producing a fine spell of 3 for 37, backed by Imran Tahir (2-20) and Zahoor Khan (2-33). Andre Russell's fighting



knock of 42 off 22 balls with five boundaries and two sixes went in vain for the hosts.

Tucker who took 23 balls to score 33 runs retired out to accelerate the run flow. Nicholas Pooran replaced him at the crease but Waseem on 60 got clean bowled to the first ball of the 16th over by

Marchant de Lange.

Pooran and Pollard thus added 56 runs in just 25 balls. Pooran remained unbeaten on 10 and MI Emirates posted an impressive 180 for 4.

Boult began with a wicket maiden as well. Brandon King, who joined opener Joe Clarke, hit Boult for six and two boundaries but fell to Imran Tahir in the fourth over caught by Fletcher at deep mid-wicket for 20.

Joe Clarke and Charith Asalanka took the score to 50 by the end of the Powerplay. Andre Russell walked in and hit the second ball he faced from Tahir for a six and then slashed Fazalhaq Farooqi for another six. UAE's Zahoor ended Abu Dhabi's challenge in the 13th over by taking the valuable wicket off Russell caught by Waseem at mid-wicket for 42. Brief scores: MI Emirates 180/4 in 20 overs (Andre Fletcher 22, Muhammad Waseem 60, Lorcan Tucker 33, Kieron Pollard 43) bt Abu Dhabi Knight Riders 162 all out in 19.2 overs (Joe Clarke 22, Andre Russell 42, Imran Tahir 2-20, Zahoor Khan 2-33, Dwayne Bravo 3-37).



## MANISH MALHOTRA WILL DESIGN OUTFITS FOR SID-KIARA'S WEDDING



Team Absolute | Jaipur

The countdown to Kiara Advani-Siddharth Malhotra wedding has started, now that mehendi artist Veena Nagda has arrived in Jaisalmer from Mumbai to apply henna on the bride. Earlier on Saturday, Siddharth arrived in Jaisalmer with his bride-to-be Kiara Advani in a chartered plane. They were accompanied by fashion designer Manish Malhotra. All developments about the wedding were kept under wraps for this Bollywood couple.

However, with the arrival of Kiara in Jaisalmer, it has been confirmed that this star couple is going to begin their new journey together.

Meanwhile, there was a lot of craze to see Kiara, who was spotted outside Jaisalmer airport in a white outfit. The functions of Siddharth and Kiara's royal wedding will start from Sunday. Some guests will accompany the bride and groom today, while the rest of the guests and relatives will arrive on Sunday. Members of the families of the couple kept arriving throughout the day. The remaining guests and relatives will come on Sunday. Wedding arrangements have been made at The Suryagarh, a palace hotel in Jaisalmer. Mehendi artist Veena Nagda arrived from Mumbai on Friday to apply henna for the bride.



## 'Romance wasn't in the air back then'

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Former Bigg Boss 13 contestant Dalljiet Kaur will be marrying her UK-based fiancé Nikhil Patel this March. Dalljiet is the ex-wife of actor Shalin Bhanot, who is currently on Bigg Boss 16. The TV actor will be shifting base to Nairobi, Kenya after her wedding with her son Jaydon.

Sharing the news, the actress shared a love-filled picture and wrote, "The stars aligned and fate played a part in bringing our hearts and souls together. Our journey to forever starts now."

A new life, a new country (Kenya in Africa), a new beginning, Together.

The 'Kulvaddhu' actress also revealed how she and Nikhil met in Dubai at a common friend's party and connected with each other due to their love for children. The actress also revealed that she noticed blue nail paint on Nikhil's toes. When she asked him about it, he replied with an earnest: "I am a proud dad of two girls." Dalljiet said quoted by News 18: "Romance wasn't in the air back then; it was just two single parents chatting. Love happened with time. It was our

love for our children that connected us." For those unaware, she met her fiancé, who works in a finance company, at a friend's party in Dubai last year. Dalljiet and Nikhil got engaged on January 3 in Nepal. In an interview, the actress shared more

**Shalin Bhanot's ex-wife Dalljiet Kaur finds love again, to wed in March**

details about her fiancé and said, "Nikhil also has two daughters, Aariyana and eight-year-old Aanika, from his previous relationship." She said about their first meeting, "He wore blue nail polish on his toes, and when I asked him about it, he replied, 'I am a proud dad of two girls.' Romance wasn't in the air back then; it was just two single parents chatting. Love happened with time. It was our love for our children that connected us. While Anika lives with her mother in the US, Aariyana will live with us."

Dalljiet was previously married to Bigg Boss 16 contestant Shalin Bhanot and the two are parents to a seven year old boy.



Team Absolute | Mumbai

Bollywood actor Aditya Roy Kapur, who is awaiting the release of his upcoming webseries, 'The Night Manager', revealed that the crew shot in extreme conditions in Rajasthan. At one point, it got so hot that the vanity vans gave up because the generators were overheating.

The actor got candid about the difficulties encountered while filming his new series. He said, "All these locations look beautiful on camera, but when you're shooting in them, it can be challenging especially for a series of this scale. For example, Rajasthan was extremely, extremely hot."

## Aditya Roy Kapur recalls shooting for his film in extreme conditions

He went on to state, "We were there shooting in the desert in the middle of nowhere, it got so hot at one point that our vanity vans were going off, the generator was overheating. So we essentially just had to open our doors and windows and hope for some kind of cross ventilation. We had to break shooting for three hours in a day to avoid people getting heat stroke."

'The Night Manager', produced by The Ink Factory and Banijay Asia, is created and directed by Sandeep Modi and second director Priyanka Ghosh.



## SHAH RUKH KHAN REVEALS WHY HIS UPCOMING FILM IS SPECIAL TO HIM

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Bollywood superstar Shah Rukh Khan, who is basking in the unprecedented success of his recently-released action entertainer 'Pathaan', has revealed why his upcoming film 'Dunki' is special to him. The actor shared that he has done the film because it was put together by the terrific director-writer duo of Rajkumar Hirani and Abhijit Joshi. In a recent social media crusade of Shah Rukh Khan, 'Ask SRK', a fan asked him "why is dunki so special for u?" Shah Rukh replied: "RajuaRajuaRaju and Abhijaata.Abhijaata." This is for the first time both Rajkumar Hirani and Shah Rukh Khan are coming together. Naturally, the film has been making a buzz since its announcement. In the film, SRK will be presented in a new avatar as he steps into Hirani's world with this social comedy. A JIO Studios, Red Chillies Entertainment and Rajkumar Hirani Films presentation, 'Dunki' is directed by Rajkumar Hirani, and it also stars Tapsee Pannu. The film has been written by Rajkumar Hirani, Abhijit Joshi and Kanika Dhillon, and produced by Rajkumar Hirani and Gauri Khan. The film went on floors in April 2022, with the next schedule being shot extensively in Punjab.

## Akhil Akkineni's pan-India film set for theatrical release in April

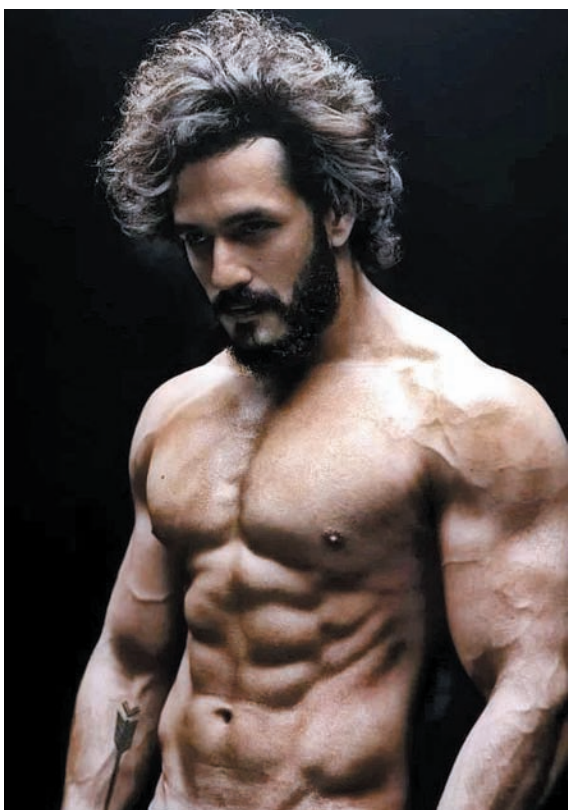
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Hollywood star Nagarjuna's younger son Akhil Akkineni's pan-India project 'Agent' is getting ready for its theatrical release on April 28. The movie producers are aiming to cash in the holiday season. The makers made the release date announcement through a wild action glimpse in which Akhil is tied to a chair and his head is covered with a mask. When he's asked about the agency he's working for, he replies, "Osama Bin Laden, Gaddafi and Hitler." He then goes on to call himself a wild saale and he does look wild with blood all over his face.

The release date glimpse is brutal and shows the wild side of Akhil's character. The actor underwent a stylish makeover and will be seen sporting six-pack abs, unit sources said.

Producer Surender Reddy has made this movie completely different from other spy thrillers, they added.

Sakshi Vaidya played Akhil's love interest, and Mammotty will be seen in a vital role. Rasool Ellore and Hip Hop Tamizha are taking care of the camera and music departments, respectively. The story for the movie was provided by Vakkantham Vamsi. Produced by Ramabrahmam Sunkara under AK Entertainments and Surrender 2 Cinema, National Award winner Naveen Nooli is the editor while Avinash Kolla is the art director. Ajay Sunkara, Pathi Deepa Reddy are the co-producers of the film which will have a Pan India release in Telugu, Hindi, Tamil, Kannada and Malayalam languages.



Radhika Seth