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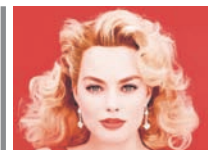
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MANIPUR VIRAL VIDEOS: SC TAKES SUO MOTO COGNIZANCE

Team Absolute | New Delhi

New Delhi: The Supreme Court today condemned what it called the "deeply disturbing" video of two women paraded naked in Manipur and said the visuals showed "gross constitutional failure". The Chief Justice of India, DY Chandrachud, asked the government to take action and also keep the court apprised about the steps being taken to ensure the safety of women in the region.

If the government didn't act, the Supreme Court would, warned the Chief Justice, adding that the court would take up the case on July 28.

"We are very deeply disturbed about the videos distributed yesterday. We are expressing our deep concern. It is time that the government steps and takes action. This is unacceptable," DY Chandrachud said. In the video that has triggered massive condemnation and demands for action, two women were paraded naked by a mob, molested, and dragged to a field, where they were allegedly gang-raped.

According to the Indigenous Tribal Leaders' Forum (ITLF), the two women were also gang-raped in a paddy field after being paraded naked while being groped by



a mob. The gravity of the situation caught the attention of the Supreme Court, which has now also taken suo moto cognizance of the viral videos.

Four accused held, CM says will seek capital punishment

Imphal: Four accused have been arrested in connection with the shocking case of two women being paraded naked on camera by a mob in Manipur's Kangpokpi district on May 4, state police said on Thursday. "Four main accused arrested in the Viral Video Case: 03 (three) more main accused of the heinous crime of abduction and gangrape under Nongpok Sekmai PS, Thoubal District have been arrested today. So total 04 (four) persons have been arrested till now."

"The State Police is making all out efforts to arrest the other culprits at the earliest. Raids are continuing," the Manipur Police tweeted. Chief Minister N. Biren Singh, who had earlier said two more accused had been arrested, announced that maximum punishment would be accorded to the perpetrators.

Sonia asked PM Modi for debate in House on Manipur issue

New Delhi: Even as Prime Minister Narendra Modi was seen reaching out to Congress Parliamentary Party (CPP) chairperson Sonia Gandhi in Parliament on Thursday, the Congress leader urged him to have a detailed discussion on Manipur issue in the House. Sonia Gandhi made the demand during her brief conversation with the prime minister in the Lok Sabha on the first day of the Monsoon session. Just before the House met for the day, PM Modi took a round to greet various leaders. It is customary for leaders to greet each other on the first day of the Parliament session. As the Prime Minister reached the bench of opposition leaders, he had a brief conversation with the former Congress president. The Parliament's Monsoon Session began on Thursday and will continue till August 11.

Tribals demand punishment for perpetrators, separate administration

Imphal: Braving heavy downpour, thousands of tribals in Manipur's Churachandpur district on Thursday raised their demand for a separate administration and stringent punishment for the perpetrators involved in the horrific incident in Kangpokpi district where two women were paraded naked and allegedly gang-raped. The spirited rally, also attended by elders, demanded a separate administration (equivalent to separate state) for the tribals "as they are not safe living with the Meitei community". Raising slogans for a separate administration, the rally commenced from the Lamka Public Ground. Despite heavy rains, the determination of the protesters remained firm as they marched towards the Peace Ground after covering a large part of the hill town. The protesters also demanded Manipur Chief Minister N. Biren Singh's resignation, and immediate intervention by the Central government.

Manipur Chief Minister to stay

New Delhi: Manipur Chief Minister N Biren will stay, sources said. Many on social media, including the Congress, have demanded the Chief Minister's removal, alleging massive failure in governance.

There is "no discussion on changing the Chief Minister, rather the priority is to ensure that law and order remains in control," said sources in the government amid reports to the contrary. "The situation in Manipur is under control. The Home Minister spoke to Kuki groups this morning. Assured them of speedy action... The Centre is in constant touch with the state," sources said.



ABSOLUTE COMMENT

Nagendra Sharma

Rape of India

Put out the fire, nothing has been done. The violence would have to have stopped if something had been done, and the residents of Manipur would have been allowed to leave the shelter and return to their homes. People in Manipur are paying the price for state lust. According to reports, the episode in which women were groped and exhibited naked predates by more than two months. Birendra Singh, the Chief Minister of Manipur, said, "It is just one incident, and hundreds of cases like this are registered in the state." How despicable is this statement? What the hell is he doing there, if it's true? Fact-checkers reported that this occurrence was caused by false information. (A community's woman was violated, and the community exacted revenge.) To avoid any unforeseen incidents, the Manipur government has stopped the state's Internet services. Still, it took place. What would the nation expect to see if there was only one horrific incident?

After a protracted period of silence, the Prime Minister said that no guilty person would be spared. Really...? Only one suspect in the naked parade was apprehended after 77 days. That was also following the viral video. Did the police know he'd done it? What were they doing, when the victim's relatives told the police?

India has experienced violent rape. The frequency of rape has been low over the past few years, but what happened in Manipur (The Naked Parade) is the rarest of the rare cases. Manipur has been on fire since April ended.

Locals and a few retired military personnel said that this violence is state-sponsored. The state government is free to do nothing about the violence and does not want to. These claims can simply be found on social media. They also provide the cause. How vile and inexpensive politics have become today!

When compared to political greed, humans and humanity are irrelevant. Let it be that a few people died, some property was damaged, and violence overthrew the peace at the speed of personal lust. In other (clearly leaked) videos, local police officers can be seen blocking the actions of the peacekeeping soldiers. Miscrants were liberated by the mob, taken into custody by the authorities with no consequences. Union and state governments both remained silent. According to the police FIR, one of the three women who were paraded naked was raped. Why is it stated that India has been raped here? Considering that a woman is not always physically raped. Sexual activity is a natural occurrence. However, it is considered rape when she is mentally opposed to it. Regardless, who does it? In the film, the women were being scratched by the vampires; a woman should not even permit her spouse to touch her private parts over her clothing without first getting her permission. They were Indian women. They were beaten, harassed, raped, killed, and humiliated most of all. And the in charge authorities continued to act carelessly. The entire world is currently witnessing Indians raping Indians. Even in isolation, a grown lady felt uncomfortable getting naked in front of her love. Those victims were paraded naked in the crowd. That is why it is rape of India.

ing soldiers. Miscrants were liberated by the mob, taken into custody by the authorities with no consequences. Union and state governments both remained silent. According to the police FIR, one of the three women who were paraded naked was raped. Why is it stated that India has been raped here? Considering that a woman is not always physically raped. Sexual activity is a natural occurrence. However, it is considered rape when she is mentally opposed to it. Regardless, who does it? In the film, the women were being scratched by the vampires; a woman should not even permit her spouse to touch her private parts over her clothing without first getting her permission. They were Indian women. They were beaten, harassed, raped, killed, and humiliated most of all. And the in charge authorities continued to act carelessly. The entire world is currently witnessing Indians raping Indians. Even in isolation, a grown lady felt uncomfortable getting naked in front of her love. Those victims were paraded naked in the crowd. That is why it is rape of India.

Pakistani woman's case under investigation: MEA

Team Absolute | New Delhi

The Ministry of External Affairs on Thursday said that the case of Pakistani woman Seema Haider, who came to India illegally, is under investigation and any further information on the matter would be given once details are available.

External Affairs ministry spokesperson Arindam Bagchi, while responding to a query on the matter related to the Pakistani woman who crossed over illegally into India via Nepal, said: "The



matter is under investigation and we will give you further information if it comes."

Bagchi's statement came during the weekly press briefing, in response to a query on whether Pakistan has demanded consular access to

Seema Haider. He further said that the woman was presented before the court and is now out on bail.

On being interrogated by security agencies, the woman is said to have revealed that she and her Indian partner Sachin Meena stayed at a hotel in Nepal for almost a week in March this year, under fake names.

The Uttar Pradesh Anti-Terrorist Squad (ATS) on Tuesday quizzed Seema Haider, who reached India illegally to meet her boyfriend Sachin Meena in Noida.

NINE KILLED AS SPEEDING JAGUAR PLOUGHS INTO CROWD IN AHMEDABAD

Ahmedabad | Agencies

Nine people were killed and over 15 injured after a speeding luxury car ploughed into a crowd on the ISKCON bridge in Ahmedabad on Thursday, police said.

The accident occurred around 1 a.m. on the bridge located on the Sarkhej-Gandhinagar highway when the Jaguar, reported to be running at over 100 kmph, ploughed into a crowd gathered there after an accident between two vehicles, a police official said.

The overspeeding vehicle coming from Rajpath Club hit the unsuspecting crowd. The force of the impact was so tremendous that it sent people flying through the air, some landing approximately 25 to 30 feet away.

Chaos prevailed on the bridge as rescue teams and local police descended upon the scene. The injured victims were rushed to the Civil Hospital.

Among the deceased are a police constable and a Home Guard personnel, who were on duty at the



time of the accident. Kripa Patel, a Medical Officer at Sola Civil Hospital, said that efforts are currently underway to provide medical treatment and support to the remaining injured individuals in the hospital. The student has been identified as Tathya

Pragnesh Patel who is the son of a wealthy builder and is in the second year of his college.

Patel was driving with his friends when he lost control of his overspeeding SUV GJ 01 WK 93, leading to the collision. He has been admitted to CIMS, a prominent hospital in Ahmedabad.

His father, Pragnesh Patel has a criminal history, including involvement in a rape case in Rajkot in 2020. Patel resides in a lavish bungalow named 'Hare Shanti' situated opposite Gokul Farm House in the Gota area in Ahmedabad. Their house is located approximately 700 meters from the SG highway and eight kilometers from the accident site.

Denying any wrongdoing by his son, Pragnesh Patel said, "Tathya and his friends had left home around 11 p.m. to have coffee. The car is registered under my partner's name and there were two female friends and two male friends accompanying Tathya in the car."

"Pan masala, drugs or liquor -- my son has never done anything in his life."

Defamation case: Supreme Court to hear Rahul Gandhi's plea today

Team Absolute | New Delhi

The Supreme Court is slated to hear on Friday the plea filed by former Congress President Rahul Gandhi against the Gujarat High Court's verdict denying a stay on his conviction in the 'Modi surname' defamation case.

As per the cause list published on the apex court website, a bench of Justices B.R. Gavai and Prashant Kumar Mishra will hear Gandhi's plea against the High Court's order refusing to stay his conviction and two-year jail term in a criminal defamation case, which cost the Congress leader his Lok Sabha membership.

In anticipation, Purnesh Modi, a BJP MLA and the complainant in the defama-



tion case against Gandhi, had submitted a caveat, requesting for a chance to present his case. A caveat serves as a notice submitted to an appellate court by a litigant who wishes to be heard in case any orders are issued regarding an opponent's appeal that challenges the decision or judgment made by the lower court.

Delhi court grants bail to Brij Bhushan in sexual harassment case

Team Absolute | New Delhi

A Delhi court on Thursday granted bail to Bharatiya Janata Party MP and former Wrestling Federation of India (WFI) chief, Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh, in connection with the sexual harassment case of female wrestlers.

Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate (ACMM) Harjeet Singh Jaspal of Rouse Avenue Court passed the order after having reserved it earlier in the day.

The court has also granted bail plea to co-accused Vinod Tomar.

The accused persons have been directed by the court to not leave the country without its prior intimation and said that they will not, directly or indirectly, indulge in threat or inducement to the complainants or witnesses.

"Please ensure that all the conditions are meticulously followed," ACMM Jaspal said. Additional Public Prosecutor (APP)



Atul Srivastava earlier reiterated that Singh may influence witnesses, hence conditions be imposed while granting bail. In the order, the court recorded: "... APP submits that he is neither opposing nor supporting the bail application. His submission is only that court should deal with bail application as per law,

rules, guidelines and judgements of Supreme Court." Even the Advocate Harsh Bora for complainant said: "If your honour is inclined to grant bail, strict conditions may be imposed."

Representing the accused, Advocate Rajiv Mohan submitted that they will abide by all conditions.

Less than 6 months after 'cake-cutting' parole, Ram Rahim out again

Team Absolute | New Delhi

Less than six months after he had held a big bash while on a 40-day parole, rape convict Gurmeet Ram Rahim Singh walked out of a jail in Haryana today after being granted parole for 30 days.

This is the Dera Sacha Sauda chief's fifth parole in less than two years and his seventh overall. He was sentenced to 20 years in prison in 2017 for raping two women followers.

Following a controversy over the 40-day parole being given to Ram Rahim in January, Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar had said that getting parole after following all procedures was the Dera Sacha Sauda chief's right.

"I was not aware that Ram Rahim has got parole. But if



he has, then it must be after following all the procedures and that is his right. I will not interfere in that," Khattar had said.

It was during the same parole period that Ram Rahim was seen "celebrating" by cutting a cake with a sword. In a video that had surfaced online in January, he was heard saying, "Got a chance after five years to celebrate like this, so I should cut at least five cakes. This is the first cake."



MUMBAI COVID SCAM: LIFELINE HOSPITAL MANAGEMENT SERVICES ACCUSED OF FAKING ATTENDANCE SHEETS

Team Absolute | Mumbai

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Thursday arrested two persons in connection with the Mumbai Jumbo Covid centres scam.

The arrested persons have been identified as Sujit Patker of Lifeline Hospital Management Services, a company that received contract to run two Jumbo Covid Centres in Mumbai, and Kishore Bisure, a civic doctor.

It has been alleged that although Patker got the contract to run Jumbo Covid Centres, medical staff were not deployed at the hospitals, and government funds were siphoned off.

The duo was produced before a special PMLA court, which sent them to ED custody till July 27.

The ED had initiated a PMLA investigation on November 21, 2022, based on an FIR registered by the Azad Maidan police station, Mumbai. Later, the Economic Offences Wing (EOW) over the probe and filed a charge sheet on April 27, 2023.

During the course of ED's investigation, it was revealed that during the pandemic in March 2020, the municipal bodies took measures and established Jumbo Covid Centres to overcome the scarcity of beds for Covid patients in all the available hospitals in the jurisdiction of Mumbai.

For the purpose of making treatment available to all citizens, these



centres were established with a large number of beds (oxygenated, non-oxygenated, and ICU). It was learnt that Lifeline Hospital Management Services received Rs 31,84,71,634 from the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) for the supply of medical personnel to the Covid centres. The investigation revealed huge discrepancies in the attendance sheets and documents submitted to BMC by the staff of Lifeline Hospital Management Services (LHMS).

"For the functioning of these Jumbo Covid Centres, contracts were awarded by the BMC to various firms, including LHMS, which was a new company established in 2020, without any experience of providing medical services.

"Sujit Patker, a partner in LHMS, managed to obtain a contract for providing medical personnel at NSCI Worli and Dahisar Jumbo Covid Centres from the BMC authorities," read the ED remand paper accessed by reporter.

The ED said that its investigation revealed huge discrepancies in the attendance sheets and documents submitted to the BMC by LHMS.

In this regard, letters were issued to the doctors, nurses, and staff reportedly engaged in the Jumbo Covid Centres of LHMS; most of these letters were returned undelivered to the postal authorities. Some of the doctors and staff in their replies even submitted that they have never worked in these Covid centres.

However, they stated that they have appeared for an interview and submitted their personal records to LHMS. But on the instructions of Patker and other partners in the firm, the concerned staff of LHMS submitted their attendance in bills to the BMC authorities showing them as regular employees.

"This arrangement was made by a partner of LHMS with Kishore Bisure, to project that the doctor-to-patient ratio was being maintained as per the specifications mentioned in the Expression of Interest (EOI) issued to LHMS.

"Patker fabricated the bills, despite huge under-deployment of medical staff to the extent of 50-60 per cent, and the same were submitted to the BMC authorities. Patker used to handle liaison with BMC officials and played a key role in the process of allotment of the contract of manpower supply to the Jumbo Covid Centres at Dahisar and Worli to LHMS. He also managed Kishore Bisure and other BMC staff for clearing invoices with fake attendance sheets," the ED alleged. The agency said that Bisure received valuable items, cash, and a laptop from LHMS.

"LHMS was acting in connivance with BMC officials. An offence of this magnitude is not possible without the explicit complicity of senior functionaries of the BMC," read the remand paper.

Dotasra to head Congress election committee for Rajasthan, Pilot makes comeback

Team Absolute | New Delhi

Ahead of the crucial Assembly elections, the Congress on Thursday announced the Election Committee for Rajasthan with state unit chief Govind Singh Dotasra as its Chairman and Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot and his former deputy Sachin Pilot among the members.

In a communication, Congress General Secretary, Organisation, K.C. Venugopal said: "Congress President Mallikarjun Kharge has approved for the constitution of Pradesh Election Committee for the ensuing assembly elections in Rajasthan with immediate effect." Besides Dotasra, Gehlot and Pilot, senior party leaders Bhanwar Jitendra Singh, Raghuveer Meena, Rameshwar Dudi, Raghu Sharma, Harish Choudhary, Lalchand Kataria, Ramlal Jat, and Pramod Jain Bhaya have been named in the 29 member committee.

Assembly elections in



Rajasthan are due later this year. The Congress government, led by Gehlot, has been launching several pro-people schemes in the state to woo the voters. Meanwhile, Pilot has made

a comeback in a party committee in the state after he was removed from the post of Deputy Chief Minister and state unit chief in 2020 for his rebellion.

MP govt appoints retired HC judge to probe irregularities in patwari exams

Team Absolute | Bhopal

The Madhya Pradesh government has appointed retired High Court judge Rajendra Kumar Verma to probe the alleged irregularities in Patwaris recruitment exams, Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan said on Thursday.

The government said the probe on alleged irregularities would be completed by August 31, and further action would be initiated on the basis of its recommendations. "Retired Judge of Hon'ble High Court Rajendra Kumar Verma has been appointed to examine Group-2, Sub-Group-4, and Patwari Recruitment Examination conducted through Staff Selection Board. In the investigation, complaints related to the above examination and other



relevant points arising during the investigation will also be investigated. Based on the findings of the investigation, appropriate recommendations will be submitted to the state government by August 31, 2023," a post of the CM's official Twitter handle read.

The development came a week after Chouhan had announced a hold to the appointment of selected can-

didates, until the matter is probed. Around 1.4 million students appeared for the examination conducted between March 15 to April 26 and the results were declared on June 30. Chouhan had announced the appointment of over 9,000 selected candidates to put on hold following a massive protest staged by the students in Indore and Bhopal.

DELHI YOUTH ELECTROCUTED TO DEATH WHILE USING TREADMILL AT GYM

Team Absolute | New Delhi

A 24-year-old youth died after being electrocuted while using a treadmill at a gym in Delhi's Rohini area, a police official said on Thursday.

The victim was identified as Saksham, a resident of Sector-19, Rohini. Saksham, a B.Tech graduate used to work in a multi-national company in Gurugram.

Saksham is survived by his father, mother, and a younger sister. On Tuesday, police received information regarding the death of a youth from the BSA Hospital.

"Upon reaching the hospital, the police team was informed that the victim was brought in an unconscious state from the gym situated in Sector 15, Rohini," said Deputy Commissioner of Police (Rohini), Guriqbal Singh Sidhu.

During investigation, the police reviewed the CCTV footage, which depicted Saksham performing his workout routine. "During the exercise, he sat on one of the treadmills, and it appears that he received an



electric shock while in that position, leading to his fall," said the DCP.

In response to the incident, the forensic science laboratory (FSL) team was called to the scene. After examining the treadmill on which the unfortunate incident occurred, the

FSL team concluded that the metal parts of the machine carried an electric current.

The police have registered a case under IPC sections 287 (negligent conduct with respect to machinery) and 304A (causing death by negli-

gence) at the KN Katju Marg police station.

Recounting the incident, complainant Keshav, who was present at the gym, told police that the incident occurred during his workout on Tuesday. "Saksham, another gym-goer, was also exercising at the time. At approximately 7:15 a.m., after some physical exertion, Saksham took a break and sat between two treadmills to rest. Unfortunately, during this time, he accidentally fell backward," said Keshav in his complaint.

When Keshav attempted to help Saksham, he too received an electric shock. Reacting swiftly, Keshav turned off the power switch to prevent further harm. Other people at the gym rushed to aid Saksham by rubbing his hands and feet and administering CPR, but regrettably, their efforts yielded no response. Consequently, Saksham was immediately taken to a hospital for medical attention, while Keshav returned home. According to the FIR, the gym in question was being managed by one Anubhav Duggal.

TN sanitary worker cleans sewage with bare hands, officials issued show cause notices

Chennai | Agencies

The assistant director in charge of the Directorate of Town Panchayaths (Vellore region) in Tamil Nadu has issued show-cause notices to the executive officer and sanitary supervisor in Tiruvannamalai region after a sanitary worker cleaned sewage with his bare hands.

The incident occurred at Chengam town panchayath in Tiruvannamalai district on Wednesday. A sanitary worker had got down into the open sewage channel and removed a stone that was blocking the flow of sewage in the drain with his bare hands. However sources in the town panchayath told IANS that the sanitary supervisor, A. Sreenivasan had asked



the worker not to remove the stone with his bare hands but use gloves

but the worker had refused to wear gloves.

Executive officer Uma Maheswari and sanitary supervisor A. Sreenivasan received the notices on Thursday and are required to respond within three days.

Chengam panchayath in Tiruvannamalai district is spread over 18 wards with over 50,000 residents. There are 65 sanitary workers including contract workers from Self Help Groups who are involved in garbage collection and desilting drains in the panchayath. Following the incident, the Directorate of Town Panchayaths has issued a circular to all the town panchayaths in Vellore, Ranipet, Tirupattur, and Tiruvannamalai districts to adhere to norms under the Septage Management Regulations and Operational guidelines 2023 of the Tamil Nadu government.

BHOJPURI ACTRESS RAPED IN GURUGRAM

Gurugram | Agencies

A 21-year-old Bhojpuri actress has been allegedly raped after being called to a hotel here in Udyog Vihar on the pretext of an interview, the police said on Thursday.

The incident took place on June 29.

The complainant told the police that on June 20, she came in contact with one Mahesh Pandey -- a resident of Chakkarpur village in Gurugram district, through Instagram.

Thereafter, they exchanged phone numbers, and on June 27, Pandey told her that he would meet her for an interview on June 29.

"The accused called the victim on the pretext of an interview to a hotel in the Udyog Vihar area where a



room was already booked," a police officer said.

"The accused, under the influence of alcohol, forcefully took me to the bed, saying 'the interview will now be done on the bed' and raped me. When I resisted, the accused threatened me. Later, he fled," the woman mentioned in the complaint.

She filed a complaint on July 19 about the alleged rape.

The accused has been identified after the CCTVs installed in the hotel were checked.

"The matter is being investigated, and further action will be taken accordingly," ACP Varun Dahiya said.

AHMEDABAD COURT REJECTS TEESTA SETALVAD'S DISCHARGE APPLICATION IN 2002 GUJARAT RIOTS CASE

Ahmedabad: A sessions court here on Thursday dismissed activist Teesta Setalvad's discharge application in relation to a case of allegedly fabricating evidence to implicate high government functionaries in 2002 Gujarat riots cases.

This decision came a day after her bail plea was allowed by the Supreme Court, which set aside the Gujarat High Court order denying it as "perverse".

Additional Principal Judge of the City Civil and Sessions Court, A.R. Patel rejected Setalvad's application, stating that a prima facie case could be made against her.

Setalvad, who has maintained her innocence, moved the plea to be discharged in the criminal case lodged against her by the Gujarat Police. Accused of fabricating evidence and tutoring witnesses, Setalvad, in her discharge application, argued that there were no grounds connecting her to the alleged offences and that the material marshalled against her was insufficient.

We will accommodate all allies in seat sharing in 2024 LS polls: Shivpala

Lucknow | Agencies

Samajwadi Party national general secretary Shivpal Singh Yadav said that efforts would be made to accommodate all the alliance partners in seat sharing for the upcoming Lok Sabha elections.

Shivpal's statement sets at rest all speculations about problems over seat sharing in Uttar Pradesh among the members of the newly-formed Indian National Developmental Inclusive Alliance (INDIA).

Talking to reporters, Shivpal said, "Alliance means accommodating all the political partners. We will all sit together and workout seat sharing. Samajwadi Party is making all efforts to strengthen the alliance and defeat the BJP."

Besides the Indian National Congress, the Samajwadi Party, the Rashtriya Lok Dal, the Apna Dal (Kameravadi) and the Aam Admi Party are the major political



parties from the state that are part of the new alliance. Asked about the possibilities of roping in the Bahujan Samaj Party, which is not part of the two national alliances, INDIA or NDA, he

said the BSP was not following the ideology of its founder late Kanshi Ram and was considered close to the BJP.

Shivpal said he would discuss all modalities of seat sharing with SP presi-

dent Akhilesh Yadav. About possibilities of his contesting the 2024 Lok Sabha elections, he said he would follow the directives of the party leadership in this regard. Shivpal, while replying to a question, said that leaders like the Suheldev Bhartiya Samaj Party (SBSP) chief Om Prakash Rajbhar and former SP leader Dara Singh joining the BJP was immaterial because these leaders did not carry any weight. Shivpal said the SBSP leader had made offensive comments even against those occupying constitutional positions like the Prime Minister and chief minister. "I have also remained in opposition. I have, however, never made any such comments. These people have made comments even against those who occupy constitutional positions," he said. Shivpal denied giving a ticket to Mukhtar Ansari's son Abbas Ansari, who is SBSP MLA, and said that it was the problem of the SBSP and the BJP and the SP had nothing to do with it.

TWO-DAY HOLIDAY FOR OFFICES, SCHOOLS & COLLEGES IN HYDERABAD

Hyderabad: In view of incessant rains, the government of Telangana has declared two-day holiday (July 21 and 22) for all government offices and educational institutions in Hyderabad.

Chief Minister K. Chandrababbar Rao on Thursday directed Chief Secretary Santhi Kumari to declare a two-day holiday on Friday and Saturday for all government offices including all types of educational institutions, only in the limits of Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC).

The Chief Minister said that emergency services such as medical, milk supply etc., will continue uninterrupted.

Following the Chief Minister's direction, the Chief Secretary issued a Government Order in this regard.

Rao also ordered the State Labour department to take steps to ensure that private companies also announce holidays to their respective offices in GHMC Limits.



12 KILLED IN RAIGAD HILLSLIDE, MORE TRAPPED

Team Absolute | Raigad

Twelve villagers and a rescue team member were killed when a portion of a 550-metres hillock crashed on a large part of the Irshalwadi tribal village near Khalapur in Maharashtra's Raigad district, officials said here on Thursday.

The incident happened late on Wednesday. Around 10 persons were rescued from the slush and stone while another 80 people are still feared trapped with a massive rescue operation on a war-footing mounted to rescue them.

Chief Minister Eknath Shinde rushed to the tragedy spot -- around 100 kms from Mumbai -- and monitored the situation, while Deputy CM Ajit Pawar was stationed at the State Disaster Management Centre.

According to state government officials, the disaster occurred around 11.45 p.m. on July 19 when the region was lashed by torrential rain.

A portion of the tall hillock, over 550 metres high, under which the tribal village nestled, suddenly crashed on Irshalwadi, crushing an estimated 30-40 hutments and trapping the residents in them.

According to Pawar, the Irshalwadi village population was 228 of which more than 100 people have been affected by last night's tragedy.

On learning of the disaster, Raigad district administration and police, SDRF, NDRF teams rushed to the spot and launched a massive rescue operation as rains continued.



Rescue workers at the site of the landslide in Raigad.

The hilly terrain with huge boulders and stones scattered hampered the rescue teams who could work only with hammers to save the people as the clock ticked away.

This morning Shinde reviewed the situation and in view of the difficulties encountered in the hazardous terrain as cranes and heavy machinery cannot be taken there for the rescue operation.

He said two helicopters would be deployed for the rescue mission. Pawar said that while choppers are ready for the mission, they would not be able to land in the region due to the stormy weather conditions.

Several ministers, police and civilian officials from different departments and the Navi Mumbai Municipal Corporation and Panvel Municipal Corporation have also rushed to the site.

Union Home Minister Amit Shah called up Shinde and took details of the tragedy, and has also offered any type of help as the state government may require.

Deputy CM Devendra Fadnis said that the rescue operation is being hampered on various counts but all efforts are underway to save the people trapped in the slush and stones.

Akhil Maharashtra Giriyarohan Mahasangh President Umesh Zirpe said that around 60 mountaineers have joined the search and rescue operations there through the Maharashtra Mountaineers Rescue Coordination Centre (MMRCC).

"This hill with the Irshalgad Fort is a popular trekking point and the ill-fated Irshalwadi village was situated just below the rocky cliffs that crashed," Zirpe told IANS from Pune. The IMD has issued Red or Orange

alerts for districts of Palghar, Thane, Mumbai, Raigad, Ratnagiri and Sindhudurg till Saturday as incessant rain continued to pound the coastal regions since Monday.

Shinde announced a compensation of Rs 5,00,000 to the kin of each deceased victim and treatment at government expense for the injured in the calamity.

FIREMAN DIES EN ROUTE TO RESCUE MISSION

Raigad: An officer of the Navi Mumbai Fire Brigade, rushing to help the rescue mission in Raigad, collapsed and died of a heart attack en route to Irshalwadi where a hill-slide occurred, officials said here on Thursday.

Early this morning, Assistant Station Officer Shivram Dhume, 52, of the Belapur Fire Brigade was deployed on the team to join the massive search and rescue operations for the victims of the hillslide.

While climbing up the steep path at the tragedy site, Dhume suddenly collapsed, suffered a massive heart attack and breathed his last there, said Chief Fire Officer Shirish Aradwad.

Dhume's colleagues and officers of the Navi Mumbai Fire Brigade and the civic corporation have grieved over the tragic on-duty passing and his body was brought from Raigad and handed over to his family for the last rites.

Infant slips out of man's arms, washed away in flooded Thane drain

Team Absolute | Mumbai

In a heart-wrenching tragedy, a four-month-old infant reportedly slipped from a man's arm and plunged into a flooded drain near Thakurli town of the district, here on Wednesday afternoon.

The shocking incident occurred when an Ambernath-bound suburban local train had stopped between Thakurli and Kalyan stations as the railway tracks were flooded owing to torrential rains in the district since last night.

After waiting for over an hour, many of the commuters in the train jumped off the train and started walking to their respective destinations.

One of the coaches of the train was over a raging drain dotted with trees and thick bushes on both sides, and there were some utility pipelines beside the railway tracks.

Thane social worker Binu Varghese, citing local eyewitnesses, said that most commuters managed to safely cross over the drain to the other side. A young woman and her brother-in-law, along with her infant child, also took courage to walk over the narrow pipes on the drain.

Suddenly, the child, which was in the man's arms, slipped off and dropped straight into the swirling dark waters of the swollen drain below, even as the horrified mother started screaming.

As the rain continued and the drain was flowing fast, there was little they could do except wait for help, even as videos of the woman and her relative pointing towards the drain went viral.

After word passed to the Thakurli and Kalyan stations, teams of the Railway Protection Force, Government Railway Police and SDRF rushed to the spot to carry out a search operation. The rescuers with ropes and other gear scoured the vicinity, including the bushes but the infant remained untraced till



darkness fell and the rainfall continued. "I am in constant touch with the rescue teams but so far there is no sign of the infant. The mother is inconsolable and in a state of shock... The authorities are trying to ascertain the details of the family and are expected to give an update later," said Varghese.

A SDRF official said that the 'child' is missing and all efforts are on to trace the infant. The entire coastal belt of Maharashtra comprising Mumbai, Thane, Palghar, Raigad, Ratnagiri and Sindhudurg districts has experienced very heavy rains in the past 24 hours, with many districts put on red or orange alert till Saturday.

The state government closed offices early today and allowed the staffers to leave for their homes in view of the incessant rains.

The Chief Minister Eknath Shinde has termed the incident as unfortunate.

This evening, the Chief Minister also took a review of the rainfall and flood situation affecting large parts of the state, the transport and communication and all rescue agencies are kept ready for deployment in any emergencies, said an official.

Businessman, Doctor sent to 8-day custody in Mumbai Covid centre case

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Businessman Sujit Patkar, a friend of Shiv Sena (UBT) MP Sanjay Raut, and another person were sent to the custody of the Enforcement Directorate (ED) custody till July 27 in a money laundering case related to 'irregularities' in the jumbo COVID-19 centers in Mumbai.

The ED arrested Patkar and a doctor, Kishore Bisure, last night and produced them before Justice MG Deshpande, the special judge for cases filed under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act.



The central probe agency sought eight-day custody for the two to unearth the alleged conspiracy in the case. Patkar and his three partners are accused of fraudulently bagging contracts from the

Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) to set up and manage COVID-19 field hospitals -- 'jumbo centers' -- in Mumbai during the pandemic. Bisure was the dean of a jumbo centre in Mumbai's suburban Dahisar.

Sonu Sood announces free law education for students in his CLAT programme

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Actor Sonu Sood has announced free law education to aspirants in his law entrance coaching programme.

As the founder of the Sood Charity Foundation (SCF), Sonu is dedicated to making a lasting impact and bringing about positive change in society. Sankalp is a transformative Free Law Entrance Coaching programme that empowers to pursue a professional legal education and secure a coveted spot in National Law Universities (NLUs).

Speaking about 'Sankalp', Sonu said: "It gives me immense pleasure

to see that God has chosen me to be the catalyst in the path of enlightenment of the people who want to choose law as their career. I'm sure that, our country will be in safe and able hands."

The programme will give free training for CLAT, AILET, and other law entrance exams exclusively for deserving students. Priority given to those who have faced loss during the challenging Covid wave/s or come from economically weaker sections (EWS). Sonu has worked in Hindi, Telugu, Tamil and Kannada films.

The actor made his acting debut in 1999 with 'Kallazhagar'. He is known for his work in films such as

'Dabangg', 'Yuva', 'Athadu' (2005), 'Aashiq Banaya Aapne' (2005), 'Jodhaa Akbar' (2008), 'Kandireega' (2011), 'Dookudu' (2011), 'Shootout at Wadala' (2013), 'R... Rajkumar' (2013), 'Happy New Year' (2014), 'Kung Fu Yoga' (2017) and 'Simmba' (2018).

In July 2016, he established the production house Shakti Sagar Productions, which is named after his father, Shakti Sagar Sood.

In September 2020, Sood was chosen for the 'SDG Special Humanitarian Action Award' by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) for his humanitarian works during the Covid-19



pandemic. In June 2022, he launched his social media app called Explurgr. He will next be seen in 'Fateh'.

ED SEIZES ILLEGAL 'SAI RESORT' IN PROBE AGAINST EX-MAHARASHTRA MINISTER



Team Absolute | New Delhi

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) stated on Wednesday that it has taken possession of 'Sai Resort NX', constructed on land located in

Murud, Dapoli, Ratnagiri, falling under Coastal Regulation Zone (No Development Zone) in connection with a money laundering probe against Anil Dattatray Parab, former Maharashtra minister.

"The action has been initiated after the Adjudicating Authority for PMLA confirmed the provisional attachment of assets worth Rs 10.20 crore," said an official.

The ED initiated the investigation based on a complaint filed by the Ministry of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change against Parab, Sai Resort, Sea Conch Resort, and others before the Judicial Magistrate, Dapoli, for violation of Section 19 and Section 15 read with Section 7 of the Environment (Protection) Act.

At a later stage, an FIR was also registered at the Dapoli Police Station under various sections of the IPC. During the investigation, the Dapoli Police found various other crimes related to offences under various sections of the IPC and the Prevention of Corruption Act, which were also included in the FIR.

"The ED Investigation has revealed that Parab

and his close associate, Sadanand Kadam, hatched a conspiracy and obtained illegal permission from the revenue department authorities, state of Maharashtra, through forgery & misdeclaration for the construction of twin bungalow (Ground + 1 Floor) on a piece of agricultural land falling under the "No Development Zone" and subsequently constructed an illegal resort, namely "Sai Resort NX," having Ground + 2 Floors in blatant disregard of CRZ-III rules and regulations," said the official.

The official stated that the permission for the construction of the twin bungalow was obtained in the name of the earlier owner without his knowledge, and even the revenue department authorities, knowing well that any construction is prohibited over the said piece of agricultural land, granted permission because of undue pressure and influence. Thereafter, the gram panchayat was deceived, misled, cheated, and pressurised to transfer the land along with the building in the name of Anil Parab to legitimise the illegal construction of "Sai Resort NX."

Anil Parab, with the intent to utilize his unaccounted money and conceal his identity as the real

owner, paid expenses for construction in cash before the registration of land in his name so that in the future, if any violation comes to light, the onus could be shifted to the erstwhile owner.

When various complaints regarding the illegal construction of Sai Resort NX came under media scrutiny, a benami transaction was executed where-in Anil Parab sold the said land on paper to Sadanand Kadam to conceal the illegalities and irregularities vis-a-vis the construction of the resort within CRZ-III, i.e., the No Development Zone.

During the course of the investigation, the ED attached assets worth Rs 10.20 crore in the form of land located at Gut No.446, Murud, Dapoli, Ratnagiri, valued at Rs 2,73,91,000, and Sai Resort NX, constructed on the said land, valued at Rs 7,46,47,000. The Adjudicating Authority for PMLA confirmed the provisional attachment of these assets.

The ED has arrested two persons, Sadanand Kadam, and Jayram Deshpande, the then SDO, Dapoli. It filed a Prosecution Complaint on May 6. Further investigation into the matter is ongoing.

BUILDING PORTION CRASHES IN THANE, CASUALTIES FEARED

Thane: The front portion of a five-storey building crashed opposite the Bhayander railway station East in Maharashtra's Thane district on Thursday, officials said.

As per initial reports, the frontal part of the Kirti Estate building -- which suddenly crashed -- may have trapped some people under the debris.

The police fire brigade and other agencies have rushed to the spot for rescue works and further details are awaited.

Bhayander and surroundings have been lashed by torrential rains for the past three days, leading to waterlogging in many areas.

Absolute lack of planning' for monsoon by BMC: Aaditya Thackeray

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Shiv Sena (UBT) leader Aaditya Thackeray on Wednesday alleged that there was "absolute lack of planning" for monsoon by the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) as he cited water-logging at Worli Seaface.

"Have been receiving updates about water logging at Worli Seaface. This is unusual, and mostly likely due to the ongoing works of the Coastal Road. Absolute lack of planning for monsoons this year by @mybmc is evident. Calling out to BMC and G South ward to intervene," Aaditya Thackeray tweeted.

Worli is the assembly constituency of Aaditya Thackeray.

Replying to Aaditya Thackeray's tweet, BMC said: "We acknowledge your concerns about Worli Seaface. Our team has promptly investigated, and we confirm no water logging issues. Rest assured, we take monsoon planning seriously, and we're working to ensure a smoother experience. Safety remains our top priority!" The BMC is being run by the state government-appointed administrator.

Heavy rains lashed Mumbai, its suburbs and adjoining areas on Wednesday, which



disrupted the suburban rail traffic and caused water-logging in low-lying areas.

Heavy rains lashed parts of Mumbai amid an orange alert on Wednesday, leading to disruption of local train services beyond Kalyan in the adjoining Thane district, diversion of some express trains and cancellation of a few services between Mumbai and Pune.

GOVT URGES PEOPLE NOT TO STEP OUT OF HOMES UNLESS NECESSARY

Team Absolute | Mumbai

In view of continuous downpour in parts of Maharashtra and heavy rainfall warning, the state government on Thursday issued an advisory, asking people not to step out of homes unless necessary.

Mumbai received an average 100 mm rainfall in 24 hours till 8 am on Thursday, while neighbouring Thane city received a whopping 213.84 mm rainfall during that period. Some coastal districts, including Raigad and Ratnagiri, have been receiving incessant rainfall, officials said.

A massive landslide at Irshalwadi village in Raigad district has claimed the lives of at least 10 villagers and many are still feared trapped, they said.

"The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has already issued a heavy rainfall warning for some districts in the state. There has been a downpour for the last two days as well. The citizens should not venture out unnecessarily," the government



said in its advisory.

It also said that people should avoid crowding at the landslide site in Irshalwadi.

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) on Thursday

issued an 'Orange' alert for Chandrapur, Gadchiroli, Bhandara and Gondia predicting thunderstorms with lightning and heavy to very heavy rainfall at isolated places.

The weather department issued a

'Yellow' alert for Nagpur, Wardha, Amravati, Akola, Yavatmal, Buldhana and Washim. It said that thunderstorms with lightning and heavy rainfall at isolated places were likely.



EDITOR'S SPECS

MULTIPLE SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS DON'T AFFECT MENTAL WELL-BEING

The use of many different social media platforms is not a significant risk factor for the well-being of the users, according to a study. Social media has become an integral part of everyday life. However, numerous studies have produced conflicting results on how the use of these applications affects the mental health of their users. "Previous studies have only looked at single variables such as depression or general health. Or the type of social media use was not clearly defined," said Sophie Lohmann, from the Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research (MPIDR) in Rostock, Germany. The new study, published in the journal PLOS Digital Health, showed that people who use multiple social media channels are no happier or unhappier than others. "There is very little correlation between the use of multiple social media platforms and the outcome variables, such as relationship satisfaction, financial satisfaction, general satisfaction, trust in the state, and so on. When we apply our method, all negative effects disappear completely," Lohmann said. The assumption that the use of multiple channels leads to overload is not confirmed. Further, the researchers said the topics are diverse and, above all, very complex. It is therefore important to define exactly what is meant by 'social media use' and not to lose sight of the complexity of the platforms. "Twitter is not the same as Facebook, which is not the same as TikTok. The way people use the different channels is very different. This must not be neglected in research," Lohmann said. "In the future, more attention needs to be paid to operationalisation in social media research. It needs to be clearly defined what social media use means and what kind of use has which effect."

UNRAVELLING THE UCC

Asad Mirza

On December 9, 2022, BJP MP Kirodi Lal Meena introduced a private member bill on India's Uniform Civil Code (UCC) in the Rajya Sabha that fuelled a fresh debate on an issue, which saw no resolution even in pre-independence India and continues to haunt the political climate of the country even today.

The sensitive nature of the issue besides giving political mileage to the BJP, affects various political parties, with respect to their stand on the issue.

Plus, it also puts various religious communities coming under the purview of the UCC to give up their respective Personal Laws, particularly the Muslims, which are the largest religious minority in the country.

Let's dissect the political motives first and then the response of the affected communities.

First, the audacious move of tabling the Private Member Bill in the Rajya Sabha came just one day after the BJP secured victory in the December 2022 Gujarat Assembly polls.

It reinforced the BJP's political manifesto of enforcing Hindutva, which may also serve as the lynchpin of its political strategy for the upcoming general elections in 2024, by polarising the public.

Further, the second move to seek public opinion on the proposed UCC, in absence of any draft of the proposed Bill, was a very astute move by the BJP.

As it came within a week of the opposition parties' meeting in Patna in June to formulate a united front and strategy to counter the BJP in the upcoming 2024 elections. As expected the move sowed division within the opposition's ranks. Further, it saw an immediate half-baked response from the so-called leaders of the religious minorities -- particularly the Muslims.

Muslim religious and community leaders without batting an eyelid immediately started opposing the UCC, and didn't stop to dwell on what grounds they were protesting and we saw a plethora of sentimentally rich and logically poor responses coming forth from them. The only common stand they took was that they oppose any interference in the Muslim Personal Law.

But I'm sure, neither the leaders nor their supporters know which Muslim Personal Law they are talking about. The one codified by any Muslim rulers like the Mughals, the Khiljis or the Tughlaqs or the ones before

them? The answer is NO. In fact, the British colonialists codified the pre-valuing Muslim Personal Law, without any consultations from any Islamic jurist or scholar.

Before 1937, Muslims of all denominations, all over India, followed the uncodified local Hindu customs, practices and usages in addition to their personal law as per the Sharia. So the British just concurred on codifying the prevalent practices relevant to the marriage, divorce etc., but changed the ones relating to succession and division of property, in the case of Muslims.

It would be interesting to know at whose behest the colonial rulers codified the Muslim Law of Succession and Inheritance. It was none other than MA Jinnah, the leader of the Muslim League.

The Shariat Act of 1937 was imposed on Indian Muslims as a win-win political deal between the British, keen to divide Hindus and Muslims, and the Muslim League, keen to lure the Muslims away the Congress. In a manner this also suited Jinnah's political strategy on how to secure a separate country for the Muslims, but it had an added personal angle also to it.

MA Jinnah's daughter Dina married Neville Wadia -- a Parsi, against his wishes, though he himself had married a Parsi lady, Rattanbai Petit. To disown Dina and leave no inheritance for her, Jinnah made use of the recently introduced Shariat Act 1937 and nominated his sister Fatima as his successor. The Act, a joint strategy of the British and the League, contained provisions to sabotage the Islamic Sharia, by secretly smuggling the Hindu customs and usages into the 1937 Act to save the property rights of the Muslim leaders, Jinnah and the zamindars from harm by the Islamic Sharia. Did the Shariat Act of 1937 -- now acclaimed as the holy law of Islam -- contain Hindu law provisions to secure the property rights of the League leaders? Yes, it does.

Historian, KK Abdul Rahiman in The History of the Evolution of Muslim Personal Law in (1986) says the British gave strength to



customs and usage that had long been adhered to particularly in matters of succession by sections of Indian Muslims.

Further, we have to realise that the UCC would not only affect Muslims but also Hindus, Sikhs, Christians, Jains, Jews, Parsis and other minorities and scheduled tribes in the country. And at the moment it is just a political gimmick of the government to polarise the electorate and also sow seeds of discord amongst the unified opposition. Muslim leaders need to bring other communities leaders at the same platform and also inform their Hindu brethren that the UCC will abolish the HUF provisions for filing Income Tax, thus it would increase the tax liability of Hindus also.

The UCC Bill has been introduced as a political reform by the BJP, guided by principles of Hindutva, as a response to replace the existing complicated set of personal laws. These personal laws are so complicated that even the Britishers didn't dare to interfere with them. Further, the Constituent Assembly, besieged by two schools of thought, one supporting the UCC argued that it provided for the emergence of a secular and progressive nation, while the opponents felt it to be conflicting with the ideas of inclusiveness and pluralism, deemed it fit to circumvent the issue and leave it at the moment and thus chose to include it under the Directive Principles of the constitution, under Article 44 of the Constitution, and leaving it

for the future generations to sort it out. A realistic and practical understanding of how personal laws operate will indicate that the state's organs and the Indian society are yet not ready, even after 73 years for the substantial revamp that such legislation would bring. Instead of gunning for political gains we should try to reflect the rich Indian diversity of traditions and their importance in common Indians' daily life.

Lastly, the manner in which the Muslim leadership responded to the government's move, shows its complete immaturity and the set manner of its traditional, out of touch with reality reactive response, completely bereft of any political nuances and strategy, which was also evident during the Babri Masjid movement, Triple Talaq issue etc.

Though it is high time but still there is time for the Muslim leaders to formulate a Unified Strategy and response to the UCC, in consultation with leaders of other religious minorities and political parties, so that this time they don't get defeated by the government in its anti-Muslim campaign, though the chances of any such endeavour seem very remote.

(Asad Mirza is a Delhi-based senior political and international affairs commentator)

international

15 INDO-CANADIANS ARRESTED IN AUTO THEFT RING, STOLEN GOODS WORTH \$9 MN RECOVERED

Toronto | Agencies

Canadian police have arrested 15 Indian-origin men and laid 73 charges against them in an alleged organised auto theft ring, while recovering stolen goods worth more than 9 million dollars.

Dubbed Project Big Rig, a joint task force was formed in March this year to investigate a series of tractor trailer and cargo thefts in Peel and across the Greater Toronto Area, the Peels Regional Police said in a statement on Wednesday.

The investigation led to the recovery of 28 containers of stolen cargo valued at \$6.99 million. An additional 28 stolen tractors and trailers valued at \$2.25 million were recovered, taking the total value of recovery to \$9.24 million. Addressing a news conference on Wednesday, Peel Regional Police Deputy Chief Nick Milinovich said that estimated \$1.8 billion worth



of goods travel through the Peel region every day, making it the largest cargo hub in Canada. "Often we are seeing that the proceeds of cargo theft and auto theft are used to fuel and fund organised crime... This often involves drugs and guns that are then directed towards our communities. The recovered cargo and vehicles through this investigation have removed millions of dollars out of the hands of organised crime," Milinovich said. Detective Mark Haywood from the Peel police commercial and auto crime unit said the suspects stole products by cutting through the fences of logistic facilities as well as

stealing cargo loads left parked on the roadway. The stolen property was then sold through a variety of channels, including flea markets, other stores and people acquiring the products without knowing that it was stolen, The Toronto Star reported.

The 73 charges against 15 men, in the age groups of 23 to 58 years, include possession of property obtained by crime, trafficking in stolen goods, theft of motor vehicles, break and enter, breach of probation and failure to comply with release orders. The suspects were identified as Balkar Singh, 42; Ajay Ajay, 26; Manjeet Padda, 40; Jagjeevan Singh, 25; Amandeep Baidwan, 41; Karamshand Singh, 58; Jasvinder Atwal, 45; Lakhvir Singh, 45; Jagpal Singh, 34; Upkaran Sandhu, 31; Sukhvinder Singh, 44; Kulvir Bains, 39; Banishidar Lalsaran, 39; Shobit Verma, 23, and Sukhvinder Dhillon, 34.

Trump loses retrial bid in defamation case

Washington | Agencies

Former US President Donald Trump has lost a retrial bid in a case in which a jury found him liable for sexually abusing and defaming columnist E Jean Carroll.

E. Jean Carroll, 79, had accused Trump of raping her in a Manhattan department store dressing room in the mid-1990s, and then branding the incident a hoax in an October 2022 post on his Truth Social platform. The jury found Trump guilty of battering the columnist, but stopped short of finding the former President guilty of rape.

Trump has been ordered to pay \$5 million in damages. The former President's attorneys had argued in their bid for a new trial that "the Court should order a new trial on damages or grant remittitur because contrary to Plaintiff's claim of rape, the jury found that she was not raped but was sexually abused by defendant during the 1995/1996 Bergdorf Goodman



incident". In a 59-page decision on Wednesday, US District judge Lewis Kaplan ruled the jury did not reach "a seriously erroneous result", in calculating the amount of damages, as argued by Trump's lawyers, and dismissed his request for a new trial.

Judge Kaplan, who presided over the original trial, wrote that the trial evidence demonstrated Trump "raped" Carroll in the plain sense of the word.

"The finding that Ms Carroll failed to prove that she was 'raped' within the meaning of the New York Penal Law does not mean that she failed to prove that Mr Trump 'raped' her as many people commonly understand the word 'rape'," the BBC quoted Judge Kaplan as saying.

"Indeed, as the evidence at trial recounted below makes clear, the jury found that Mr Trump in fact did exactly that."

Roberta Kaplan, the lawyer representing Carroll, celebrated the ruling.

SOMALI FORCES KILL 30 AL-SHABAB MILITANTS IN SOMALIA

Mogadishu:

The Somali National Army (SNA)'s elite forces have killed 30 al-Shabab militants during a fierce gun battle in the Middle Shabelle region of central Somalia, officials confirmed.

Abdirahman Yusuf Al-Adala, the Deputy Minister for Information, on Wednesday told Somali national news agency that the latest military offensive against the militants was carried out as they plotted to stage attacks, Xinhua news agency reported.

"Our special forces, Danab and Gor-gor units, conducted a successful operation against al-Shabab militants this morning, the forces also recovered weapons and other military equipment and destroyed terrorist bases during the operation," Al-Adala said.

He added that the elite forces are still pursuing the al-Shabab militants, but did not clarify whether there were casualties on the side of the Army.

The al-Shabab militants have not commented on the latest military onslaught, as the Somali Army in conjunction with regional and international troops intensify efforts to neutralise the al-Qaeda-linked armed group.

US SOLDIER WHO DEFECTED TO N.KOREA HAD BEEN IN PRISON WORKSHOP IN SEOUL

Seoul | Agencies

An American soldier who recently crossed the inter-Korean border into North Korea had been in a prison workshop for 48 days after failing to pay a court fine for kicking and damaging a police patrol car in Seoul, legal sources said on Thursday.

Pvt. Travis King, stationed in South Korea, willfully crossed the inter-Korean border into North Korea without authorisation during a tour to the Joint Security Area on Tuesday and is believed to be in North Korea's custody, according to the UN Command and American defence authorities.

American media organisations reported that he had been in the process of being sent back to the US for disciplinary action in connection with assault charges he faced in South Korea, reports Yonhap News Agency.

The legal sources here said



that King, 23, received a 5 million-won (\$3,955) fine from a court in Seoul on February 8 on charges of inflicting damage on a police patrol vehicle.

King, however, did not pay the fine and was eventually detained in a prison workshop for 48 days in line with a court ruling that he be held for one day for each unpaid 100,000 won, the sources said.

He was accused of repeatedly kicking the back door of a police patrol vehicle in Seoul's Mapo district in the wee hours of October 8, 2022 and inflicting damage that required 584,000 won worth of repairs.

King was apprehended by police at that time for suspected violence at a nightclub.

Chinese national held at Kathmandu airport over 100 kg gold seizure

Kathmandu | Agencies

A Chinese national has been arrested from the Tribhuvan International Airport here on Thursday afternoon in connection with the 100 kg gold seizure, believed to be one of the largest hauls in Nepal's gold smuggling history.

On Wednesday, the Department of Revenue Investigation (DRI) had seized a huge quantity of gold that had passed undetected through the Customs, and arrested six persons, including one Indian national and five Nepali nationals. According to the DRI, around 100 kg gold, suspected to have been brought from Hong Kong, was confiscated during the raid based on a tip-off.

The arrested Chinese national -- Ling Chuwang -- is believed to be the owner of the gold and was supposed to flee from the Kathmandu airport on Wednesday. The airport authorities arrested him while he was trying to catch a flight to China. Along with the Chinese national, one Nepali national has also been arrested, who is believed to be his local handler.

"After request from the DRI, we arrested Ling from the airport. We have handed him



over to the DRI for investigation," said Jhalakram Adhikari, Director General in the Department of Immigration.

A six-member probe committee has been formed by the Department of Customs headed by Man Bahadur Poudel to probe the matter, said Information Officer Punya Bikram Khadka.

The gold was believed to be smuggled into India via Nepal, but its independent verification is yet to be made.

The gold, which was smuggled in from Hong Kong by hiding it in motorcycle spare parts, was seized just when it was about to be taken to a taxi.

After the Customs officers cleared the motorcycle spare parts, the DRI got a call in which someone tipped them off that there was gold inside the spare parts. With the support of Nepal Police, the gold was recovered from outside the Kathmandu airport by DRI officers.



MERITORIOUS STUDENTS OF BOTH MP BOARD AND CBSE WILL GET LAPTOPS: CM CHOUHAN

Team Absolute | Bhopal

Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan told the students that he loves them a lot and will never let their dreams die. Our government endeavours to ensure that the students' progress paces and their future is secure. The topper students will be given scooters from next year. The scheme of giving laptops will be applicable in MP board and CBSE board as well. Chief Minister Chouhan said this during an interaction with the students at Lal Parade Ground under the Talented Students Promotion Scheme. Chief Minister Chouhan transferred Rs 25 thousand each with a single click to the students who obtained 75 percent or more marks in class 12th to buy laptops. He symbolically presented cheques to the topper students of the division. An amount of Rs 196 crore was transferred to the accounts of 78 thousand 641 meritori-



ous students in the programme. The Chief Minister welcomed the students by showering flowers at the programme venue. Chief Minister Chouhan inaugurated the programme with kanya-pujan and lighting the lamp along with Saraswati Vandana. School Education Minister Inder Singh Parmar, MLA Krishna Gaur, other public representatives, officers and a large number of students were present. Students won't be compelled to leave studies midway

Chief Minister Chouhan said that the state government has made efforts to improve the educational system up to the village level. It is our endeavour to provide excellent school buildings, free textbooks, uniforms, cycles etc. along with continuous power supply, good roads and standard infrastructure for better education to the students, so that they can improve their future by focusing on their studies and help in building self-reliant Madhya Pradesh and a progressive nation. Students are an asset to the state, their

progress will lead to state's progress, therefore the state government endeavours to support the students. Arrangements have also been made to pay the fees of students for higher education. Students will not be allowed to leave their studies midway under compulsion. Students desirous of going into the fields of engineering, medical and other special studies sectors prepare for the examinations, they will be given all possible support from the

Mukhyamantri Medhavi Vidyarthi Yojana a along with other programmes and schemes. It is crucial to emphasise on health and sports along with education

Chief Minister Chouhan advised the students to concentrate and study. He mentioned the thoughts of Swami Vivekananda with a view to inspire them to build their future with enthusiasm and positivity. The Chief Minister said that along with studies, it is also necessary to pay attention to your health and participate in activities related to sports and exercise.

Samman Yojana raises the competitive spirit among students for studies - Minister Parmar

Minister of State for School Education Inder Singh Parmar said that as a result of Vidyarthi Pratihha Samman Yojana started by Chief Minister Chouhan, students are moving ahead in studies with a competitive spirit. Started in the year 2009, this scheme has helped students in higher studies by providing them with laptops after class 12th.

'YOU CAN RULE THE UNIVERSE IF YOU WANT'

While inspiring the students, Chief Minister Chouhan said that God has given equal intelligence to everyone. If he maximizes the use of his abilities, he can do the toughest work. 'You can even rule the universe if you want.' Work hard with full concentration, Mama will provide you all necessary facilities for study. Utilise your abilities and make a name in the state, country and the world.

KEY POINTS OF CM CHOUHAN'S SPEECH

- My target is to improve the quality of education
- Our Madhya Pradesh is a huge family of 9.50 crores
- Like parents, I am also concerned about the career of the students.
- Study hard, Mama will provide all necessary facilities
- Students are an asset of Madhya Pradesh, the future of the state lies in their hands
- My target is to improve the quality of education
- Students with self-confidence they can do anything
- Opportunities for youth to earn with jobs, self-employment and training
- A portal will be created to invite suggestions from students

Government schemes aim to uplift the necessitous: Governor Patel



Team Absolute | Bhopal

Governor Mangubhai Patel reviewed the departmental activities of Forest and Animal Husbandry Department. The meeting was organised in the meeting hall of Sandipani Auditorium at Raj Bhavan. Forest Minister Kunwar Vijay Shah, President of Tribal Cell Deepak Khandekar, Additional Chief Secretary J.N. Kansotiya, Additional Chief Secretary Malay Srivastava, Principal Secretary to Governor DP Ahuja, Member Secretary of Tribal Cell BS Jamod and senior officers of concerned departments were present in the meeting.

Governor Mangubhai Patel said that the schemes of the government aim to uplift the necessitous. They should be implemented with the same intention. Disadvantaged and poor families of the target community and area are of utmost priority. Officers

should work to fulfill the goals of the scheme with this feeling and spirit. This should also be the foundation for monitoring the work. The experience of joy and self-satisfaction obtained by helping the deprived gives a divine feeling.

742 families benefitted under Mukhyamantri Dudharu Pashu Yojana. The Governor apprised himself about the productivity of the milk animals distributed under the Mukhyamantri Dudharu Pashu Yojana (Chief Minister Dairy Cattle Scheme). He was told that cattle giving 10 to 12 liters of milk per day have been provided to the cattle herders.

Mukhyamantri Dudharu Pashu Yojana is being implemented in 14 districts of the state for sustainable livelihood of special backward tribes Baiga, Saharia and Bhabra. A total of 742 families have been benefited. The Madhya Pradesh Gausamvardhan Board has 86 non-govern-

ment charitable Gaushalas in 14 tribal districts of the state, with 28,555 cows and 198 government Gaushalas, which have 14,995 cows.

268 gram sabhas sold more than 7 crore tendu leaves Governor Mangubhai Patel said that the information about the successful exercise of the rights given to the gram sabhas under the PESA act should be widely publicised in other gram sabhas. The benefits of using the rights should be explained, so that other Gram Sabhas get motivated to use the rights under the PESA Act.

Forest Minister Kunwar Vijay Shah said that Madhya Pradesh is pioneering in the country to provide 20 percent dividend on the sale value of timber extracted by the Forest Department to the Forest Committee. Similarly, it is also the initiating state in the country to plant 50 percent forest produce species in the plantation for biodiversity conservation.

Priyanka to lead in urban areas, Rahul & Kharge to focus on tribal, Dalit voters in MP



In the poll-bound Madhya Pradesh, Congress General Secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra will lead the party's poll campaign in urban areas, Rahul Gandhi will focus on the tribal areas, and party chief Mallikarjun Kharge will concentrate on Dalit voters, a senior party leader said.

The Congress leader informed that Rahul Gandhi will address his maiden poll rally in Shahdol in August. Party leaders said the date for Rahul Gandhi and Kharge rallies are yet to be finalised, however, the two are scheduled to visit the poll-bound state next month.

Priyanka Gandhi, kick-started the party's campaign during her visit to Jabalpur in

June. She is scheduled to address a mega poll rally in Gwalior on July 21, the bastion of the Union Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia, whose rebellion had toppled the party's state government in 2020. She would be the first Gandhi family member to address a rally at Mela Ground in Gwalior after the coup. The Assembly elections slated for November-December are the first for the Congress since the scion of the erstwhile Scindia royal family rebelled and left with 22 MLAs, including ministers, forcing the then Congress Chief Minister Kamal Nath to resign from office. Priyanka Gandhi's rally is expected to energise the party cadres in 30

Assembly segments across seven districts.

Former Chief Minister Digvijaya Singh along with Congress' state in-charge J. P. Aggarwal have prepared an elaborate plan for Priyanka Gandhi's rally in Gwalior. Sources in the Congress said the party is planning to promise monetary incentives to the unemployed youth in MP, which Priyanka is likely to announce during her Gwalior rally. In her first rally in Jabalpur in June, Priyanka Gandhi had announced five poll promises -- introduction of the old pension scheme, farm loan waiver, 100 units of electricity free and 200 units at half the tariff, Rs 1,500 pension for women and LPG cylinder at Rs 500.

SC CONCERNED OVER RISING CHEETAH DEATHS, SAYS IT DOES NOT PRESENT GOOD PICTURE

The Supreme Court on Thursday said that deaths of 40% of translocated cheetahs from Namibia and South Africa in less than a year painted a worrying picture of the state of affairs, as it suggested the Union government to consider if they can be shifted to some other sanctuaries.

The court also sought to know why all the cheetahs were only sent to the Kuno National Park in Madhya Pradesh. A bench of Justices B R Gavai, J B Paridwala and Prashant Kumar Mishra pointed out that two more deaths have happened last week and asked the government not to make it a prestige issue.

"Why is this becoming a prestige issue? Please take some positive steps. Also, why were they all put in one place instead of being spread? 40% deaths occurring in less than a year does not paint a good picture," the bench told Additional Solicitor General Aishwarya Bhati, appearing for the Centre.

The court suggested that some of the cheetahs could be shifted to Rajasthan, particularly at Jawai National Park, which is very famous for leopards. As many as 20 cheetahs were translocated to India from Namibia and South Africa in September 2022 and February 2023 in two batches. Eight cheetahs, including three cubs, have died at Kuno National Park since March this year, due to various reasons. Bhati assured the court of taking all requisite steps in this regard. She said when similar projects were implemented in Rajasthan, deaths of tigers occurred within enclosures. She also submitted at authorities at the highest level have taken cognisance of these deaths. "After all, this is a prestigious project for the country," she said.

Bhati also submitted that the deaths are not alarming, as up to 50% of deaths were anticipated within the first year of the project. "We want to know. Prima facie it appears our conditions do not suit them. They reportedly suffered from respiratory problems. One was detected with kidney ailment," the bench told Bhati.

MP forest dept issues notice to wildlife conservationist seeking details of workshops organised by her NGO

Team Absolute | Bhopal

The Madhya Pradesh Forest Department has issued a notice to wildlife conservationist Vidya Venkatesh, a member of the Mumbai-based NGO 'Last Wilderness Foundation', seeking a detailed report on the workshops organised by the NGO in the state's forest areas.

The NGO is a member of the state wildlife board, which is chaired by Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan. Venkatesh is also a nominated member of the state wildlife action plan.

The state forest department has mentioned that the NGO has been involved in various types of work (related to training workshops in forests) with multiple sources for revenue for the purpose. Venkatesh has been asked to submit a detailed report that the NGO she is associated with has conducted workshops in reserve forest zones in Madhya Pradesh in the last five years.

The forest department has mentioned that the report should carry the details regarding the number of programmes organised with proper mention of date and place. It has also sought the details of the beneficiaries of the programmes. "If you have received from the state forest department or any other branch of it, provide the details of the same. You are requested to submit your reply within the next seven days." The department had issued a similar notice to Venkatesh in January this year, however, no reply was received, it has been mentioned in the fresh notice. January's notice was issued following a complaint by



Madhya Pradesh-based wildlife activist Ajay Dube, who alleged that the NGO has been involved in various activities like nature guide training, tribal tourism, handicraft cell workshops etc. at different tiger reserves and earmarked forest zones in Madhya Pradesh.

The NGO has also been organising awareness programmes in the surrounding area of the Kuno National Park (KNP) after the 'cheetah project' was launched and Vidya Venkatesh was also involved in providing training to forest staff deployed for monitoring the cheetahs.

Now Onwards, Nagda Will Be 54th District



Nagda: Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan declared the industrial town Nagda as the 54th district of the state. The new district will be carved out of Ujjain district. Chouhan made an announcement on Thursday while addressing the public gathering at Mukteshwar Mahadev temple in the town after his road show.

Besides this, Chouhan said that Narmada water will also be brought to Ujjain and Unhel will get tehsil status soon. Chief Minister said that those tehsils who would like to be included in the newly formed district will be included. He also announced the opening of Community Hall and CM Rise School in Unhel. Chief Minister said

that those tehsils who would like to be included in the newly formed district will be included. He also announced the opening of Community Hall and CM Rise School in Unhel. Locals accorded a floral welcome to the Chief Minister's roadshow at various places and also participated in a large number. During the roadshow itself, CM Chouhan inaugurated the newly constructed Deendayal Rasoji Kendra of the municipality. He also performed Bhumi Pujan and inaugurated development works worth Rs 216.14 crore in Nagda-Khachrod Assembly. The Chief Minister inaugurated 98 construction works worth Rs 92.62 crore and performed Bhoomi Pujan of 86 works worth Rs 168.52

CM CHOUHAN PLANTS MANGO, KHIRNI AND GULMOHAR SAPPLINGS



Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan, girl Tanishka Patidar, Anuj Mittal, Chief Minister Press Cell's Sanjeev Kumar Gaur and Dr. Rohit Jain also planted saplings on their birthday. Sachin Patidar, Sunil Patidar, Meena and Shraddha Patidar, Dr. PK Jain, Neelam Jain, Sambhav and Rakesh Jain and Akshat Jain participated in plantation.

Minor girl's marriage bid foiled in Odisha's Cuttack city

Team Absolute | Bhopal | Bhubaneswar

Childline officials along with the police prevented a 16-year-old girl from being married off to a man from Madhya Pradesh in Odisha's Cuttack city.

Officials had received information about a wedding ceremony in which a minor girl was to be married to a 25-year-old man from Madhya Pradesh on Wednesday.

The officials informed the Cantonment police station. On getting information, the police reached the temple and foiled the attempt for the marriage and rescued the minor girl, said a police official. However, before police reached the temple, the groom escaped from the spot. The police detained four persons, including family members of the girl and mediators in this case. The minor girl was produced before the District Child Welfare Committee and her statement was recorded, said the police official.

ADITYA BIRLA CAPITAL
ADITYA BIRLA HOUSING FINANCE LIMITED
Registered Office- Indian Rayon Compound, Veraval, Gujarat - 362266
Branch Office- G Corporation Tech Park, Kasarvadavali, Ghodbunder Road, Thane -400067 (MH)

DEMAND NOTICE
(under Rule 3 (1) of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002)

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

Sl. No	Name and Address Borrower/ Co-Borrower and Guarantor / Co-Guarantor & Loan A/C No.	NPA Date	Date of Demand Notice	Amount due as per Demand Notice/ as on Date
1	1. KIRAN KUSHWAH (IN THE CAPACITY OF LEGAL HEIR OF LATE JAYDEEP KUSHWAH) Plot No. G-239 (South Part), Sector-Gold, Kalindi Gold City, Gram-Bhangya, Tehsil-Sanwer, Indore, Madhya Pradesh-452001. 2. KIRAN KUSHWAH Plot No. G-239 (South Part), Sector-Gold, Kalindi Gold City, Gram-Bhangya, Tehsil-Sanwer, Indore, Madhya Pradesh-452001. 3. KIRAN KUSHWAH (IN THE CAPACITY OF LEGAL HEIR OF LATE JAYDEEP KUSHWAH) A-1, Panchdeep Nikun, Indore, Madhya Pradesh-452011. 4. KIRAN KUSHWAH A-1, Panchdeep Nikun, Indore, Madhya Pradesh-452011. 5. KIRAN KUSHWAH (IN THE CAPACITY OF LEGAL HEIR OF LATE JAYDEEP KUSHWAH) 647, Kaidas Marg, Ujjain, Madhya Pradesh-455010. 6. KIRAN KUSHWAH (IN THE CAPACITY OF LEGAL HEIR OF LATE JAYDEEP KUSHWAH) C/O Esic Hospital, Esic Model Hospital, Nanda Nagar, Indore, Madhya Pradesh-452010. Loan Account No. LNINDOHL-09200072576& LNINDOHL-09200072577	09-July-2023	17.07.2023	Rs. 16,09,156.00/- (Rupees Sixteen Lakh Nine Thousand One Hundred Fifty Six Only) by way of outstanding principal, areas (including accrued late charges) and interest till 13.07.2023.
2	1. SUMAN RAY, 306, Shiv Nest Township, New Block-B, Kharsa No- 302/2, & 302/1/2 Patnari Halka No. 37, Pipraia, Kharsa No- 301/2, Lord Shiva Residency, Indore, Madhya Pradesh-452001. 2. VINOD KUMAR RAY 306, Shiv Nest Township, New Block-B, Kharsa No- 302/2, & 302/1/2 Patnari Halka No. 37, Pipraia, Kharsa No- 301/2, Lord Shiva Residency, Indore, Madhya Pradesh-452001. 3. SUMAN RAY C/O M/S SUMAN TRADERS Shop No. 63, New Aloo Pyaz Mandi, 1st Floor, Indore-452001. 4. VINOD KUMAR RAY C/O M/S SUMAN TRADERS Shop No. 63, New Aloo Pyaz Mandi, 1st Floor, Indore-452001. 5. SUMAN RAY Keshar Bag Road, 08 Ankar Palace, Indore, Sudama Nagar, Madhya Pradesh-452009. Loan Account No. LNINDOHL-12117000708 and LNINDOHL-1170000279	04-July-2023	17-07-2023	Rs. 57,20,966.99/- (Rupees Fifty Seven Lakh Twenty Thousand Nine Hundred Sixty Six and Ninety Nine Paise Only) by way of outstanding principal, areas (including accrued late charges) and interest till 06.07.2023.
3	1. SUMER PRATAP SINGH RATHORE, Plot No. 225 Shubham Shrishti Badnawar On Survey No 1397/1/2, 1397/2, 2174/2, 2173, And 2175, Village Kheda Tehsil Badnawar Dist Dhar Na Shubham Shrishti Badnawar On Survey No 1397/1/2, 1397/2, 2174/2, 2173, And 2175, Village Kheda Tehsil Badnawar Dist Dhar Na Badnawar Dhar, Madhya Pradesh-454660. 3. SUMER PRATAP SINGH RATHORE, Ward No. 1, Near Water Tank, Dhar, Madhya Pradesh-454660. 4. RADHA KUNWAR RATHOUR Dhar, Lala Lalpat Ray Badnawar, Ward No. 1, Near Water Tank, Dhar, Madhya Pradesh-454660. 5. SUMER PRATAP SINGH RATHORE C/O DFRM BADI CHOPATI BADNAWAR District: Dhar State- Madhya Pradesh Pin Code- 454660. 6. RADHA KUNWAR RATHOUR 361, Vidur Nagar, Ahirkhedi, Indore, Madhya Pradesh-452009. Loan Account No. LNINDPNO-02220118127 and LNINDPNO-02220118128	02-July-2023	14-07-2023	Rs. 10,68,973.71/- (Rupees Ten Lakh Sixty Eight Thousand Nine Hundred Seventy Three and Seventy One Paise Only) by way of outstanding principal, areas (including accrued late charges) and interest till 06.07.2023

DESCRIPTION OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY/PROPERTIES MORTGAGED: All That Piece And Parcel Of Plot No. G-239, Admeasuring 625 Sq. Ft. Or 58.08 Sq. Mtrs., Situated At Colony 'Kalindi Gold City', Sector-Gold, Gram Panchayat: Bhangya, P.H.No. 38, New 511, Tehsil: Sanwer, District: Indore, Madhya Pradesh-452001, And Bounded As: East: Plot No. G-301 West: Road Of Colony North: Remaining Part Of Plot No. G-239 South: Plot No. G-238

DESCRIPTION OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY/PROPERTIES MORTGAGED: All That Piece And Parcel Of Flat No. 306, Admeasuring 1388 Sq.Ft. I.E. 128.99 Sq. Mtr., Area, Shiv Nest Township New Block-B, Kharsa No. 302/2 & 302/1/2, Patwari Halka No. 37, Pipraia Tehsil & Dist. Indore, Madhya Pradesh- 452001, And Bounded As: North: Flat No. 305 South: Building Mos East: Building Mos West: Building Common Passage

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

Please note that as per section 13(13) of the SARFAESI Act, all of you are prohibited from transferring by way of sale, lease otherwise, the aforesaid secured assets without prior written consent of the Company. Any contravention of the said section by you shall invoke the penal provisions as laid down under section 29 of the SARFAESI Act and / or any other legal provision in this regard. Please note that as per sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, if the dues of ABHFL together with all costs, charges and expenses incurred by ABHFL are tendered to ABHFL at any time before the date fixed for sale or transfer, the secured asset shall not be sold or transferred by ABHFL, and no further step shall be taken by ABHFL or transfer or sale of that secured asset.

Date: 21.07.2023
Place: INDORE

Sd/-
Authorized Officer
(Aditya Birla Housing Finance Limited)



'AQUAMAN AND THE LOST KINGDOM' HAS VFX IN EVERY SHOT

Los Angeles | Agencies

With the current turnover of DC, as it will soon end its original DC Extended Universe and make a transition to the new DC Universe with James Gunn and Peter Safran heading the projects, the studio has struggled with continuing the story of Arthur Curry/Aquaman who is played by Jason Momoa. The upcoming second installment in the 'Aquaman' series, 'Aquaman and The Lost Kingdom' has faced turbulent production, with every shot of the movie containing VFX.

According to The Hollywood Reporter, 'The Lost Kingdom' is already an expensive production. It was greenlit at a \$205 million budget and shot during the pandemic, which was a burdensome expense on tentpole productions. Additionally, every frame of the movie involves visual effects, another major cost. The reshoots have only raised that overall budget. "As the first film made a killing at the box office due to its action and massive spectacle, DC wants to up the ante, particularly for the massive underwater sequences in the movie. The first movie already had a lot of VFX going for it in order to showcase the majesty and grandeur of the Atlanteans, the many sea creatures and its underwater battles.



As 'Aquaman and The Lost Kingdom' wants to enhance the spectacle, director James Wan has showcased concept art detailing the grandeur of the whole thing, particularly the vibrancy and beauty of the underwater kingdom as Aquaman and his allies explore strange new worlds and environments. 'Aquaman and The Lost Kingdom' will be the final movie of the DCEU, which launched a decade ago with Zack Snyder's 'Man of Steel'. The recent DCEU releases have failed badly at the box office with films such as 'Black Adam', 'Shazam! Fury of the Gods' and 'The Flash' all being monetary losses. 'Aquaman and The Lost Kingdom' will hit theatres on December 20, 2023 and will star Jason Momoa, Amber Heard, Willem Dafoe, Patrick Wilson, Dolph Lundgren, Yahya Abdul-Mateen II, Temuera Morrison and Nicole Kidman.

John Boyega says, he's open to doing more 'Star Wars' projects

Los Angeles | Agencies

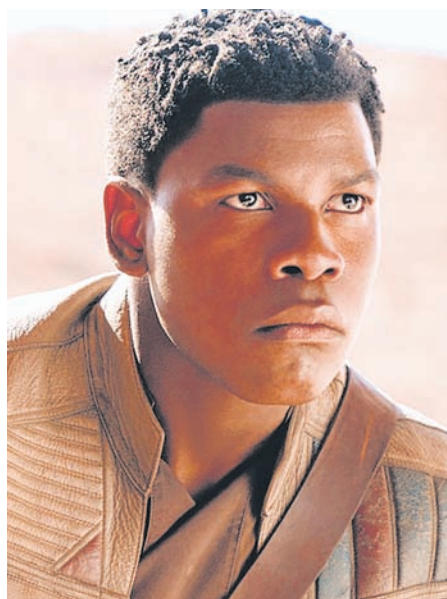
Actor John Boyega has not been particularly happy with the recent direction that 'Star Wars' has taken and has openly criticised the sequel trilogy many times, especially after the premiere of 'Star Wars Episode VIII: The Last Jedi'.

However, the actor, who portrayed First Order stormtrooper turned Resistance fighter Finn in the sequel trilogy, has said that he is more than open to doing more 'Star Wars' movies if given the opportunity.

The actor had previously criticised the makers for their treatment of black characters, lazy writing and lack of imagination, particularly in 'Star Wars: Episode IX - The Rise of Skywalker'.

The actor had accused the makers and studio of capitalising on casting racially diverse characters, particularly black characters before completely sidelining them from the story.

According to 'The Hollywood Reporter', in an interview with TechRadar, done sometime before the SAG-AFTRA strikes, the actor said: "That was a few years ago, so they were the subject of that particular project. But I'm open to all characters and scripts that are enjoyable, have a great cast attached and a terrific director. So yeah, I'm open to all opportunities."



Team Absolute | Los Angeles

Country-pop icon Taylor Swift is seeing no end to her achievements. As her Eras Tour continues to leave audiences in awe and her 'Speak Now' (Taylor's Version) dominates charts, she will now add another string to her guitar and play a different chord as Santa Clara has named Taylor its honorary mayor, the city of Glendale in Arizona officially being named 'Swift City'.

Taylor Swift named honorary mayor of Santa Clara after Glendale gesture

The official Twitter account for the city of Santa Clara also gave out a celebratory tweet stating: "WELCOME TO SWIFTIE CLARA! It's been a long time coming, and we are enchanted to announce the City Council

has proclaimed @taylorswift13 as SC's Honorary Mayor for July 28 & 29."

According to the Mirror, in the news release, the Mayor of Santa Clara also said: "The City is honoring Taylor Swift and The Eras Tour, like many cities have done across the country, to celebrate the cultural impact of this exceptional artist and to highlight the City of Santa Clara and Levi's Stadium as a world class destination for national and international talent."

With the 33-year-old's tour now winding down as it nears the end of the US leg, Taylor will be in Santa Clara for a number of shows next week. According to Billboard, Mayor Jerry Weiers of Glendale, Arizona has officially renamed the city to honour 'The Eras Tour', which kicked off on March 17.

Covid, Hollywood strikes drive 'Joker' financier to file for bankruptcy amid losses

Los Angeles | Agencies

Canadian production company Bron Studios which financed massive Academy Award nominated blockbuster films such as 'Joker', 'Licorice Pizza' and 'Judas and the Black Messiah' has now filed for bankruptcy.

The company had stressed financial difficulties for a long time, and the Covid-19 pandemic coupled with the recently ongoing WGA and SAG-AFTRA strikes has only caused more problems for the studio.

According to The Hollywood Reporter, the company's co-founder Aaron J. Gilbert said that the indie studio had filed for Chapter 15 bankruptcy in the United States as well as protection from creditors in Canada. Talking about the bankruptcy, Gilbert said: "Having explored many options for many months, Bron had no

choice but to take this step in light of its financial circumstances."

"The last few years have been incredibly difficult for Bron, and things have only gotten more complicated over these past months. Covid and the many other issues affecting the media industry the last few years, most recently the strikes, have made Bron's ability to continue its existing business impossible," he added.

According to Variety, in recent months, Bron's co-financing deals with Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer and Warner Bros. sunsetted. He further mentioned in the statement, "Thank you to our many friends who have been there to support us. Thank you to the BRON team and to our incredible creative, production, and business partners. Thank you to the many production financing partners and our corporate backers for supporting us for all these many years."



"Thank you to our various representatives and the many service providers for all the support and patience through a very tough few years at BRON" Gilbert's statement concluded. "Your continued support and patience will remain critical during this restructuring process and we will continue to keep you informed as we move through this process."

With all said and done, the various films financed and/or produced by Bron through the years have garnered much acclaim and many honours, which includes a total of 30 Oscar nominations and six wins.

MARGOT ROBBIE CONFESSES SHE HYPED 'BARBIE' AS A BILLION-DOLLAR PROJECT

Los Angeles | Agencies



Actress and producer Margot Robbie admitted to a touch of hype on the upcoming film 'Barbie'. "I think my pitch in the green-light meeting was that the studios have prospered so much when they're brave enough to pair a big idea with a visionary director," she said of using Oscar-nominee Greta Gerwig, reports Deadline.

"And then I gave a series of examples like, 'dinosaurs and (Steven) Spielberg,' that and that, that and that - pretty much naming anything that's been incredible and made a ton of money for the studios over the years. And I was like, 'And now you've got Barbie and Greta Gerwig.'"

"And I think I told them that it'd make a billion dollars, which maybe I was overselling, but we had a movie to make, okay?!" she added.

"And then I gave a series of examples like, 'dinosaurs and (Steven) Spielberg,' that and that, that and that - pretty much naming anything that's been incredible and made a ton of money for the studios over the years."

"And I was like, 'And now you've got Barbie and Greta Gerwig.' And I think I told them that it'd make a billion dollars, which maybe I was overselling, but we had a movie to make, okay?!"

Robbie wasn't demanding to star in the vehicle. "I didn't want whoever our director was going to be - Greta being the first choice, but if she had said no - I didn't want our director to feel pressured to put me in the role," Robbie said.

Chris Hemsworth caught 'Emmerdale' actor picking his nose on the toilet

Los Angeles | Agencies

Former 'Emmerdale' actor Max Parker has shared his rather hilarious encounter with Hollywood star Chris Hemsworth which was nothing less than awkward. The actor who previously played chef Luke Posner on Emmerdale has taken to his Instagram and Threads account to share the awkward run-in which he admits he'll "treasure", reports mirror. Although it's not clear how the Manchester-born actor met the Australian star but the troublesome interaction certainly left a lasting impression on Parker. Taking to his Instagram page to share a preview of a post which he initially posted on his



Threads account, Max caused a social media storm by revealing what actually happened.

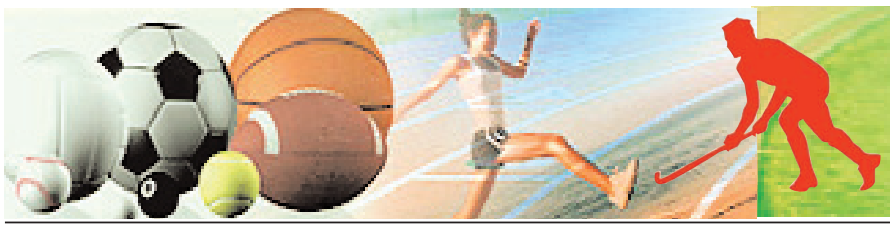
He penned: "Chris Hemsworth somehow opened my locked cubicle door and caught me p****g whilst picking my nose. Imma treasure that moment," alongside a smug-faced emoji. "Standing or sit down wee though? One has more of an impact than the other," asked one follower. A second went on to joke: "What a lucky moment." While a third typed: "This needs a full story time explanation." Since departing his role as Luke on the soap, Max has gone on to star in the likes of the TV series Cobra and more recently, the Netflix hit series,

'Blood, Sex & Royalty', taking on the role of Henry Tudor. Shortly after his decision to walk away from the Yorkshire-based soap where he met his fiancée, a source said: "Max was never going to stay on the soap for years. He's ambitious and a talented guy - he's already auditioning for new roles and is excited for the future. But never say never - there's always a chance he could return one day."

ABSOLUTE PIC OF THE



Amber Heard



INDIAN MEN'S FOOTBALL TEAM RISES TO 99 IN FIFA RANKINGS

Team Absolute | New Delhi

Indian men's football team climbed a rank in the latest official FIFA rankings, released on Thursday, to be placed in the 99th position.

The Blue Tigers are unbeaten in 2023 and have picked up three trophies winning the Hero Tri-Nation Cup, Hero Intercontinental Cup and the SAFF Championship in the calendar year.

"??????. India climbed up to 99 in the latest official @FIFAcom world ranking #BlueTigers

"IndianFootball," said the Indian football team in a tweet. Sunil Chhetri and Co. are unbeaten in their last eleven matches, winning seven during the process.

Under head coach Igor Stimac, the national team seems to be picking up form



at the right time with the FIFA World Cup Qualifiers scheduled to take place later this year and the AFC Asian in January 2024. The Indian team has achieved a double-digit ranking after five years and will hope to further climb the ladder in the coming months. India will next be in action in September when they travel to Thailand to

take part in the King's Cup followed by a visit to Malaysia to participate in the Merdeka tournament before the World Cup qualifiers begin.

The Blue Tigers will thus enter an action-packed and crucial stretch of months as they look to showcase their ability on the biggest stage in Asia.

2nd Test, Day 1

Rohit, Yashasvi slam fifties; take India to 121/0 at lunch against West Indies

Port of Spain | Agencies

India captain Rohit Sharma and Yashasvi Jaiswal slammed fifties with immaculate ease to put the visitors' in drivers' seat by racing to 121 for no loss in 26 overs at lunch on the opening day of second Test at Queen's Park Oval, here on Thursday.

Put into bat first, Rohit and Jaiswal were unbeaten on 63 and 52 respectively as many were baffled over West Indies decision to bowl first on a slow, docile pitch, especially with the bowling line-up lacking the required penetration and discipline.

Rohit began with an authoritative pull for six off a harmless Kemar Roach delivery, while Jaiswal also pulled Alzarri Joseph for six apart from getting an outside edge on cut for two fours.

Shannon Gabriel's introduction did little to stop run-flow as Rohit played a sublime drive, before pulling for back-to-back fours, followed by Jaiswal cutting off back foot through for another boundary. Spinner Jomel Warrican was welcomed by



Jaiswal sweeping him with ease while Rohit brought out a cut and sweep against him. Rohit finally got his fifty when he pulled Roach for an effortless six, followed by the century stand of the opening partnership coming up.

Jaiswal continued to get his boundaries through the point region, before reaching his fifty with a powerful drive wide of point against an expensive Joseph. He could have been out two balls before lunch but Alick Athanaze dropped his catch at slip off Holder. It meant that India totally dominated the session at a run rate of 4.65, where Jaiswal and Rohit hit 14 fours and three sixes between themselves, where batting looked like a walk in the park.

Brief Scores

India 121-0 in 26 overs (Rohit Sharma 63 not out, Yashasvi Jaiswal 52 not out) against West Indies

FIFA Women's World Cup

NEW ZEALAND REGISTER 1-0 WIN OVER NORWAY

Auckland | Agencies

New Zealand celebrated a historic victory on Thursday at a nearly full Eden Park, edging Norway 1-0 in the opening match of the 2023 FIFA Women's World Cup, here.

This triumph put an end to its previous poor campaign performance. In its five World Cup outings, New Zealand failed to reap any victory in the past 15 games.

The winning goal was scored by Hannah Wilkinson in front of 42,137 spectators, while Ria Percival failed to add the second as her penalty was thwarted later by the woodwork, a Xinhua report said.

Co-hosted by Australia and New Zealand, the ninth edition of the Women's World Cup is slated to run from July 20 to August 20. This is the first time the tournament is hosted by more than one country and includes 32 teams.

A shooting in Auckland on



Thursday morning left three people, including the gunman, dead and six others injured, casting a pall over the Women's World Cup's outlook.

"FIFA extends its deepest condolences to the families and friends of

the victims following the incident," said the organisation, which also observed a moment of silence before the match's kickoff.

New Zealand, with a historically poorer record against Norway who

boasted three victories from equal official matches, fielded Alexandra Riley in her fifth World Cup appearance. Ada Hegerberg, the women's Ballon d'Or winner, spearheaded Norway's frontline.

The first half was rather lacklustre, devoid of any goals. New Zealand, however, emerged strong after the break with a well-coordinated play. Jacqui Hand initiated the move from their own territory, sprinted down the right, and rolled the ball across for Wilkinson to tap in from close range, marking her third World Cup goal.

Norway nearly equalised in the 81st minute, but Tuva Hansen's attempt met the crossbar. A penalty was awarded to New Zealand in the 90th minute after a VAR review, but Percival missed the chance, hitting the bar.

The away team made a final push in the closing minutes, but it proved fruitless against the steadfast defense of New Zealand players.

The final whistle triggered a roar of

Sakshi Malik criticises WFI ad-hoc panel's decision to exempt Vinesh, Bajrang from Asian Games selection trials

Team Absolute | New Delhi

Ac Indian wrestler Sakshi Malik on Thursday criticised the Wrestling Federation of India (WFI) ad-hoc committee's decision to exempt Vinesh Phogat and Bajrang Punia from trials for the upcoming Asian Games 2023 and revealed that she had also got the proposal but rejected it and wants a fair selection process.

On Tuesday, the WFI ad-hoc panel granted Tokyo Olympics bronze medalist Punia (65kg) and two-time world championships medalist Vinesh (53kg) exemption from appearing in the selection trials for the Asian Games.

The other wrestlers are set to compete in selection trials on July 22 and 23 to secure their spots in the Indian squad and it has angered the rest of the wrestling community, including Sakshi.

The 30-year-old Sakshi, who was a prominent figure along with Vinesh and Bajrang during the wrestlers' protest against the Wrestling Federation of India (WFI) chief Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh, revealed that she along with others demanded an extension in the trial date so that they can train.

"We had demanded time from the Ad Hoc committee as we were unable to train.



Accordingly, they sent a letter giving us time and said that the trials will be conducted around August 10.

Notably, a number of junior wrestlers, including the current U20 World Champion Antim Panghal, have raised concerns about the perceived "unfair" exemption of Vinesh and Bajrang from the selection trials.

US Open

Alcaraz, Swiatek lead entry lists; Djokovic set to return to Flushing Meadows

Team Absolute | New Delhi

Carlos Alcaraz and Iga Swiatek, the current world no 1 male and female tennis players, sit on top of the respective entry lists for the 2023 US Open Grand Slam tournament, which were released by the United States Tennis Association.

This year's US Open is scheduled to take place from August 28 to September 10 at the USTA Billie Jean King National Tennis Center in Flushing, New York.

Both Alcaraz and Swiatek will head back to Flushing Meadows as defending champions.

The main draw cutoff for men's singles is 96 while it is 100 for women's singles at this year's US Open. The three-time champion Novak Djokovic is also set for his return to USA for the first time in two years. He had missed last year's edition due to vaccine protocols that require international travelers to be vaccinated against Covid-19. He will be joined by former champion, Daniil Medvedev. As well as Casper Ruud, Holger Rune, Stefanos Tsitsipas and American duo Taylor Fritz and Frances Tiafoe. Other notable men's singles players entered with a protected rank-



ing include 2014 US Open champion Marin Cilic, who was sidelined since January; the man he beat to win that title, Kei Nishikori; and other former Top 10 players, Gael Monfils and Milos Raonic.

Former world No. 4 Nishikori, who had been out since 2021, return to competition with aplomb in June by winning an ATP Challenger event in Puerto Rico.

In the women's singles, alongside Swiatek, include the other members of the so-called Big Three, Elena Rybakina and Aryna Sabalenka. Joining them will be top Americans, Jessica Pegula and Coco Gauff and current Wimbledon champion, Marketa Vondrousova.

PAKISTAN DEFEAT SRI LANKA TO JOIN INDIA AT TOP OF WORLD TEST CHAMPIONSHIP STANDINGS

Galle | Agencies

Pakistan have joined India at the top of the ICC World Test Championship standings with a comprehensive four-wicket victory over Sri Lanka in the first Test, here on Thursday.

The victory target of 131 was a mere formality for Pakistan, despite the fact Sri Lanka managed to claim three wickets on the final morning as the runs were successfully chased down prior to lunch, reports ICC.

Imam-ul-Haq (50*) and Agha Salman (6*) remained unbeaten as the match came to an end as Pakistan made a perfect start to their new World Test Championship campaign.

The victory sees Pakistan join India at the top of the World Test Championship standings with a 100 percent win-percentage after one match apiece in the new cycle.

Pakistan will be looking to maintain their unbeaten record when the second Test against Sri Lanka commences in Colombo on Monday.

Babar's side missed out on qualifying for the recent World Test Championship Final (2021-23), with Australia defeating India in the decider at The Oval last month.



Brief scores

Sri Lanka 312 & 279 (Dhananjaya de Silva 82, Nishan Madushka 52; Abrar Ahmed 3-68, Noman Ali 3-75) lost to Pakistan 461 & 133/6 (Imam-ul-Haq 50*, Saud Shakeel 30; Prabath Jayasuriya 4-56) by 4 wickets

AIFF OFFICIALS HOLD DISCUSSIONS WITH I-LEAGUE, IWL CLUBS

New Delhi: The All India Football Federation (AIFF) president Kalyan Chaubey, Secretary General Dr Shaji Prabhakaran and senior officials of the governing body met with representatives from the I-League and Indian Women's League clubs at the Football House, here on Thursday and discussed various aspects of the game in the country.

The discussions were held on a range of topics regarding the formats of the two leagues, the subsidies disbursed to the clubs, the qualities of the pitches and broadcast, the regulation on foreign players, and much more.

The I-League clubs were also advised to improve their pitch conditions and have compulsory floodlights for their matches. A range of awards were also announced for the I-League - Best Pitch, Best Match Organisation, and Best Media Activities. The winning prize for each category is Rs 2.5 lakh, while that of the runners-up is Rs 1.5 lakh.

Ashes 2023, 4th Test

Woakes, Broad help England take opening day honours over Australia

Manchester | Agencies

Chris Woakes and Stuart Broad made impactful contributions to give England first day honours in the fourth Ashes 2023 Test as Australia were 299-8 at stumps at Old Trafford, here on Thursday.

Woakes picked 4-52 in 18.5 overs to be England's best bowler of the day, while Broad took 2-68 in 14 overs. During the opening day, Broad also reached 600 Test wickets, becoming just the second fast bowler and fifth bowler overall to reach the landmark.

It was a day where all Australian batters got starts, but none converted it into a big total.

After England elected to bowl first as skipper Ben Stokes went against the narrative of batting first, Broad moved to 599 Test wickets when he trapped Usman Khawaja lbw for three early in the morning session. David Warner shared a second-wicket stand of 46 with Marnus Labuschagne (51), before being dismissed by



Woakes for 42.

Steve Smith looked set for another big innings before being trapped lbw by tearaway quick Mark Wood for 41, ending his 59-run stand with Labuschagne. He then had a 50-run

partnership with Travis Head, before Broad took out the latter via a pull to get his 600th Test wicket.

Labuschagne notched up a much-needed half-century to break a slew of lean scores, his 16th fifty in the format, before being dismissed lbw by Moeen Ali. Woakes returned to trap Cameron Green lbw and have Mitchell Marsh caught behind by a one-handed diving catch from Jonny Bairstow in the same over.

Alex Carey almost made it unbeaten till the stumps but was caught behind by Bairstow off Woakes while trying to withdraw his bat late. Mitchell Starc was 23 not out as stumps approached, with captain Pat Cummins unbeaten on one.

Brief scores

Australia 299-8 in 83 overs (Marnus Labuschagne 51, Mitchell Marsh 51, Chris Woakes 4-52, Stuart Broad 2-68) against England

Chinese diver Chen wins third 10m platform world title

Fukuoka | Agencies

Chinese diver Chen Yuxi shocked teammate and Olympic champion Quan Hongchan to win her third consecutive 10m platform world title.

The 17-year-old Chen and 16-year-old Quan, who retained their synchronised title at the World Aquatics Championships here on Sunday, showed that they are in a league of their own with some nearly flawless moves, reports Xinhua.

Chen led from the start to finish, scoring a total of 457.85 points after five dives. Quan, who beat Chen in the two qualifying rounds on Tuesday, got a set of 10s in round four but some small errors in the first two rounds proved too costly. She finished second in 445.60 points. Canada's Caeli McKay



took bronze with 340.25, 117.60 points behind the winner.

The victory will give a confidence boost to Chen in her preparation for the Paris Olympics. Chen came to the Tokyo Olympic Games as the 2019 world champion, but Quan, who was then only 14, rose to the occasion, getting the better of her teammate with a new world record of 466.20 points for the Olympic gold. In last year's Budapest worlds, Chen managed to edge Quan by 0.3 points to win her second world title.



JASLEEN ROYAL CALLS 'HEERIYE' HER 'PASSION PROJECT', CRAFTED IT FROM SCRATCH

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Singer-composer Jasleen Royal, who is gearing up for her upcoming music video 'Heeriye' featuring DulquerSalmaan, has said that the single is her passion project.

Jasleen also said that Dulquer being a sweet guy really helped her soothe her nervousness during the song's production.

'Heeriye', composed and produced by Jasleen, has been sung by both Jasleen and superstar singer Arijit Singh. Talking about the song, Jasleen shared, " 'Heeriye' is personally one of the most special songs of my career. It is my passion project that I have curated from scratch. From composing the tune, singing the track with Arijit to producing the music video and featuring in it, especially with DulquerSalmaan, it has been an immensely exhilarating journey."

"Dulquer is not only an incredibly gifted actor but also an extremely sweet person, while I was excited and nervous the whole time, he made the entire process very easy and comfortable for me. I hope the audience accepts our labour of love with open arms," she added. Jasleen has also produced the music video of the song and also features in it along with Dulquer.

The song marks Dulquer's first non-film project. DulquerSalmaan shared, " 'Heeriye' is a very special song. I instantly fell in love with the tune, the concept of the music video and definitely the soothing voices of Jasleen and Arijit. It is a quintessential love song and I am glad to be associated with Jasleen Royal and Warner Music India for this beautiful melody. I'm excited to see audiences reaction to this beautiful love song."

'Heeriye', presented by Warner Music India, is set to release on July 25, 2023 and will be available on all streaming platforms.

'Made In Heaven' with Kalki's voiceover intensifies mystery of Season 1 cliffhanger

Team Absolute | New Delhi

An exciting recap video of 'Made in Heaven' season one, accompanied by KalkiKoechlin's captivating voiceover, intensifies the intrigue surrounding the suspenseful cliffhanger that concluded the previous season, leaving fans craving for answers.

Expressing her excitement, Kalki shared: "As an actor, it's incredibly

gratifying to see how season one of 'Made in Heaven' resonated with audiences and became such a popular and critically acclaimed series."

"The overwhelming response from fans has been heartwarming. Moving forward into season two, I couldn't be more thrilled and excited. We have an incredible journey ahead, and just like the fans, I am eagerly looking forward to delving deeper into the lives of these complex characters and seeing what lies ahead of them," she said.

The actress also assured the fans that season 2 will be grander and an enthralling experience.

As the first season of 'Made in Heaven' concluded with Tara (SobhitaDhulipala) finding out about the affair between her husband Adil (Jim Sarbh) and her best friend Faiza (KalkiKoechlin), their lives stood at a critical crossroad. Now fans are curious to see how their lives will unfold. Will Faiza and Adil pursue their love or will Faiza prioritise her loyalty to Tara, sacrificing her own desires?

Produced by Excel Media and Entertainment and Tiger Baby, created and directed by ReemaKagti and ZoyaAkhtar along with NityaMehra, AlankritaShrivastava, and NeerajGhaywan.

Starring ArjunMathur and SobhitaDhulipala in the lead roles, 'Made In Heaven' season 2 will be streaming soon on Prime Video.



RANDEEP JHA: WE INTRODUCED ALL OUR CHARACTERS THROUGH EYES OF THE COPS

Team Absolute | New Delhi

Director RandeepJha skillfully takes audiences on a thrilling journey in 'Kohrra', delving into the intertwined lives of dysfunctional families, and the chilling depths of the crime. Set against the backdrop of the picturesque countryside of Punjab, the story revolves around the discovery of a murdered NRI just days before his wedding.

'Kohrra' sets itself apart by seamlessly incorporating both Hindi and Punjabi languages, a multilingual approach that adds authenticity and richness to the narrative.

Randeep emphasised the importance of silence in certain parts of the narrative, acknowledging the challenge it poses, while adding depth and suspense to the story.

He shared: "In 'Kohrra', we have strived to create an immersive experience by introducing all our characters through the eyes of the cops. By delving into the hidden aspects and adding moments of silence, we aim to bring forth a narrative that resonates deeply with the audience."

Suvinder Vicky and BarunSobti portray two dedicated cops who not only unravel the mystery but also serve



as the lenses through which audiences experience the intricate web of the characters.

The show offers a unique approach to character development, showcasing the depth and complexity of each individual within the backdrop of a compelling crime narrative.

FROM HIP-HOP

to soulful bliss, QK's 'Le Jaa' redefines heartache

Team Absolute | New Delhi

Recognised for her presence in MTV 'Hustle 2.0', artist Aaryajadhao also known as 'QK' captivates the audience with beautiful rhythm and soulful lyrics in her new track 'Le Jaa'.

'Le Jaa' fiercely resonates with those who have endured the pain of an unhappy relationship and found the strength to move on.

She has ravishingly curated a heart-touching euphony 'Le Jaa', that will bring out the essence of liberation and growth experienced after a sorrowful relationship. With tender yet resilient vocals and an uplifting rhythm, it portrays resilience and inner strength. This track does not only empathise with the listeners but also renders the spirit of courage to move on from an unhappy relationship. Commenting on the release, QK said: "Experimenting with music has always been very exciting to me. With 'Le Jaa' I have tried to transition from upbeat pop to a softer melody. This song is very dear to me as it captures the heavy-hearted emotions felt after a heartache and during the process of moving on." "It makes it even more special as this would be my first collaboration with the talented producer YashrajMukhate who added his unique take to 'Le Jaa'.



Mrunal Thakur on working with Vijay

'He brings a great spark on screen'

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Actress Mrunal Thakur, who is gearing up for her next 'Hey Ninna', is now looking forward to working with Vijay Devarakonda in the tentatively titled film 'VD 13'. Praising her co-star, she said that with each passing film, the 'Arjun Reddy' star has given memorable characters.

Recently, she announced her next Telugu movie opposite Vijay. She has worked with Nani and Dulquer Salman from the South.

Mrunal said that it is a surreal feeling to have gotten a chance to work with such diverse actors.

She said: "Right from the start when I began working on SitaRamam, I was instantly welcomed with extreme warmth and love from the people from the south film industry. The industry has some of the finest actors in the country and I am grateful that I am getting a chance to share screen space with them."

"Whether it's Dulquer, Nani and now Vijay, they are such different actors with very different fan bases, it's never a dull day for me on the set. The love I got for SitaRamam, I hope I receive the same love for my upcoming movies- Hi Naana and #VD13."

Speaking of Vijay, she said: "I'm looking forward to working with Vijay as I do know that we can learn together and from each other as actors. Currently we have started prep and the shoot of the film will start soon, and sharing screen space with Vijay is something I'm excited about."

"Whatever roles he does on screen, he has this great ability to bring this great spark on screen when he's in front of the camera. With each passing film, he's given such memorable