

# absolute india

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## SC DIRECTIONS TO STATES AND CENTRE TO STOP STUBBLE BURNING

To curb the pollution level in Gurugram and to protect the health of the citizens, the administration on Tuesday banned the use of BS 3 (petrol) and BS 4 (diesel) category vehicles in the district. The order comes into force with immediate effect and will remain in place till November 30 or till stage three of the Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP) is lifted.



### FOLLOWING ARE THE DIRECTIONS ISSUED BY THE TOP COURT

Revisit cultivation of Paddy in Punjab, MSP by Centre: The top also asked why paddy was being grown in Punjab when the water tables were already so low. "What are you doing? Look at your water table. Why are you allowing paddy in Punjab? You want to turn Punjab into a land of no crops from the green land," the Bench remarked. Attorney General Gurminder Singh appearing for Punjab along with making several suggestions said that there is a Minimum Support Price (MSP) on paddy crops in Punjab. This makes the marginal farmers opt for the crop. If the Centre removes the MSP on paddy in Punjab, then they will automatically switch to less water-intensive crops that are actually native to the state of Punjab, unlike paddy. The Bench also noted that since the Centre is already working to switch to millets, then this paddy must be switched with some other native and less water-intensive crop. It was further observed by the apex court in its order that adherence to the Punjab Preservation of Subsoil Water Act, 2009 requires re-consideration as it is creating problems and the government should look into it. The AG said that 15 years ago this problem did not arise because such cropping did not take place. The SC in its order took note of Punjab's AG's suggestion and said that a serious look is required whether this kind of paddy that leaves stubble as a byproduct should be grown in the time period in which it is grown.

Get the smog tower in Delhi working: The top court said that the smog tower installed in Delhi as per earlier order is not working, and called the same "ludicrous" and asked for it to be repaired. Check burning of Municipal Solid Waste in open: The Court directed the Delhi State Government to monitor and ensure that Municipal Solid Waste is not burned in the city or in the open during this time period. Chief Secretaries to call for a meeting tomorrow: The court directed the stakeholders to act promptly in respect of the aforesaid aspects and asked the Cabinet Secretaries of states to conduct a virtual or physical meeting on Wednesday with all stakeholders on this issue for a better picture till Friday. The court further said that local SHOs should be made responsible for looking into stubble burning under the supervision of the Chief Secretary. The matter is again listed on Friday.

Team Absolute | New Delhi

The Supreme Court on Tuesday asked the states bordering Delhi-NCR including Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Punjab, and Haryana to stop stubble burning and take immediate steps to curtail air pollution. While raising several crucial questions the top court came down heavily on the Centre and state governments and issued several directions to curb the problem of rising air pollution in Delhi-NCR.

The Bench of Justice Justices Sanjay Kishan Kaul and Sudhanshu Dhulia sternly warned against politicising such a severe issue that is posing a hazard to the health of people living in Delhi. The Bench passed an order saying that residents of Delhi are suffering because they (the Centre and state governments of Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Punjab, and Haryana) can't find a solution. "This has been going on for the last five years. The matter requires immediate action and court monitoring," it said.

## Amid Maratha reservation row, CM Shinde forms panel for Dhangar quotas

Team Absolute | Mumbai

As a major political war rages between the Maharashtra government and the Opposition over the prickly issue of Maratha reservation, Chief Minister Eknath Shinde on Tuesday set up a Cabinet sub-committee on the pending issue of Dhangar quotas. The move is likely to come up for approval before the Cabinet meeting scheduled in Mumbai on Wednesday, officials said.

Meanwhile, the simmering Maratha quotas issue has again flared up with an open challenge by senior OBC leader of the breakaway Nationalist Congress Party (AP) minister Chhagan Bhujbal in the past couple of days.

Bhujbal has made it clear that the OBCs -- who comprise 54 per cent of the state's population -- would strongly oppose any move by the state government to share their quotas with the Marathas, as is being contemplated.

This led to sharp reactions from ruling Shiv Sena ministers like Shambhuraj Desai and others, who slammed Bhujbal for attempting to



mislead the people in this matter that churned state politics for the past nearly three months. In Jalna, Shivba Sanghatana President Manoj Jarange-Patil demanded to know as to "why Bhujbal has so much angst against the Marathas".

State Congress President Nana Patole, NCP (SP) National Secretary Jitendra Awhad, Shiv Sena's (UBT) Sanjay Raut and Sushma Andhare and others have accused Shinde of making willy-nilly attempts to dilute and do away with the OBC reservation.

Congress' Leader of Opposition (Assembly) Vijay Wadettiwar and Shiv Sena's (UBT) Leader of Opposition

(Council) Ambadas Danve have warned of an agitation by the OBCs post-Divali as the issue remained on the boil, as Bhujbal warned that those who oppose the OBCs would be "out of the government".

Dalit leader and Vanchit Bahujan Aghadi President Prakash Ambedkar has attacked Bhujbal, while state BJP President Chandrashekhar Bawankule has supported Bhujbal.

Attempting to soothe the ruffled feathers, Shinde chided Bhujbal for confusing the issue and reiterated that the government will not carve out Maratha reservation from the OBC quotas, and appealed to Deputy CM Ajit Pawar to intervene.

## Day without internet would cost \$43 bn globally: Report

Team Absolute | New Delhi

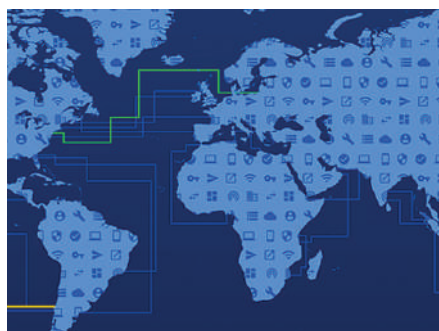
If the internet goes down globally for even just a single day, it would cost \$43 billion, with the US and China making up almost half of the sum together, which is \$21 billion, a new report has said.

According to the VPN service provider AtlasVPN, if an internet outage occurs just for a single day, the US would alone face huge losses of around \$11 billion. China is estimated to lose nearly \$10 billion.

The UK would lose around \$3 billion, and Japan is expected to lose approximately \$2.7 billion. An internet outage in Germany will likely cost up to \$1.5 billion.

Countries with Oceanic islands like Tuvalu, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, and Micronesia would experience the least financial losses if the internet shut down for a day. Specifically, these countries would not lose more than \$50K, the report said.

Russia topped the list of losses in 2022, with an estimated \$21.59 billion in income lost over 7,407 hours of blackouts that affected more than three-quarters of the country's



population, according to the report by Top10VPN.

India lost \$184.3 million as a result of government-imposed blackouts that prevented more than 120 million people from accessing the internet.

Iran, Kazakhstan, Myanmar, and Uzbekistan were among the other countries that suffered the biggest losses due to internet outages in 2022. Overall, internet shutdowns by the government globally cost \$24.6 billion in 2022, up 337 per cent from 2021.

## CHHATTISGARH EX-CM RAMAN SINGH CLAIMS BJP WILL WIN 14 SEATS

Team Absolute | New Delhi

As voting in 20 Assembly seats was underway in Chhattisgarh on Tuesday, former Chief Minister Raman Singh said the BJP will win 14 seats. An overall 10 per cent voter turnout was recorded till 10 a.m., said officials. Voting in some polling booths began at 7 a.m. while at others it started around 8 am.

A large number of voters came out to exercise their right to franchise, especially in the Maoist-hit Bastar district.

Senior BJP leader and former Chief Minister Raman Singh, who is contesting from Rajnandgaon, is among the 223 candidates fighting for the 20 Assembly seats.

Raman Singh was confident that the BJP will win 14 out of the 20 Assembly seats where polling was underway. "BJP is winning a minimum of 14 seats in the first phase. BJP will form the government with a complete majority," he added.

## If arrested, run govt from jail don't resign: AAP councilors to Kejriwal

Team Absolute | New Delhi

A day after Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal held a meeting with the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) MLAs, the Delhi CM met party's AAP municipal councilors on Tuesday.

After the meeting, AAP leader Durgesh Pathak said that all the councilors have appealed Kejriwal if the Modi government's ED arrests him in connection with alleged excise policy scam case then he should run the government from jail.

He said that the councilors also asserted that the Modi government had arrested senior leaders of the party after hatching a conspiracy.

"Now it is BJP's conspiracy to arrest Chief Minister Kejriwal so that he is made to resign. And thus very easily then can end



AAP," he said. Pathak, who is the AAP's MCD incharge said that all the councilors have requested Kejriwal to not even think of resigning from his post.

"If Modi government's ED arrests him then he should run the government from jail," Pathak said.

He also said that the party will run a campaign across the country and ask people if Kejriwal should resign or not.

He also stated that Prime Minister Narendra Modi knows that they cannot win from AAP. "We defeated BJP in Delhi assembly elections in 2013, 2015, 2020 and in MCD elections in 2022," Pathak said.

He said that the BJP has planning to end the AAP for last one and half years and it is reason why they first arrested party leader Satyendra Jain, then Manish Sisodia and Sanjay Singh and in last they would arrest Kejriwal. "There main aim is that if Kejriwal goes in jail then he will have to resign and then they can easily the party" Pathak added.

## Union Minister Prahlad Patel's vehicle hits bike in MP, 1 killed, 3 kids injured

Team Absolute | Bhopal

One person was killed and three school children seriously injured after a vehicle in which Union Minister Prahlad Patel was travelling for campaigning for the November 17 Assembly elections hit their motorcycle in Madhya Pradesh's Chhindwara on Tuesday.

The incident occurred at a village when the BJP's star campaigner Prahlad Patel was on his way to Narsinghpur from Chhindwara.

Patel was in Chhindwara to campaign for BJP's candidate 'Vivek' Banti Shahu, who is contesting the election against state Congress President and former Chief Minister Kamal Nath.

As per information, after attending road shows and addressing rallies for his BJP's candidate Banti Sahu, the Union Minister was heading towards his home district Narsinghpur - from where he

is also contesting the Assembly election. The vehicle he was travelling hit a motorcycle coming from the opposite direction and the collision was so massive that the person who was driving the motorcycle, died on spot and three children fell at a distance.

As per reports, the minister's vehicle, which was also damaged, also came down from the road into the fields and he also received minor injuries on his feet.

Patel came out from his vehicle and appealed to people to take the injured persons to a hospital.

Subsequently, local police and officials reached the spot and the injured persons were rushed to hospital.

However, what exactly caused the incident - whether the collision occurred because the motorcycle was being driven on the wrong side or due to the high speed of the minister's vehicle is yet to be ascertained.

## Dehradun accuses Moitra of trespassing, intimidation at his residence

THE SUPREME COURT LAWYER, JAI ANANT DEHADRAI, WHO PREVIOUSLY MADE ALLEGATIONS OF BRIBERY AGAINST TRINAMOOL CONGRESS MP MAHUA MOITRA, HAS RECENTLY PENNED A COMPLAINT TO THE STATION HOUSE OFFICER (SHO) AT HAUZ KHAS. IN HIS COMPLAINT, HE HAS ACCUSED HER OF UNAUTHORISED ENTRY AND INTIMIDATING HIS STAFF.

Team Absolute | New Delhi

In his letter to the SHO on Tuesday, Dehadrai, stated that Moitra, Member of Parliament (Krishnanagar), came unannounced to his residence at Neeti Bagh, on November 5 at around 11 AM and on November 6 at around 9AM.

"Given her past history of filing fraudulent criminal complaints against me (24.03.2023 and 23.09.2023) and falsely alleging offences' such as trespass, and criminal intimidation, and thereafter withdrawing the same in writing (on 04.10.2023), it is a grave cause for concern to me," he further stated.

"There is every possibility that Moitra might intentionally come to my residential premises with the



sole objective of filing further fraudulent complaints against me. I have previously informed the Commissioner of Police, Delhi, on 19.10.2023 and then on 21.10.2023, regarding these fraudulent and bogus complaints which Moitra had foisted on me with the objective of using them as leverage to force/compel me to handover the custody of my pet dog," he further stated.

"I have also flagged to the Commissioner the very serious threat to my life which I anticipate on account of the Complaints filed by me with CBI against Smt. Moitra and her associates/ accomplices (Complaints dated 21.10.2023 and 19.10.2023," he stated.

## CPI(M) bags 100 gram panchayat seats, 8 sarpanch posts in Palghar

Palghar | Agencies

The CPI(M) has won 100 gram panchayat seats in 13 villages in Maharashtra's Palghar district while 8 sarpanches were elected in Talasari and Dahanu tehsils, an official said here on Tuesday.

CPI(M) leader Ashok Dhawale said the party performed extremely well in the November 5 elections to 2,359 gram panchayats across Maharashtra, the results of which were announced on Monday.

The party sarpanches, including at least four women, shall head the gram panchayats of Kavada, Karajgaon, Udhva, Kurze, Uplad (Talasari), Sogve, Modgaon and Kinbhavali (Dahanu), considered the party's stronghold among the tribals and farmers there.

The CPI(M) supported candidates won 100 out of



167 seats in 13 villages in the two regions, with a majority in Udhva, Uplad, Kurze, Kavada, Karajgaon, Sogve, Kinbhavali, and Ambesari, said Dhawale.

Incidentally, the CPI(M) has a sole legislator, Vinod Nikole, elected from Palghar's Dahanu Assembly seat in 2019 - a constituency which it has won nine times from 1978 onwards, barring in 2014, when BJP's Pascal Dhanare had bagged it.



# THERE WILL BE ACTION AGAINST CORRUPTION: PM NARENDRA MODI

Hyderabad | Agencies

Alleging that the strings of corruption by BRS are linked to Delhi liquor scam, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday said that action will definitely be taken against corruption.

Addressing an election rally in Hyderabad, he indirectly referred to the allegations against Telangana Chief Minister K. Chandrababu Naidu's daughter K. Kavitha in the Delhi excise policy case.

"When investigating agencies started probing their corruption, these people started abusing investigation agencies but today I want to tell these people clearly that there will be action against corruption. Those who looted people, they will have to return (the money). This is Modi's guarantee," he said.

Modi also remarked that arrogance won't let people stay. "The same arrogance is seen in BRS leaders. In 2019 Lok Sabha elections, people of Telangana had given a befitting reply



to the arrogant chief minister with the power of their votes and rattled by this, the leaders here started abusing Modi," he said.

The Prime Minister dubbed Congress and BRS as two sides of the same coin. "BRS is following the same model of family rule and corruption developed by the Congress in seven

decades. They both aim to loot public wealth. Both the parties promote their children and they don't care about your children," Modi said.

Stating that BRS came to power by making big promises, he said it failed to fulfil any of them.

He alleged that the Telangana government's biggest betrayal was with

the youth. Youth preparing for TSPSC exams for nine years were left in the lurch because of paper leak. The failures of BRS destroyed the future of the entire generation, he said.

Modi said youth were asking what happened to the promise of jobs. The state government also failed to implement the promise of unemployment allowance. The posts of thousands of teachers are vacant.

He also slammed BRS over failing to deliver on the promise of double bed-room houses for the poor. He claimed that his government built 4 crore houses for the poor under PM Awas Yojana and of this 2.50 lakh houses were built in Telangana.

Urging people to compare the track record of BRS with the work done by BJP to serve them, he stressed the need for a double-engine government. Modi also mentioned that he has decided to extend the free food-grains scheme for five years and asked the audience to switch on the flash on their mobile phones in support of this decision.

## AAP govt 'lied' to Delhi public on odd-even scheme: LG's Office

Team Absolute | New Delhi

Delhi's Aam Admi Party (AAP) government misled and lied to the people in the matter of odd-even scheme to counter the deteriorating air quality in the national capital, LG's Office functionaries said on Tuesday.

The officials said that the file to this effect clearly shows that no decision has been taken about implementation of odd-even scheme yet.

"The much publicised odd-even scheme to fight air pollution post Diwali, that was announced by the AAP government on Monday is nothing but an attempt to mislead people and courts to divert attention from the on-going severe crisis in the Capital caused by air pollution," an official said.

They said that the file to this effect clearly shows that the decision to implement the odd-even scheme as a part of measures under GRAP-IV, was not approved by Environment Minister Gopal Rai.

"Subsequently, CM Arvind Kejriwal's office conveyed his approval of deferring a decision on odd-even plying of vehicles, as proposed by Gopal Rai, since the CM was out of town," the official said.

The officials claimed that the AAP government approved all proposals under GRAP-IV except for odd-even scheme. Other measures



under GRAP-IV includes: physical classes for all classes up to class 11 to be discontinued and lessons to be conducted online; all public, municipal and private offices to work on 50 per cent strength, and all colleges/educational institutions and non-emergency commercial activities to be closed.

Under the odd-even policy, vehicles plying in Delhi are required to run on odd-even basis of registration numbers.

"Gopal Rai and the Chief Minister approved all proposals except that about odd-even plying of vehicles, where they wanted a decision on implementation to be taken after advice from experts," the official said.

## NewsClick seeks quashing of cases alleging violation of foreign funding laws

Team Absolute | New Delhi

Media portal NewsClick on Tuesday requested the Delhi High Court to quash cases filed against it for alleged violations of foreign funding laws.

The media platform argued that the prosecution against it is dishonest, mala fide, and meant to harass the organisation, and that now its founder was "sitting in jail" in another case.

Its founder and Editor-in-Chief Prabir Purkayastha and its HR head Amit Chakravarty are currently in jail under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act.

NewsClick has challenged both the Economic Offences Wing (EOW) FIR and the subsequent case initiated by the Enforcement Directorate (ED), accusing the platform of money laundering. It was asserted that no guidelines or



norms governing foreign direct investment (FDI) were violated.

Senior advocate Kapil Sibal, representing NewsClick, strongly criticised the prosecution, labelling it as a completely dishonest, mala fide complaint filed to harass a media channel.

He expressed concern about Purkayastha's arrest under the anti-terror law and highlighted that the man is 72 years old.

Sibal argued that there was no violation of the law regarding foreign funds from

an investor abroad, and even the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) stated that no laws had been violated. He argued the prosecution was driven by NewsClick's stance against the establishment.

Counsel for the Delhi Police and the ED, which had initiated its probe based on the Delhi Police FIR, argued that NewsClick's plea for a copy of the Enforcement Case Information Report (ECIR) had become irrelevant since the Supreme Court had ruled that it was not required to be supplied.

NewsClick had filed a petition in 2021 seeking the quashing of criminal cases against the portal over allegations of violating FDI laws. The allegations in the FIR claimed that NewsClick had received FDI from the US in violation of the law, and the investment was made by overvaluing the company's shares.

## Nitish Kumar triggers laughter in Assembly with population control theory, Tejashwi defends it as sex education

Patna | Agencies

Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar left a number of legislators unable to control their laughter and some female members feeling awkward as he explained his population control theory in the Assembly on Tuesday.

Elaborating on the reports of caste survey, he contended that the education of women have helped the state to control the population.

However, his explanation made female legislators feel awkward as he used some risqué language.

"After marriages, men ask their wives to establish sexual relations but as we have educated the women in Bihar, they ask their husbands to stop at the right time. Due to this, the population of Bihar is under check," Nitish Kumar said while some of the legislators sitting behind were laughing.

His statements evoked criticism from the opposition BJP.

BJP OBC wing's national General Secretary Nikhil Anand said: "Bihar CM has lost control over his body,



mind, and heart. In what abyss will Nitish Ji take Bihar with his stubbornness? The ruling party leaders were laughing with such language of the Chief Minister in the house. They are intoxicated with power and not feeling ashamed."

Deputy Chief Minister Tejashwi Yadav, however, came out in defence of the Chief Minister, saying that he was talking about sex education and people need not to interpret it in a wrongful manner. "He is talking about sex education and how the Bihar gov-

ernment has done population control in the state. People need not to interpret it in a wrongful manner. Sex education is taking place in the schools and children are learning it," he said.

However, Nitish Kumar has been making verbal gaffes quite often in recent times.

At a public event last week, he claimed that the CPI and the CPI-M helped him in the election he had contested in 1987 - though no election was held that year.

Recently at a Janata Darbar, he asked the officers there to make a call to the Home Minister, leaving them in an awkward situation as he holds the post himself. In another event, Nitish Kumar termed himself the Union Home Minister and said that when he was holding the post, he gave reservation to sports persons in the department. However, Nitish Kumar did not hold the post at the Centre as he was the Railway and Agriculture Minister there.

On October 12, he had referred to Chief Secretary Amir Subhani as "Chief Mukhya Mantri" before being corrected by officials.

## MANIPUR HC ASKS STATE GOVT TO LIFT MOBILE INTERNET BAN IN UNAFFECTED AREAS

Imphal | Agencies

The Manipur High Court directed the state government to operationalise mobile towers, on a trial basis, in those district headquarters which have not been affected by ethnic violence, court sources said on Tuesday.

A division bench of Chief Justice Siddharth Mridul and Justice Golmei Gaipulshillu Kabui directed the Manipur government to open and operationalise mobile towers, on a trial basis, in all those district headquarters which have not been affected by violence and thereafter, if found feasible, extend the services to other areas where the law and order situation, so permits.

The order comes after a public interest litigation (PIL) filed by Aribam Dhananjay Sharma and others. The High Court also directed the state government to upload on its official website copies of all the orders issued in connection with the



suspension or curbing of mobile internet data services.

The next hearing of the PIL has been scheduled for November 9.

As preventive measures and to curb spread of harmful messages, photos, and videos by anti-social elements, Manipur Commissioner, Home, T. Ranjit Singh on Sunday extended the mobile internet ban till

November 8. The Home Department extended the mobile internet ban thrice in less than two weeks after Chief Minister N. Biren Singh recently had indicated that the government would consider withdrawing the ban within the next few days.

In view of last month's massive students' agitation, the Manipur government on September 26, two days

after the ban was lifted after 143 days, again suspended mobile internet data services, internet/data services and after each five days, the ban had been extended.

After the devastating ethnic violence broke out between the Meitei and tribal Kuki communities on May 3, mobile internet was banned in the entire northeastern state. After the situation was largely normalised, the ban was lifted on September 23, but it had to be imposed again on September 26 after hundreds of students clashed with security forces following images of the bodies of two young missing students, including a girl, circulating on the social media.

The All Naga Students' Association Manipur often blockades the highways protesting against the extension of the internet ban in hill districts not affected by the ethnic violence.

The blockade has affected supply of essential commodities in a number of places in Manipur.

## Delhi court grants divorce to rapper Honey Singh and his wife

Team Absolute | New Delhi

Delhi court on Tuesday granted divorce to singer and rapper Honey Singh and his wife.

The divorce case involved allegations of domestic violence made by Singh's wife, who claimed to have experienced mental, physical, emotional, sexual, and economic violence by Singh and his family, living in fear as a result.

However, these allegations were later withdrawn after the parties reached a settlement. As part of this settlement, in September of the previous year, Singh handed over a demand draft of Rs 1 crore to his wife.

Before pronouncing the



divorce decree, Family Court Principal Judge Paramjit Singh asked whether there was any desire to attempt

reconciliation, to which the singer replied that there was no possibility of living or residing together.

## Proposal to change the name of Aligarh to Harigarh passed

Lucknow | Agencies

After Allahabad became Prayagraj, it is now time for Aligarh to become Harigarh in Uttar Pradesh.

The Aligarh Municipal Corporation has unanimously passed a proposal to change the name of Aligarh to Harigarh.

The proposal was presented by Mayor Prashant Singhal in a meeting on Monday and was supported by all councillors.

If the Uttar Pradesh government approves the proposal to rename Aligarh, it will add to the growing tally of places renamed in the BJP-ruled state.

Aligarh mayor Prashant Singhal said, "In the meeting a proposal was presented to change the name of Aligarh to Harigarh. All councillors unanimously supported this. Now, this proposal will be sent to the administration. I



hope that the administration will take cognizance of this and fulfil our demand to change the name of Aligarh to Harigarh. This demand has been pending since long." It may be recalled that a proposal to rename Aligarh

to Harigarh was cleared by a zila panchayat meeting in 2021 and sent to UP Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath.

In 2019, Chief Minister Adityanath had indicated that his government will keep up with its spree of renaming places across the state.

## Fraudulent data roaming traffic to up by 700% over next 5 years globally: Report

Team Absolute | New Delhi

Fraudulent data roaming traffic is expected to grow by nearly 700 per cent over the next five years globally because of the evolution of sophisticated fraudulent tactics such as SIM card swapping, a new report found on Tuesday.

According to Juniper Research, operators would incur a total of \$2 billion in operator losses due to roaming fraud in 2023, which is expected to rise to roughly \$8.4 billion by 2028, representing an absolute growth of 310 per cent.

Experts estimated that operator losses due to data roaming fraud in 2023 will be the highest compared to other services -- projected to account for 80 per cent of the global losses by service in 2023. "Losses from global roaming fraud are anticipated to exceed \$8 billion by 2028; driven by the increase in bilateral roaming agreements for data-intensive use cases over 5G networks. In turn,



fraudulent data traffic will account for 80 per cent of global operator roaming-based losses by 2024," the report said.

The report evaluated roaming fraud across a number of key channels, including voice, SMS, consumer and IoT devices across 60 countries.

Moreover, the report mentioned that this growth in roaming traffic will lead to increased opportunities for fraudsters, such as SIM box fraud, where data is allocated through local routes rather than monetisable roaming channels. Leading roaming vendors agreed that bilateral 5G roaming agreements are necessary to detect these fraudulent connections.

As bilateral 5G roaming agreements proliferate, operators will deploy more sophisticated fraud mitigation tools, the report stated. Fraud mitigation services will alert operators of any potentially fraudulent activity across 5G networks in real-time and enable them to identify and block suspicious roaming subscribers.



## "HATES DALITS SO MUCH": PM SLAMS CONGRESS

Team Absolute | Bhopal

Prime Minister Narendra Modi accused the Congress of "hating" Dalits today, reiterating the allegation that blew up during the 2022 Presidential elections. Speaking at an election rally in Sidhi, Madhya Pradesh, he raised the issue of appointment of the first Dalit Chief Information Commissioner, pointing out that the Congress had skipped the meeting.

The Congress boycotted the meeting called to appoint Hiralal Samaria as the first Dalit Chief Information Commissioner, even though the party was invited on time, he said.

"I canceled my election tour and went to Delhi for the meeting. A Dalit from Rajasthan was being made the Chief Information Commissioner for the first time," PM Modi said.

"They (the Congress) were invited to the meeting. The invite was sent before time. They even had a telephonic conversation. But when they came to know



that a Dalit was going to be appointed, they boycotted the meeting. They hate Dalits so much," PM Modi said.

Madhya Pradesh -- where elections are due on November 17 -- has a sizeable chunk of Dalit and tribal population, which has been leaning towards the Congress. The votes, though, are crucial for the BJP, which is trying to get another term in the state.

The tit-for-tat allegations of mistreating Dalits and tribals have been a recurring theme in this election.

In September, the Prime Minister had said the Congress "hated" the poor, Dalits, tribals, and OBCs. This, he had said, was part of their "hatred for Modi".

"They are troubled as to how this per-

son coming from a backward section of the society became the Prime Minister. They had reservation on the PM's chair. They are abusing the entire backward society in the name of Modi," he had said at a rally in Chhattisgarh's Bilaspur, an area dominated by Dalits and tribals.

The BJP has been slamming the Congress since it decided to put up candidate against Droupadi Murmu in July 2022 and put up Yashwant Sinha as the Opposition candidate.

Congress's Rahul Gandhi has questioned why the Prime Minister identifies himself as an OBC (Other Backward Classes) "if he believes that there is only one caste, the poor". He has also tied the issue to the Opposition demand for a caste census, saying, "Since Modi ji became the PM, he regularly claims that he is OBC but when it comes to helping OBC by conducting caste census, then the PM says that there is no caste".

He has also accused the BJP of insulting tribals by referring to them as "vanvasi" instead of "adivasi".

## Empty bouquet for Priyanka Gandhi leads to 'LOL' moment on stage

Team Absolute | Indore

In some comic relief amid a hectic poll campaign, Congress leader Priyanka Gandhi Vadra was left amused when a party leader presented her with a bouquet with the flowers missing. Yes, you read it right. The Congress leader could not suppress a laugh when she noticed that the neat wrap hatted to her was actually empty.



The hilarious moments were caught on camera during the Congress leader's rally at Indore in Madhya Pradesh, which votes on November 17. The Congress is pushing hard for a victory in the state, where it formed a government last time but lost power after a rebellion led by Jyotiraditya Scindia, now with the BJP.

Ahilyabai Holkar was a Maratha queen in the 18th century who ruled over Indore for nearly three decades.

The video of the poll meeting shows Gandhi Vadra being welcomed by Congress leaders. One by one, party leaders walk to her and greet her. The Congress leader is seen smiling and greeting them back. Some leaders gift her roses, others pose for photographs with the top leader.

At this point, a man walks into the frame holding what

looks like a bouquet. He hands it over to Gandhi Vadra and she starts laughing as soon as she looks at it. She then points to the empty wrap as if to ask where the flowers are. The party workers, visibly embarrassed, mumbles something. Gandhi Vadra can't stop laughing as others on the stage join in. The man disappears as soon as he had come.

The comic relief was brief, and Gandhi Vadra soon switched to work mode, launching a scathing attack

on the Narendra Modi government over price rise.

"Onion prices have increased before Diwali and housewives are upset over this. The government makes efforts to control inflation only when elections are held. The price of an LPG cylinder rose to Rs 1,400 and two months before the elections, the government reduced its price to Rs 400," she said.

A video of the hilarious bouquet moment has now gone viral, with BJP leaders taking potshots at the Congress over the faux pas.

## IT's big action in Madhya Pradesh, raids on many locations of Som Distilleries

Team Absolute | Bhopal

Before the elections in Madhya Pradesh, IT raids several places of liquor traders, search continues. Before the Madhya Pradesh Assembly elections, IT has conducted a major raid in the capital Bhopal. IT has conducted raids at the residence of a liquor businessman resident of Bhopal.

IT has taken action simultaneously at three locations of Arora brothers of Som Group. Search is going on at many locations of Som Group including MP Nagar, Arera Colony.

IT has taken action in disproportionate assets and many tax cases. It is being



at 7 am, the Income Tax team has raided a well-known liquor manufacturing company of Madhya Pradesh. Action has been initiated simultaneously at several offices and homes of Som Group including Gulmohar,

Trilanga and MP Nagar. CRPF personnel are deployed at Som Group for security purposes.

In fact, 20 days ago also, IT had conducted a raid on Trident Company in Budni of Sehore district. During this period, action was taken at more than 35 locations of the company across the country. IT had seized electronics equipments documents. IT had received a complaint of financial irregularities against the group.

IT had taken action simultaneously in Delhi, Budni, Ludhiana, Chandigarh, Sirsa, Punjab and other places. And now after 20 days, IT has taken action against Som Group in Bhopal.

## Leader of Opposition Govind Singh's brother joins BJP

Team Absolute | Bhopal

Shailendra Singh, brother of Leader of Opposition in Madhya Pradesh Assembly Dr. Govind Singh, joined the BJP. He has joined the BJP after being influenced by the policies, poor welfare and development of the central and state governments of the Bharatiya Janata Party. Along with him, senior leader Ramesh Kushwaha and five other Congress workers have joined BJP. Union Minister Rajiv Chandrashekar, senior leader Raghunandan Sharma, State Office Minister Dr. Raghavendra Sharma, State Media In-charge Ashish Aggarwal inducted him into the party in a simple program organized at the State Media Centre. On this occasion, Union Minister Shri Chandrashekar welcomed Shailendra Singh, who took membership of BJP, former Congress Sarpanch Ramesh Kushwaha, Manoj Kushwaha, Arun Kushwaha, Ravindra Kushwaha and Ramesh Rawat. Here he said that Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas and Sabka Prayas is the slogan of our leader



Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Now all of us will work together to take the country and state forward and contribute in realizing Prime Minister Narendra Modi's resolve to make India the third largest economy in the world.

On this occasion, party's state cum media in-charge Mrs. Kshama Tripathi, state spokesperson Dr. Pankaj Chaturvedi, Milan Bhargava, Ramprakash Tiwari of Bhind district and Hridesh Sharma were present.

## Rat 'arrested' in MP for 'guzzling down' booze at police station

Team Absolute | Bhopal

Do rats drink alcohol? Well, it seems so, at least in Madhya Pradesh, where a rodent has been 'arrested' for emptying liquor bottles at a police station, and will now be produced before the court as proof!

This bizarre incident was reported from a police station in Chhindwara district, where the cops had seized illegal liquor packed in plastic bottles and put them in a store room.

However, when time came to produce the seized liquor in the court, the police found that at least 60 bottles were empty. The clueless cops concluded that the large quantity of alcohol was guzzled down by rodents!

As per the police, the building is too old where rats are often seen moving around, often destroying records.

The police also claimed to have 'arrested' one of the 'accused' rats, which will now be produced before the court as proof.

However, the police are yet to confirm as to how many rats were involved in the liquor party!

The case in which the liquor bottles were seized is still pending before the court. The police are now trying to find a way to explain the situation as the seized liquor needs to be produced in the court.



This is not the first time when rats have been accused to drinking liquor at a police station. In an earlier instance, when the police narrated a similar incident in the Shajapur district court, the judge and entire the court staff had burst out laughing.

In 2018, over 1,000 litres of seized liquor kept at the storehouse of Bareilly's Cantonment police station in Uttar Pradesh had disappeared. The local policemen had blamed rats for guzzling the liquor down.

## You want education or values or alcohol and its destruction: Yogi Adityanath



Team Absolute | Shujalpur

On Tuesday, Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath addressed a public meeting in support of the BJP candidate at the JNS College Sports Ground in Shujalpur. Yogi Adityanath directly targeted the Congress candidate by calling him a liquor mafia and said that the public has to choose between liquor and destruction in front of education and values.

Madhya Pradesh Minister of State for School Education Inder Singh Parmar, BJP candidate from Shujalpur Assembly constituency, gave the welcome address in the meeting and enumerated the works done by the Madhya Pradesh government. Yogi said in the meeting that the generation of all of us is fortunate, because we are seeing the changing India with our own eyes. We are seeing a new India, which is moving towards self-reliance.

Yogi said, could Congress have done the work of Ram temple in Ayodhya? Congress did not want this because the name of Congress itself is the problem. It

did not want the problem to be solved. Congress had said that there should be no change. It was Ram devotees who removed the structure of slavery. Congress has given problems to the country. Congress gave the problems of terrorism, extremism, Naxalism and corruption. In history, at the time of Congress, it was taught that Akbar was great, that is, Congress did not consider Maharana Pratap great. BJP says that Maharana Pratap and Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj are great, the difference is clear, on the one hand Congress, which looked at the country through the eyes of slavery, was trying to push the country back towards slavery. On the other hand, the Bharatiya Janata Party, known for its national self-respect and respect, also has reverence for the tradition of Ram and Krishna.

Congress had also denied the existence of Ram and Krishna, saying that this is a myth and they did not exist. That is, for them the history of India starts only with Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru and for them the most sacred scripture (indicated without naming) is consid-

ered to be the same. Congress still calls itself accidental. An accident happened, Congressmen were born. As soon as the BJP government came to power in UP, the way for the establishment of Ram Lalla in Ayodhya was paved. This should be a day of pride for Indians.

MP and UP have left behind the identity of BIMARU state. Bihar and Rajasthan are currently in the grip of this disease. Now Madhya Pradesh is being counted among the developed and leading states.

The work done honestly in the schemes and agriculture sector in MP is praiseworthy, due to which the growth rate increased in MP. New experiments, programs and efforts took place. If there is a double engine government of the same party in the Center and the state, then development will increase manifold. Congress has no agenda. Had there been an agenda, we would have ruled the country for 55 years. If there was an agenda, the poor would have got benefits like electricity, toilet, Ujjwala scheme connection, housing, Ayushman scheme.

## Ayurvedic and Herbal Dental Products are safe and effective in Gingivitis: Groundbreaking Research of Ayush, AIIMS Bhopal

Team Absolute | Bhopal

Ayush Department of All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), Bhopal has published a systematic review and meta-analysis of randomized controlled trials that focuses on the effectiveness of Ayurvedic and herbal dental products in the treatment of gingivitis. This comprehensive study was conducted by a team of esteemed researchers led by Dr. Danish Javed, Senior Medical Officer Ayurveda; including Dr. Ashish Kumar Dixit, Medical Officer; Dr. Sana Anwar, PhD Scholar, Community Medicine Department; Dr. Anshul Rai, Additional Professor, Oral & Maxillofacial Surgeon; and Dr. Kawal Krishan, Associate Professor, Hospital Administration. The study has been published in the prestigious PubMed indexed "Journal of Education and Health Promotion."

Executive Director Prof. Dr. Ajai Singh while congratulat-



ing the researchers said that "Ayurveda has been an effective medical system of India for centuries; AIIMS Bhopal is not only providing the facility of Allopathy and Ayurveda treatment under one roof, but is also paving the way for new research every day".

The research is based on the analysis of large data collected from 2,806 patients involved in 41 different clinical trials conducted between 2004 and 2021. These trials aimed to evaluate the efficacy of Ayurvedic and herbal dental products in managing gingivitis, a common oral health issue affecting a significant portion of the population.

The key findings of this groundbreaking study reveal that Ayurvedic and herbal

dental products have demonstrated their effectiveness in addressing various aspects of gingivitis treatment. These products have shown substantial benefits in reducing plaque buildup, alleviating gingival inflammation, and inhibiting bacterial growth within the oral cavity. Furthermore, the study concludes that these products are safe for use and can be recommended for community dentistry practices.

One of the notable highlights of the study is the endorsement of the traditional Ayurvedic practice of Oil Pulling Therapy, known as "Kanwal" and "Gandush" in Ayurveda. This therapy has been proven to be highly effective in promoting oral health. Several specific

Ayurvedic and herbal components have also been identified as particularly beneficial for maintaining oral health. These include Triphala, Aloe vera, Neem, Turmeric, Green Tea, Tulsi, and more, which were found to have a significant positive impact on gingival health. This research not only underscores the rich heritage of Ayurveda but also provides valuable insights into the potential of Ayurvedic and herbal dental products as a safe and effective alternative in modern dentistry. The results of this study are poised to have a positive influence on oral healthcare practices and encourage further exploration of traditional healing modalities in contemporary medicine.





EDITOR'S SPECS

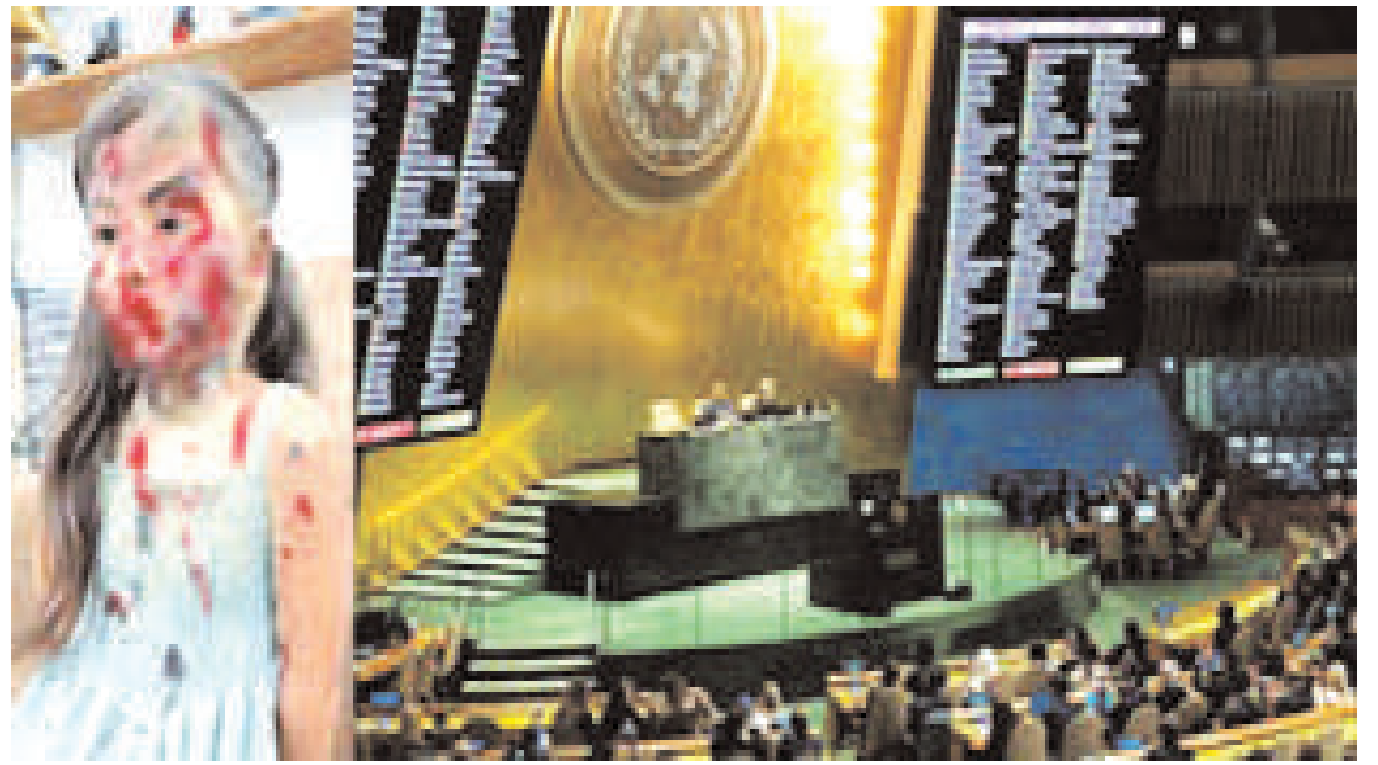
First floor of Ram temple will also be ready by Jan 2024

The first floor of the Ram temple is also likely to be inaugurated on January 22 next year when the consecration of Ram Lalla will take place at the temple's sanctum-sanctorum in Ayodhya. Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Teerth Kshetra Trust has decided to complete construction work of the first floor of the temple by December 31 this year. Presiding over a meeting of the Ram Mandir Construction Committee, Nripendra Misra, chairman of the committee, reviewed the progress of the construction work on the temple on Monday. During the meeting, agencies involved in the construction work assured Misra that construction work of the ground floor will be completed by December 31. They also assured him that the first floor of the temple will also be ready for inauguration by the same date. According to the Trust, all 14 doors of the ground floor of the temple and four entrance gates are ready. The flooring of the temple's sanctum-sanctorum is ready and pillars are being laid on the first floor. "The ground floor of the Ram temple is almost complete. The sanctum-sanctorum is also complete. Only finishing work is being done here," said a member of the Trust. According to the Trust, 160 pillars have been laid on the temple's ground floor and 132 pillars will come up on the first floor, while 74 pillars will come up on the temple's second floor. Each floor is 20 feet high. Prime Minister Narendra Modi and RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat will preside over the consecration ceremony of Ram Lalla in Ayodhya on January 22, 2024. The temple will be opened for devotees from the next day. The Trust is also finalising a list of 4,000 seers and 2,500 prominent people from across the country who will be invited for the opening ceremony.

Diplomatic divide grows as Israel unleashes humanitarian crisis on Gaza

Vikas Datta

Condemning Israel's disproportionate and indiscriminate offensive in Gaza following the Hamas attack, this country decided to snap diplomatic relations with it. Was it one of Israel's few Arab neighbours that have ties with it but cannot stay silent any longer to the growing humanitarian crisis in the blockaded densely-populated enclave? No. It was actually faraway Bolivia, which, on October 31, announced it had "decided to break diplomatic relations with the Israeli state in repudiation and condemnation of the aggressive and disproportionate Israeli military offensive taking place in the Gaza Strip". The South American nation, which broke off ties with Israel in 2009 too after its Gaza invasion, was not the only one to go to the diplomatic extreme step over the Gaza conflict, as two other Latin American countries also recalled their ambassadors. One of these was Colombia whose President and former guerrilla leader Gustavo Petro had also engaged in a bitter war of words with the Israeli envoy earlier in October, citing how Israeli agents had provided training and equipment to the FARC and other paramilitary groups. The other was Chile, which hosts one of the oldest and largest Palestinian communities outside the Arab world. Chilean President Gabriel Boric, in a post on X, accused Israel of "unacceptable violations of International Humanitarian Law" and following a policy of "collective punishment" of the people of Gaza, as he announced the recall of the ambassador. His Colombian counterpart called the attacks a "massacre of the Palestinian people". Brazil was also at the forefront of calling for a ceasefire, also moving a proposal for this in the UN Security Council but the US vetoed it. On the other hand, Israel withdrew its envoy from Turkey over its President Recep Tayyip Erdogan's blunt speeches to "re-evaluate diplomatic ties". It was only after the Latin Americans, did some of the Arab countries move on the bilateral diplomatic front. Jordan, which had become only the second Arab nation to ink a peace treaty with Israel in the 1990s, recalled its envoy and intimated the Israeli Foreign Ministry not to send back its envoy, who had left the country as the violence began. However, it had earlier moved and secured passage of a resolution in the UN General Assembly calling for a ceasefire. Bahrain, which had come to an understanding with Israel in 2020 under then US President



Donald Trump-pushed Abraham Accords, also recalled its envoy from Israel and announced that Israel's Ambassador in Manama had left "a while ago". It, however, made no mention of cutting economic relations as the Gulf kingdom's parliament had demanded. The UAE and Morocco, the other two Abraham Accord members, are yet to act though deploring the violence, as is Egypt. However, the increasing tempo of the Israeli attacks and the mounting number of fatalities, overwhelmingly civilian, in the Gaza Strip - and now increasingly, in the West Bank too - even as Benjamin Netanyahu's government firmly rules out any ceasefire, and its supporters, chiefly the US, limit their call to "humanitarian pauses", is leading to a large potential blowback for both Israel and its Western allies from rest of the world beyond the Middle East. The Israeli cause is not helped by its intemperate calls for the resignation of UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres after he cited the historical context behind the current spell of violence, its rather brusque behaviour with those it believes are not accepting its stand, and its trenchant attitude towards UN relief agencies and global humanitarian groups who are crying hoarse over the situation in Gaza.

While the US and most of the European countries stand firmly behind Israel, there are growing murmurs in the continent too, with Ireland, Norway, and Spain expressing some disquiet over the current situation in Gaza. The rest, from South Africa to Mexico, and Indonesia to Cuba, are in favour of a ceasefire, and what could be possibly worrying for Israel, increasingly laying stress on the two-state solution. A resolution, moved by Jordan and 40 other countries, calling for a humanitarian truce in Gaza was passed by the UN General Assembly on October 26. Technically unenforceable but politically significant, the motion, which made no mention of Hamas or the hostages it took, made for some interesting insights into its support as it garnered 121 votes, 14 against, and 44 abstentions. Prior to it, a Canadian proposal, which included condemnation of Hamas and its hostage-taking only, failed as with 88 votes in favour, it could not get the required two-thirds majority. 55 nations were against, and 23 abstained. The Jordanian proposal had 14 countries voting against it. Apart from Israel and the US, the others were Austria, Croatia, Czechia, Fiji, Guatemala, Hungary, Marshall

Islands, Micronesia, Nauru, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, and Tonga. The abstainers included most of the other European countries, as well as Australia, Canada, Japan, South Korea and India - for the first time on a vote on a Palestinian issue, while the African contingent only included Cameroon, Ethiopia, South Sudan, and Zambia. The 121 in favour included the entire Arab and Muslim world, Russia, China, as well as all the Caribbean nations, Asean members save the Philippines, all of Africa except the four above, virtually all of Central and South America, most of the remaining Asian nations while in Europe, Norway abandoned its Scandinavian neighbours to support the proposal as did Belgium, France, Ireland, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Switzerland, and some smaller countries. New Zealand was another supporter. The resolutions in the General Assembly do not have the same weight as those of the Security Council, but they indicate thinking of most of the world - and in case, it is that the blood-letting has gone too far and without succour. Will the other side heed this?

international

IDF opens corridor in Gaza to allow Palestinians to move south

Tel Aviv | Agencies

The Israel Defense Forces (IDF) on Tuesday said that it opened a humanitarian corridor in Gaza for the Palestinians to move to south from 10 am to 2 pm, Israel time. "If you care about yourself and your loved ones head south according to our instructions. Rest assured, Hamas leaders have taken care of defending themselves," IDF Spokesman Colonel Avichai Adraee wrote on X. The IDF has alleged that the Hamas has fired mortars and blocked the movement of civilians when the humanitarian corridor was opened last week. Meanwhile, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has reiterated that there will be no ceasefire in Gaza until the Hamas militant group releases all the hostages it took captive after launching the unprecedented attack on October 7. When asked about temporary "humanitarian" pauses in the fighting as suggested by US President Joe Biden and top administration officials, the



Prime Minister told ABC News on Monday: "Well, there'll be no ceasefire, general ceasefire, in Gaza without the release of our hostages. As far as tactical little pauses, an hour here, an hour there. "We've had them before, I suppose, will check the circumstances in order to enable goods, humanitarian goods to come in, or our hostages, individual hostages to leave. But I don't think there's going to be a general ceasefire." According to the Israeli authorities, the Hamas is holding 240 people as hostages in Gaza, including Israelis and

foreign nationals. Media reports have indicated that about 30 of the them are children. So far, the militant group released four civilian hostages, while a female Israeli soldier was rescued by the country's forces. Hamas has however, claimed that 57 of the hostages were killed in the the Israeli airstrikes. Netanyahu went on to say that a ceasefire "will hamper the war effort". "It'll hamper our effort to get our hostages out because the only thing that works on these criminals in Hamas is the military pressure that we're exerting." When he was asked about a probable halt in the fighting if Hamas agreed to release the hostages, the Israeli leader told ABC News: "There will be a ceasefire for that purpose." When Netanyahu was asked who will govern the enclave once and when the raging fighting ends, he indicated that he believed Israel will have a role to play for an "indefinite period".

Canadian Sikh poet Rupi Kaur rejects Biden admin's Diwali invite over Gaza

New York | Agencies

Indo-Canadian Sikh poet Rupi Kaur has declined an invitation for a Diwali event on Wednesday from US President Joe Biden's administration over its response to the situation in Gaza. "I decline any invitation from an institution that supports the collective punishment of a trapped civilian population-50 per cent of whom are children," Kaur, 31, wrote in a statement posted on X on Monday. "I'm surprised this administration finds it acceptable to celebrate Diwali, when their support of the current atrocities against Palestinians represent the exact opposite of what this holiday means to most of us," the author of "Milk and Honey" said. Gaza's Ministry of Health said on Monday that the Palestinian death toll has crossed 10,000, including 4,104 children, with no signs of a ceasefire in the besieged enclave. In addition, 16 of Gaza's 35 hospitals,



running low on fuel supplies, have been forced to suspend operations,

and according to the UN, more than 1.5 million people -- more than half of Gaza's population -- have been displaced since Hamas launched its war against Israel on October 7. Kaur implored other South Asians in the US to do the same and hold the Biden administration accountable in the wake of the spiralling civilian death toll. "I implore my South Asian community to hold this administration accountable. As a Sikh woman, I will not allow my likeness to be used in whitewashing this administration's actions." Kaur, who immigrated to Canada from Punjab at the age of four with her parents, said: "We must not be tokenized by their photo-ops. When a government's actions dehumanize people anywhere in the world, it is our moral imperative to call for justice." The Diwali event is being hosted by America's Indian-origin Vice President Kamala Harris.

Zelensky questions Trump's claim of ending war

Kiev | Agencies

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky has questioned Donald Trump's claim that he could end Russia's war against Kiev within 24 hours if he is re-elected in 2024. During an interview with NBC News, Zelensky also invited Trump to Ukraine to physically witness the scale of devastation that Russia's invasion has caused since it was launched in February 2022. "If he can come here, I will need 24 minutes - yes, 24 minutes... to explain (to) President Trump that he can't manage this war. He can't bring peace because of Putin," CNN quoted the Ukrainian leader as saying in the interview. While speaking to CNN in May, the former President had claimed that the war would not have happened if had been been President



when Russia's full-scale invasion began on February 24, 2022, and that he could settle the conflict in a day if he was reelected. "If I'm president, I will have that war settled in one day, 24 hours. I'll meet with Putin. I'll meet with Zelensky. They both have weaknesses and they both have strengths. And within 24 hours that war will be settled," he told CNN. In the NBC News interview, Zelensky also praised US President Joe Biden for visiting Ukraine earlier this year, and said: "I think he understood some details which you can understand only being here. So I invite

President Trump." Since Ukraine launched its counteroffensive earlier this year, it has managed to retake just a sliver of land, rebuffed by nearly 1,000 km of heavily fortified Russian defences. Russia still occupies nearly one-fifth of Ukraine, and in recent weeks has launched fresh offensives in the east, around Avdiivka and Vuhledar in Donetsk and near Kupiansk in Kharkiv. Zelensky called the situation "difficult", but did not think the war had reached a "stalemate". "We hold the initiative in our hands. You can imagine what a full-scale war or what two years of a full-scale war is like. Everybody gets tired. Even the iron gets tired. But, nevertheless, I am proud of our warriors and of our people, that they are strong... Our people have a strong desire to win."

Ex-White House Press Secy endorses former boss Trump for President

Washington | Agencies

Sarah Huckabee Sanders, former White House Press Secretary and incumbent Arkansas Governor, has endorsed her former boss Donald Trump for President next year. Sanders will join the 2024 Republican frontrunner at his rally in Hialeah, Florida, on Wednesday as he skips the third party presidential primary debate, which is being held the same night in Miami. In a statement to CNN, she said: "It's not a question between right versus left anymore. It's normal versus crazy, and President Biden and the left are doubling down on crazy. The time has come to return to the normal policies of the Trump era which created a safer, stronger, and more prosperous America, and that's why I am proud to endorse Donald Trump for President." This is the time



first time that Sanders, who has been a staunch ally of the former president since he left office, weighed in on the 2024 race. In response to the endorsement, Trump told CNN: "We had great success in the White House and it's an honor to have Sarah's endorsement. I look forward to having her at the big rally in Hialeah this Wednesday." Sanders' support for Trump comes as Iowa Governor Kim Reynolds endorsed Trump's Republican rival, Florida Governor Ron DeSantis, on Monday.

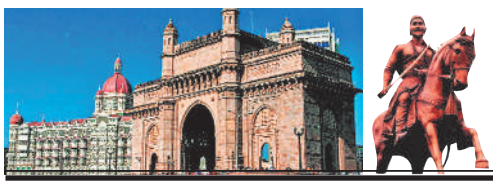
Russia officially exits European arms control treaty

Moscow | Agencies

Russia has formally withdrawn from the Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe (CFE) at midnight on Tuesday, the Foreign Ministry in Moscow announced. "As of 00:00 hours on November 7, 2023, the CFE withdrawal procedure for Russia, which was suspended by our country in 2007, has been completed. Thus, the international legal document has finally gone into history for us," Xinhua news agency quoted the Ministry as saying. Russia does not currently see the possibility of concluding arms control agreements with NATO countries, it added. "Authorities of NATO member states and the bloc's clients clearly demonstrated



their inability to negotiate. As of today, any arms control agreements with them are impossible." Two other agreements related to the CFE had ceased to be valid for Russia -- the Budapest Memorandum of November 3, 1990, which set the maximum levels of conventional weapons and equipment for the six Warsaw Pact countries; and the Flank Agreement of May 31, 1996, which modified the original treaty. The CFE, originally signed in 1990 by the then NATO members and the then six Warsaw Treaty states, came into force in 1992. The pact was aimed at establishing a balance between the two military alliances by setting limits on the quantities of weapons and military equipment that all parties were allowed to amass. In 2007, Russia declared a moratorium on the implementation of the agreement in 2007.



# BMC razes polluting furnaces of gold-silver units in Dharavi

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Continuing the crusade to clear the air pollution in Mumbai, the BrihanMumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) on Tuesday swooped on at least four gold-silver jewellery plating units and demolished four furnaces that spewed out toxic smoke, officials said here.

The stringent action was taken by the local BMC Ward after complaints of massive pollutants being emitted from these furnaces used to melt the gold-silver for the plating purposes.

The latest action is pursuant to directives by Chief Minister Eknath Shinde to the BMC Commissioner I. S. Chahal to tackle the menace of air pollution on top priority in all the 24 BMC Wards.

Accordingly, in the wider public health interest, the BMC has now started taking action even against



other factors that result in the poor air quality index (AQI) in Mumbai, besides the usual culprits like construction sites, vehicular pollution, airborne dust particles, etc. A BMC team cracked down on the four gold-silver smelting units and demolished four chimneys that billowed untreated smoke and raw gases in the atmosphere posing severe health hazards to the people in Dharavi and surroundings, said an official. The action came a day after the Bombay High Court's stern directive to the BMC to stop transport of debris to and from construction sites in the city and also imposed a three-hour limit on fire-crackers - from 7-10 pm only - during the upcoming Diwali festival.

The BMC is now keeping tabs on other such small-micro units spread across other slum pockets in the city and suburbs where similar polluting enterprises are engaged in multiple businesses, said the official.

# Canara Bank fraud case: HC dismisses Naresh Goyal's plea against 'illegal arrest'

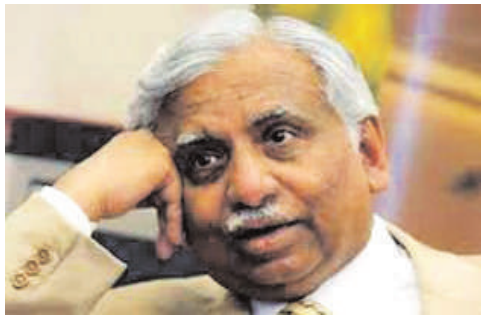
Team Absolute | Mumbai

The Bombay High Court dismissed Jet Airways founder Naresh Goyal's plea challenging his 'illegal arrest' by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) in the Rs 538-crore Canara Bank loan fraud case, here on Tuesday.

A division bench comprising Justice Revati Mohite-Dere and Justice Gauri V. Godse said that the "petition cannot be entertained and is dismissed", while allowing Goyal liberty to avail other statutory remedies.

Arrested by the ED on September 1, Goyal, 74, had contended that his arrest was 'illegal' and sought the setting aside of the Special Court orders remanding him to ED custody and later in judicial custody.

Goyal, who had sought bail on medical grounds in September, claimed that the arrest violated his fundamental right to personal liberty as guaranteed by Article 21 of the Constitution, and sought directions to release him from the 'abjectly unlawful and



arbitrary custody and incarceration'.

Through his legal team of Senior Advocates Amet Desai, Aabad Ponda and lawyer Amet Naik, he also sought quashing his arrest memo and arrest order along with the remand applications and orders by the Special Court on September 2 and then on September 11, and pending disposal, his temporary release from custody. Strongly arguing on behalf of the ED, Special

Public Prosecutor Hiten Venegaonkar said that all the legal procedures were complied while arresting Goyal, and it was necessary to place him under arrest as he was very uncooperative, evasive and suspicious in his conduct and statements.

The ED also said that Goyal was a very influential and resourceful person and the agency needed his custody to identify the proceeds of the crime which was committed with 'full pre-meditation', plus there was a possibility he could tamper with the evidence or witnesses that could affect the ED probe. Probing further, on November 1, the ED had slapped provisional attachment orders on Goyal's properties worth Rs 538.05 crore and the ED told the Special Court that so far public funds of more than Rs 5,700-crore is revealed as the total proceeds of crime. These included 17 residential assets, bungalows, commercial premises and assets belonging to Goyal's wife Anita Goyal, son Nivaaan at multiple locations in different states in India and abroad like London, Dubai, and in the names of various companies of the Jet Group owned by them.

# Shiv Sena MLA Sada Sarvankar is new chairman of Siddhivinayak Temple

Team Absolute | Mumbai

The Maharashtra Government has appointed ruling Shiv Sena MLA Sada Sarvankar as the new chairman of the prestigious 222-year-old Shri Siddhivinayak Ganapati Temple Trust, Prabhadevi, for a three-year term, officials said here on Tuesday.

Sarvankar, 68, replaces Marathi actor and television star Aadesh C Bhandekar, a Shiv Sena (UBT) leader, who enjoyed a two-term tenure at the helm of the SSGIT from July 2017-July 2023.

Once a close confidante of Shiv Sena (UBT) President and former CM, Sarvankar, a four-time legislator from Mahim, walked over to the break-away group after a rebellion led by Shinde in June 2022.

Incidentally, Sarvankar was booked under the Arms Act in March 2023, after bullets were fired from his gun during a Ganeshotsav immersion procession in September 2022, sparking a political



ruckus then.

Terming it as an "irony" Shiv Sena (UBT) leader Aditya Thackeray slammed the appointment of Sarvankar, "the traitor MLA who pointed his gun towards devotees and citizens during a Ganapati Bappa procession in Dadar, and used it in the police station."

"The same person has now been appointed chairman of the Shri Siddhivinayak Ganpati

Temple Trust by the Shinde-BJP regime. It is the official policy of the regime to reward the corrupt, the criminals and anti-Maharashtra people with contracts and posts," he added.

Without naming anyone, Thackeray targeted Deputy CM Devendra Fadnis and said that he gave the traitor Sarvankar virtually a clean chit by admitting that a bullet was fired in the police station from his gun and the bullet also belonged to him, but apparently it was not clear who fired it.

"Nonetheless, a person booked under Arms Act, threatening citizens during a festival being made the temple trust chairman is shameful. Ideally the 'party with a difference' should have opposed it, but sadly it's a different party than what we knew," said Thackeray sharply.

The temple, popular with the high and mighty was consecrated in November 1801, and among its regular devotees are Reliance Industries Ltd Chairman Mukesh Ambani and his family, plus top state and national political leaders.

# J&K's Kupwara gets equestrian statue of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj

Team Absolute | Mumbai/Srinagar

Maharashtra Chief Minister inaugurated an equestrian statue of the Maratha warrior king Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj installed at the Rashtriya Rifles 41 Maratha Light Infantry Regiment based in Kupwara in Jammu & Kashmir on Tuesday.

The statue has been erected in the district bordering Pakistan, and present with Shinde was the J&K Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha, and Maharashtra Cultural Minister Sudhir Mungantiwar.

A special 'puja' and 'aarti' was performed by a priest which was followed by a Maharashtrian cultural show and then the formal inauguration of the imposing statue.

The statue, built in collaboration with the 'We Punekar Foundation' and the 'Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Smarak Samiti' was sent from Maharashtra on October 20 and handed over to the RR41MLI Regiment in Kupwara for the installation at a memorial there.

Shinde, I-G Sinha and others said the statue will inspire the brave soldiers guarding the country's borders under adverse conditions round the clock.



The dignitaries were felicitated by the Regiments officers with souvenirs and mementos to mark the occasion.

Later, Shinde and Mungantiwar would join a pre-Diwali celebration and interact with the Regiment jawans posted there.

# Expo-cum-sale of Diwali gifts made by Maha prisoners inaugurated in Pune

Team Absolute | Pune

An exhibition-cum-sales drive of the Maharashtra Prison Industry Sales Centre of goods made by jail inmates for Diwali was inaugurated by Bollywood actress Sonali Kulkarni, here on Monday.

The MPISC was established with the intention to provide a market access to the goods manufactured by the jail inmates during their period of incarceration in various jails in the state.

The jail inmates are provided training in various vocational skills depending on their talent as part of the reformation and rehabilitation process and the



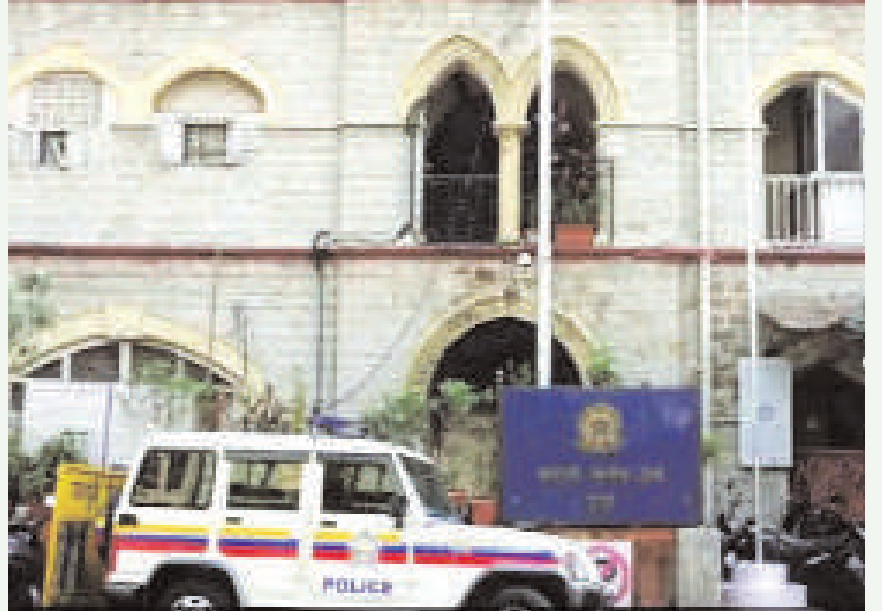
goods they create are sold at reasonable rates on occasions like Diwali and other festivals, said an official.

The products include big and small pieces of saris, jewelry, sky lanterns, clothing, bedsheets, towels, bakery products, snacks, kitchen crockery, furniture, personal grooming items, etc. which are kept on display and receive huge response both from the masses and the corporates.

Present on the occasion were top officials like Additional DGP and IGP (Prisons) Amitabh Gupta, Swati Sathé, Sunil Dhamal, Anil Khamkar, Jalinder Supekar, B.N. Dhole, Pallavi Kadam, Ravindra Gaikwad, Mangesh Jagtap and Nagesh Patil.

The actress appealed to the citizens to take advantage of the high quality wares created by the prison inmates at very competitive rates.

# Ex-Employee charged with extorting Rs 2 crore from shipping firm in Mumbai



Team Absolute | Mumbai

A former engineer of a ship management company in Mumbai allegedly extorted Rs 1.97 crore from the managing director of the firm by threatening to send a video of one of his vessels discharging untreated sewage in the territory of the United States to the country's Coast Guard, police said on Tuesday. Based on a complaint lodged by the firm's managing director, a first information report (FIR) under section 384 (extortion) and other relevant provisions of the Indian Penal

Code has been registered against the alleged accused, an official said. The ship management company has an office at Churchgate in south Mumbai and offices in Delhi and Singapore, he said. The complainant has alleged that he received a call from an unidentified number in June 2022, in which the caller had threatened to send a video to the US Coast Guard of a vessel discharging untreated sewage in the sea while heading towards the US from Mexico, the official said. The caller, who identified himself as a resident of Jharkhand, claimed that the

ship had violated international laws by releasing untreated sewage and demanded \$2.5 lakh (Rs 1.97 crore) from the complainant to keep the video under wraps, he said.

The complainant, out of fear, transferred the money from the bank account of the company's Singapore office to the accused's account in Jharkhand, he said. A few days later, he again received a call from the accused, who demanded \$3 lakh this time. Following this, the managing director approached the police with a complaint, the official said.

# PM shares TV star's video appeal in 'VocalForLocal' campaign

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has shared a video with an appeal promoting the 'VocalForLocal' campaign posted by Rupali Ganguly of 'Anupamaa' tele-serial fame.

In the video, Ganguly and other actors like Gaurav Khanna are shown promoting local products like sweetsmeats, lanterns, garments, mobile phones and digital India payments, giving exposure to neighbourhood businesses, plus nudging at 'Atmanirbhar Bharat'.

Along with the post, the Prime Minister made a comment: "The 'VocalForLocal' movement is getting great momentum across the country." In an accompanying verbal message, the PM added that the people of the country are supporting the campaign by buying local items, and he was sharing the video to inspire others to do the same.

The PM expressed thanks to the Team



'Anupamaa' serial makers and the television channel StarPlus for promoting the 'VocalForLocal' drive. He also appealed to people to buy local good, make digital payments through UPI, share their posts/photos clicked with Indian-made smart-phones on the NaMo app, and he would repost select messages. A thrilled Ganguly gushed on social media: "So so so proud, mera actor banna satharko gaya. Thank you", and others hailed her achievement with likes and comments.

# 16 cars, two bikes go up in smoke in Mumbai high-rise parking lot fire

Team Absolute | Mumbai

At least 16 cars and two two-wheelers went up in smoke and virtually reduced to ash when a major fire engulfed the parking lot of a high-rise building in Dadar West, the BMC Disaster Control said here on Tuesday. The blaze was reported around 12.30 a.m. in the Podium 4 of a three-level basement parking in the 13-floor podium Kohinoor Building parking area in the residential tower standing 30 storeys tall. The fire, the exact cause of which is not clear, quickly spread to the vehi-



cles, including some high-end cars, parking close to each other and also two two-wheelers, as the Mumbai Fire Brigade and Police were summoned. The fire-fighters

rushed there and finally extinguished the conflagration around 2.30 a.m., and there are no reports of any casualties, said the BMC, as a probe has been started.

# Teen dies by suicide inside parked Express Train in Mumbai

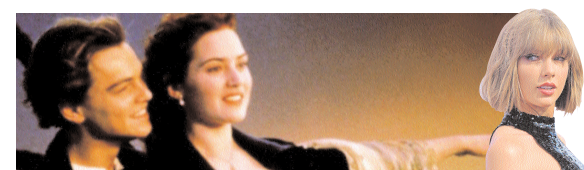


Team Absolute | Mumbai

A 15-year-old boy allegedly committed suicide inside an express train parked at Bandra Terminus here, police said on Tuesday. The boy was found hanging in bogie num-

ber S7 of Dehradun Express, which was parked at platform number 3 of the station on Sunday night, an official said. An accidental death report was registered on Monday, he said. The police are yet to establish the boy's identity and ascertain the reason for

the extreme step, the official said. On examining the CCTV footage from the area, it was found that the boy had been roaming there for the last several days, he said, adding that a probe is underway to track down the boy's family.



## Beyonce Knowles left 150 costumes unworn at her tour

Los Angeles | Agencies

Singer Beyonce Knowles got "maybe 150 costumes" as part of her "Renaissance World Tour" that went unworn. The 42-year-old superstar had more than 600 costumes designed and created for the mammoth global concert - which wrapped up in September after raking in a reported \$579 million and becoming the highest-grossing tour by a female artist in history - but now her mother Tina, 69, has revealed that a significant amount was never seen on stage.

"She still has maybe 150 costumes that she hasn't worn, but every night she did at least four to five new costumes."

Actually, she told me she wanted to have more than one stylist. I actually hired four people - it would have been impossible. We had over 600 costumes to choose from," she said on US TV show "Sherri", reports aceshowbiz.com.

Tina, who has worked as a fashion designer, also revealed that the "Break My Soul" songstress can be "really mean" backstage and later bursts into tears after her behaviour backstage but can understand where her daughter is coming from.

She said: "We laughed about this recently because I was saying, 'Girl, you get really mean back there,' and I am really happy that I don't have to be back there anymore. She'll be like, 'Mama, I'm so sorry,' and I'm like, 'I know!'"

Tina added: "Sometimes she'll be crying, and I was like, 'She crying because she knows she just said some crazy stuff to us. But that's the heat of the moment, because you're trying to get your shoes on, and everybody's waiting, and if somebody's messing up or they lose the shoes, then you messed up the whole show. So I understand it (sic)."



## Ariel Winter takes 'a bunch of medication' for her mental health

Los Angeles | Agencies

Actress Ariel Winter, who is best-known for playing Alex Dunphy in 'Modern Family', has shared that she needs to take medication in order to feel mentally well.

During an appearance on the 'Broad Ideas' with Rachel Bilson and Olivia Allen' podcast, Ariel shared: "Why am I gonna be out here, like, pretending like I don't need something? Like, why am I gonna be out here pretending that I can live my life just fine without it when, like, I can't. And, like, so many people I know can't either."

Ariel has been attending therapy sessions for a decade, and the actress admits that she's been on a "journey" with her mental health, reports femalefirst.co.uk.

The actress explained: "I started in therapy when I was 15, and I think I got on medication probably when I was, like, 16. And it was a really hard journey to find the right ones. It took a really long time."

Ariel initially agonised about taking different medications. But she's become much more philosophical about the situation over time.

"At first I was like, 'Wow, I have to take more than one'. I, like, felt weird and I was like, 'Oh, no, I feel like that pill lady.' I have my little pill container. But over time, I was like, 'Whatever, I feel better.' It is what it is. What, if I have to take a couple together to be the best version of me, that's fine," she said.



Los Angeles | Agencies

Hollywood star Jennifer Aniston's friends are worried about her in the wake of Matthew Perry's death. The 'Friends' star has taken his passing at just 54 extremely badly, according to an industry source, reports pagesix.com.

The actress and the other four surviving members of the cast of 'Friends' mourned him at his funeral on Friday.

"Out of the remaining five, Jen and Courteney (Cox) are reeling the most, and Jen is probably the one who is struggling most acutely," said the source.

"It's a second massive loss in less than a year, with the one-year anniversary of her dad's death just around the corner. She still hasn't fully regained her footing from that, and now this has just completely knocked her off her feet."

Jennifer's father, John Aniston, starred on 'Days of Our Lives', and in announcing his death at age of 89 in November 2022, the actress called him "one of the most beautiful humans I ever knew."

"She is trying to regroup and recover but it's been a completely devastating blow," the source added.

The 54-year-old star joined remaining cast members Cox, Lisa Kudrow, David Schwimmer and Matt LeBlanc, at Perry's funeral at Forest Lawn cemetery in LA on Friday, minutes away from the Warner Bros. studios where they filmed the NBC sitcom for a decade.

Jennifer, who broke down in tears in a 2004 interview at the prospect of losing Matthew, was seen walking behind the other cast members accompanied by a security guard.



JENNIFER ANISTON 'STRUGGLING' AFTER MATTHEW PERRY'S DEATH

## BRADLEY COOPER 'CRASHED' TAYLOR SWIFT'S NIGHT OUT TO MEET GIGI HADID

Los Angeles | Agencies

Hollywood star Bradley Cooper is said to have "crashed" model and television personality Gigi Hadid's girls' night out with singer and songwriter Taylor Swift.

The 48-year-old actor has been rumoured to date Hadid, 28, over recent months, and the celebrity duo were spotted leaving a nightclub in New York City at around 3 a.m. on November 5.

"After the ladies finished with their dinner, they went over to Zero Bond and some other friends joined - including Bradley Cooper. Bradley was there to meet up with Gigi. The two of them left the club together," a source told Entertainment Tonight, reports aceshowbiz.com.

Hadid spent much of the night with some of her showbiz pals before she was seen leaving the club with the award-winning actor.

In October, a source claimed that Cooper felt "excited" about getting to know the model. The source told DailyMail.com: "Bradley is excited about getting to know Gigi. He hasn't felt this excitement about a woman in a very long time. They are taking it slow, but he's into her. She is exactly his type."

The two were said to be "having fun" together in spite of their 20-year age gap. A second source said, "Bradley is eager to date again and be in a relationship. He loves all that comes with it and Gigi is beautiful and she gets it, she is really cool and knows her way around relationships like this with famous men, so they are both having fun."

The insider also acknowledged that their rumoured romance could "turn into something serious."

## 'The Marvels' trailer brings back some old school MCU energy into its fold

Los Angeles | Agencies

After a lot of new rewrites and delays in shooting, not to mention the halting of production due to the Hollywood strikes, MCU's latest outing 'The Marvels' has released its final trailer and it harbours some of the old-school MCU energy back into its fold.

Beginning with a blurry clip of 'Avengers: Endgame', where Tony Stark and Steve Rodgers are discussing their prospects of winning before time travelling, Nick Fury is narrating his belief regarding heroes and saying that while it is an old-school notion the world nonetheless needs them.

While the previous trailer for the film was much more comical with no clear hint as to who the villain is, this time 'The Marvels' looks a lot

darker and more serious, which makes the stakes much higher as well.

'The Marvels' follows Carol Danvers - Captain Marvel (Brie Larson), who has reclaimed her identity from the tyrannical Kree and taken revenge on the Supreme Intelligence. However, the resultant unintended consequences see Carol shouldering the burden of a destabilised universe.

When her duties send her to an anomalous wormhole linked to a Kree revolutionary, her powers become entangled with that of her Jersey City super-fan, Kamala Khan a.k.a Ms. Marvel (Iman Vellani), and Carol's estranged niece, now S.A.B.E.R. astronaut Captain Monica Rambeau (Teyonah Parris). Together, this unlikely trio must team-up and learn to work in con-

cert to save the universe as 'The Marvels'.

Three completely different women with different mindsets -- Carol Danvers, Kamala Khan, and Monica Rambeau -- must team up together to fight off an other-worldly reality tearing enemy.

All three are different versions of Captain Marvel and are capable of space flight, energy absorption, super-strength, and more. However, against their new villain Dar-Benn, these powers are useless.

This is due to their enemy being able to redirect their powers against them and due to her wielding an apocalypse hammer much like Ronan 'The Accuser' from 'Guardians Of The Galaxy Vol.1', they are individually no match for her.

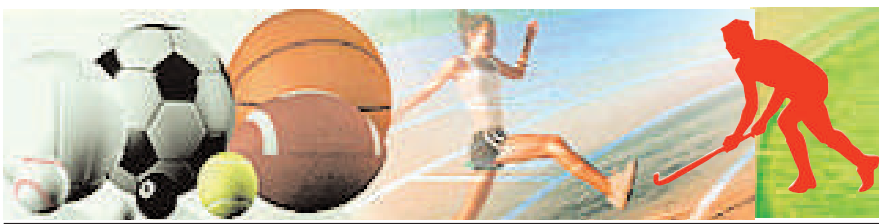


## ABSOLUTE PIC OF THE DAY



Emily Ratajkowski





### Men's ODI WC

## MAXWELL'S SCINTILLATING 201 PROPELS AUSTRALIA TO SENSATIONAL WIN, SEALS SEMIS BERTH

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Severely cramping and hardly able to move, Glenn Maxwell played one of the greatest one-day innings, hitting a 128-ball 201 not out to help Australia grab a three-wicket victory from the jaws of defeat against Afghanistan in Match 39 and sealed a semifinal spot for his team in the ICC Men's ODI World Cup at the Wankhede Stadium here on Tuesday.

Australia looked like slumping to an embarrassing defeat, reduced to 91/7 in the 19th over, chasing Afghanistan's score of 291/5 built on the country's first century in World Cup by Ibrahim Zadran (129 not out 143 balls) and a breezy 18-ball 35 by Rashid Khan.

But Maxwell and skipper Pat Cummins raised 202 runs off 170 balls for the 8th wicket partnership, Maxwell scoring 179 of those runs and Cummins remained undefeated with 12 off 68 balls.

It was a sensational innings from Maxwell, who held the fort with Australia reduced to 91/7, getting involved in a run out Marnus Labuschagne. With Australia needing 21 runs off the last four overs, Maxwell blasted an amazing 22 runs off four deliveries in the 47th over, barely able to move inside the crease. Their 202-run unfinished partner-



ship was the highest for Australia for the 8th wicket, bettering by a huge margin the 119-run stand between Paul Reiffel and Shane Warne against South Africa in 1993-94. It is also the third double-century partnership in World Cups and the first in India.

In the end, Maxwell blazed an undefeated 201 off 128 deliveries, hitting 21 boundaries and 10 maximums

Azmatullah Omarzai landed early blows, claiming a couple of wickets each, and Rashid Khan spun a web around the Australian batters to claim two scalps.

Maxwell, who survived an lbw chance on review and dropped chances at 27 and 33 (by Mujeeb Ur Rahman), was also lucky to see a few edges land in gaps as he scored a brilliant century, making full use of the nine lives to guide Australia to an improbable victor.

He and skipper Pat Cummins raised 100 runs for the 8th wicket partnership off 89 balls, Maxwell scoring 86 of those runs and Cummins only six, with eight extras. Australia were 199/7 in the 34th over and up and running.

Australia had looked on their way to defeat in the first power-play itself as Afghanistan struck four early blows.

#### Brief scores

Afghanistan 291/5 in 50 overs (Ibrahim Zadran 129 not out; Rashid Khan 35 not out; Rahmat Shah 30; Josh Hazlewood 2-39) beat Australia 293/7 in 46.5 overs (Glenn Maxwell 201 not out; Rashid Khan 2-44, Naveen-ul-Haq 2-47, Azmatullah Omarzai 2-52) by three wickets.

in an amazing inning that took Australia to 12 points from eight matches and confirmed their place in the semifinals as the third-placed team. Afghanistan had themselves to blame as they dropped two catches of Maxwell and also had an LBW opportunity going against them.

Australia were in deep trouble, reduced to 87/6 in the 15th over after seamers Naveen-ul-Haq and

### AFC Cup

## Odisha FC come from behind to beat Maziya 3-2 in Group D

Male (Maldives) | Agencies

Odisha FC came from two goals down to defeat Maldives' Maziya Sports & Recreation 3-2 in Group D of the AFC Cup here at Maldives National Football Stadium on Tuesday.

The win kept Odisha's hopes of advancing to the Inter-Zone Semi-finals alive while the defeat leaves Maziya on the ropes.

Maziya threatened as early as the second minute with Ibrahim Aisam finding space above the box before sending his shot wide. The Maldivian club took the lead in the second minute, capping off a fine team move with Aisam the orchestrator when he dribbled inside the box before laying off for Naiz Hassan to score with a simple finish, reports AFC.

Odisha came close to scoring in the seventh minute when Lalthathanga Khawlhing burst into the area before setting up Cy Goddard, who sent his shot wide. Both teams traded barbs with Odisha's Roy Krishna seeing his effort blocked in the 12th minute, while Maziya almost found a way through when Branimir Jovic sent Khalil Gamal Elbezawy through on goal, only for the midfielder to be flagged off-side. Odisha, however, suffered woe in the 25th minute when they conceded a penalty following Mourtada Fall's tackle on Vojislav Balabanovic, who coolly converted from the spot. Odisha, who defeated Maziya 6-1 in the reverse fixture, came close to scoring in the seventh minute when Lalthathanga Khawlhing burst into the area before setting up Cy Goddard, who sent his shot wide. Both teams traded barbs with Odisha's Roy Krishna seeing his effort blocked in the 12th minute, while



Maziya almost found a way through when Branimir Jovic sent Khalil Gamal Elbezawy through on goal, only for the midfielder to be flagged off-side.

Odisha, however, suffered woe in the 25th minute when they conceded a penalty following Mourtada Fall's tackle on Vojislav Balabanovic, who coolly converted from the spot. Odisha came back fighting in the second half and their efforts to get back into the tie bore fruit in the 65th minute off a set-piece corner with Mourtada Fall nodding home Ahmed Jahouh cross. The goal spurred Odisha further as the Indian side levelled the tie in the 72nd minute with Jahouh the orchestrator again, who crossed in for Diego Mauricio to head home from inside the six-yard-box. Odisha completed the comeback in the 85th minute with Krishna netting the winning goal. Odisha faces fellow Indian club Mohun Bagan Super Giant next in their penultimate AFC Cup 2023-24 Group D match at Kolkata's Vivekananda Yuba Bharati Krirangan, on November 27, while Maziya meet Bangladesh's Bashundhara Kings.

## Men's ODI World Cup: Shakib Al Hasan ruled out due to finger injury

Team Absolute | New Delhi

Bangladesh skipper Shakib Al Hasan was ruled out of the remainder of the ICC ODI World Cup 2023 on Tuesday due to an injury to his left index finger.

Shakib suffered the injury while batting in Bangladesh's penultimate league stage game against Sri Lanka on Monday.

An X-ray after the game confirmed a fracture which has ruled him out of Bangladesh's last match of the tournament against Australia in Pune. National Team Physio Bajyedul Islam Khan gave further details on the injury, stating "Shakib was struck on his left index finger early in his innings but continued to bat with supportive taping and painkillers."

"He underwent an emergency X-ray in Delhi after the game which confirmed the fracture on the left PIP joint. Recovery is estimated at three to four weeks. He will leave for Bangladesh today to begin his rehab," he added. Shakib played a match-winning knock of 82 from 65 balls, comprising 12 fours and two sixes, to guide his side to a three-wicket victory over Sri Lanka. Earlier in the day, he



recorded figures of 2/57 with the ball. He was also awarded the Player of the Match award for his fine performance.

## SWIATEK SWEEPS PEGULA TO WIN WTA FINALS

Mexico: Poland's Iga Swiatek overwhelmed Jessica Pegula of the United States 6-1, 6-0 to claim the WTA Finals on Monday and regain her world No. 1 ranking.

Second seed Swiatek broke Pegula five times and won the final 11 games in a 59-minute slaughter. The 22-year-old collected six out of her total 17 career titles this season and finishes as world No. 1 for a second straight year, reports Xinhua.

"The team that's been with me the whole season, we had many ups and downs. This is for sure an up. We will for sure have many more if we keep working like that," Swiatek said after the game. "She clearly really wanted that ranking. I mean, you could tell by the way she was competing here. ... She was, like today, crushing people," Pegula said. Laura Siegemund of Germany and Vera Zvonareva of Russia won the doubles title by beating Nicole Melichar-Martinez of the U.S. and Ellen Perez of Australia 6-4, 6-4.



## Thiem, Wawrinka cruise through Metz openers

Metz (France) | Agencies

Former finalist Dominic Thiem made a winning start at the Moselle Open on Monday when he brushed past French lucky loser Matteo Martineau 6-4, 6-2 to reach the second round.

The former World No. 3, who advanced to the title match on debut in Metz in 2016, saved the one break point he faced and won 80 per cent (28/35) of his first-serve points to advance after 84 minutes.

Thiem has now won eight of his past nine tour-level first-round matches, with his best result a final run in Kitzbuehl in August. Chasing his first title since his US Open 2020 triumph, the Austrian will next play Frenchman Ugo Humbert.

Another former World No. 3, Stan Wawrinka, also enjoyed a



comfortable opening win in Metz. The eighth-seeded Swiss raced past Bernabe Zapata Miralles 6-0, 6-2 in just 52 minutes to book a second-round clash with #NextGenATP home favourite Luca Van Assche, who edged Botin van de Zandschulp 3-6, 6-3, 7-6(5). Wawrinka converted five of 10 break points he earned in a win that he will hope can be the catalyst for a strong final week of his 2023 season. The 38-year-old is 27-22 overall this year but had won just two of

his previous eight matches prior to Metz. He now holds a 5-2 record at the French ATP 250, where he reached the semifinals a year ago.

In other action, defending champion Lorenzo Sonego made a winning start to his title defence, clawing past American Marcos Giron 2-6, 6-3, 7-6(3).

The Italian, who holds an 8-2 record at the ATP 250 hard-court event, hung tough in a two-hour, 17-minute battle. The sixth seed won 80 per cent (39/49) of his first-serve points and raced away from 3/2 in the third-set tie-break to reach the second round. Sonego will next face Jordan qualifier Abdullah Shelbayh or Frenchman Hugo Gaston.

Constant Lestienne defeated Calvin Hemery 6-3, 6-2, while Alexander Shevchenko beat Mathias Bourgue 6-4, 7-5.

## It was obviously disgraceful from Shakib and Bangladesh: Angelo Mathews

Team Absolute | New Delhi

Angelo Mathews on Monday called the actions of Shakib Al Hasan and the Bangladesh team "obviously disgraceful" after he was given timed-out against Bangladesh.

"I had never seen a team or player stoop so low in his 15 years of playing international cricket. It was 'unfortunate' his helmet strap broke in a match against Bangladesh because he doesn't think 'any other team would do that'," he added. The series of word-war ignited after Angle Mathews was given out without facing a ball, citing "timed-out".

Mathews had got to the batting crease and was preparing to face the bowling of Shakib when the strap of his helmet broke as he attempted to tighten it, asking for a helmet replacement, he was given out on Bangladesh's appeal roughly three minutes and 20 seconds.

"It was obviously disgraceful from Shakib and Bangladesh," Mathews said. "If they want to take wickets like that



and stoop down to that level, there's something wrong, drastically."

"It's very disappointing way that Bangladesh played. If it was mankading or obstructing the field, there's no issue."

The ICC's playing conditions stipulate that the new batter must be "ready to receive the ball" within two minutes of a dismissal, if not he can be given out.

However, in Monday's incident, Mathews's helmet strap broke about one minute and 55 seconds after Samarawickrama's catch was complet-

ed, just as Mathews was going through his final preparations to face Shakib - though he hadn't taken his guard yet.

"Within two minutes I was at the crease, and it was when I was at the crease that my helmet broke. The umpires saw this. I still had five seconds left. After I showed my helmet, the umpires said (Bangladesh) had appealed. So I asked where common sense was because my two minutes hadn't passed. 'I've got no words to explain it. In my 15 years of playing, I've never seen a team or a player stoop so low.'

"Unfortunately (the strap breaking) happened against Bangladesh. I don't think any other team would do that, because it was black and white. It was an equipment malfunction. It was a safety issue as well. We know that without a helmet I can't face the bowling."

But both players have known each other from U-19 days. Mathews when asked about his view on Shakib after the incident, said it has changed in light of the controversy.

## COURT ISSUES 14-DAY STAY ORDER ON ARJUNA RANATUNGA-LED INTERIM COMMITTEE

New Delhi: Sri Lanka Cricket (SLC) encountered yet another twist in its administrative turmoil as the country's Court of Appeal on Tuesday issued a 14-day stay order preventing the operation of the gazette notification in respect of SLC's interim committee appointed by the Sports Minister. The Court of Appeal issued this order after considering a writ petition filed by the Chairman of Sri Lanka Cricket Shammil Silva. It will remain in effect until November 16, according to Daily Mirror. On Monday, Sri Lanka sports minister Roshan Ranasingha sacked the country's cricket board and appointed an interim committee headed by former cricketer Arjuna Ranatunga to assume control of SLC.

## Zadran thanks Tendulkar after scoring Afghanistan's first ton in World Cups

Mumbai | Agencies

opener Ibrahim Zadran credited Indian batting legend Sachin Tendulkar with giving him a lot of energy and confidence to go on and score the maiden century for Afghanistan in the World Cups as he helped his team post a competitive 291/5 against Australia in the ICC Men's Cricket World Cup 2023 match on Tuesday.

Zadran became the first Afghanistan batter and at 21 years and 330 days, the fourth-youngest batter to score a century in the men's ODI World Cup, helping Afghanistan score their highest score in World Cups.

Afghanistan have caused a huge sensation in World Cup 2023 by beating defending champions England, Pakistan and Sri Lanka along



with the Netherlands and need to beat Australia and South Africa to reach the semifinals.

On Tuesday, Zadran thanked Tendulkar for inspiring him to score a century at the home ground of the Indian batting legend. Tendulkar had visited the Afghanistan squad ahead of the match against Australia and interacted with the players. "I had a good chat with Sachin Tendulkar; he shared his experience and I said before the match that I will bat like Sachin Tendulkar; he

gave me a lot of energy and confidence," Zadran told the broadcaster during the innings break after he carried his bat through for a 143-ball unbeaten 129.

The opening batter was elated to score Afghanistan's highest score in the World Cups after missing the mark while compiling 87 against Pakistan earlier in the tournament.

"I am feeling great to score Afghanistan's maiden hundred in (World Cup). I worked really hard for this tournament, I missed a hundred against Pakistan but made it today," said Zadran.

The 21-year-old said he had a feeling that he would get the three-figure mark in this World Cup after missing it against Pakistan at Chennai a couple of weeks back.

## It will be humongous when India qualify for the World Cup: Sunil Chhetri

Team Absolute | New Delhi

Sunil Chhetri's eyes light up and a broad grin spreads across his face as he considers the prospect of India making history and qualifying for the FIFA World Cup for the first time.

The Indian team's road to the 2026 edition of FIFA World Cup in Canada, Mexico, and USA begins in November 2023, with the expanded 48-team tournament offering greater opportunities to teams in all confederations, with eight direct spots available to AFC

nations and a further place open via the FIFA Play-Off Tournament.

"When that happens, the country will go mad. As an Indian, it's going to be one of the best days of my life. I have so many dreams about that day. It is going to be humongous. The anticipation, the hope that it will bring to the complete nation is something that I know I will never forget in my life. There are so many people like me who can't wait to see that day, and I just hope it comes soon for us," said Sunil Chhetri to FIFA.

Chhetri, who holds both the all-time goalscoring and caps records for India, will remain an integral part of their latest attempt to reach the global showpiece, a feat which the world's second-most populous nation has yet to achieve.

The first step on that road comes in round two of AFC qualifying, where India have been drawn in Group A and will come up against 2022 World Cup hosts Qatar, Kuwait and Afghanistan, who saw off Mongolia over two legs in round one. To progress to the third

## NEW HIGH AS INDIAN WOMEN'S HOCKEY TEAM CLIMBS TO 6TH IN FIH WORLD RANKINGS

Team Absolute | New Delhi

The victory in the Women's Asian Champions Trophy 2023 in Ranchi after the bronze in Hangzhou Asian Games has propelled the Indian women's hockey team to the sixth position in the women's FIH World Rankings.

The Indian team now has 2368.83 points and has returned to its best-ever position in the rankings, last achieved in June 2022 during the FIH Pro League.

After winning the bronze medal in the Hangzhou Asian Games in China in October, the Indian women's team defeated Japan in the final to win the Jharkhand Women's Asian Champions Trophy



Ranchi 2023. Olympic and World Champions, the Netherlands con-

tinues to be ranked as the best women's hockey team in the world

with 3422.40 points. They are followed by Australia in second place with 2817.73 points and Argentina in third with 2766.90 points. Belgium is fourth with 2608.77 points and Germany fifth with 2573.72 points. England, Spain, New Zealand and China occupy the 7th to 10th positions in the rankings in that order. The jump in world ranking is a big shot in the arm for the team in their preparations for the forthcoming FIH Hockey Olympic Qualifiers, scheduled to be held from January 13 to 19, 2024 in Ranchi. The Indian women's hockey team will battle Germany, New Zealand, Japan, Chile, the United States, Italy, and the Czech Republic in a bid to qualify for the Paris 2024 Olympics.



## MRUNAL THAKUR SUPPORTS RASHMIKA MANDANNA AFTER HER DEEFAKE VIDEO GOES VIRAL



Shame on people who resort to such things, it shows that there is no conscience left at all in such people. Thank you Rashmika Mandanna for speaking up, for addressing this issue that so far we have seen glimpses of but a lot of us chose to remain silent. Everyday there are morphed, edited videos of female actors floating around on internet showing inappropriate body parts. Where are we heading as a community, as a society? We may be actresses in the "limelight" but at the end of the day each one of us are human. Why aren't we talking about it? Don't remain silent, now is not the time.



Team Absolute | Mumbai

Actress Mrunal Thakur on Tuesday came out in support of Rashmika Mandanna, over the deepfake video of the latter, that went viral on the social media, and said "shame on people who resort to such things".

Mrunal also lauded Rashmika for speaking up, and addressing this issue.

Taking to Instagram Stories, Mrunal wrote a note, which read as: "Shame on people who resort to such things, it shows that there is no conscience left at all in such people. Thank you Rashmika Mandanna for speaking up, for addressing this issue that so far we have seen glimpses of but a lot of us chose to remain silent."

"Everyday there are morphed, edited videos of female actors floating around on internet zooming into inappropriate body parts. Where are we heading as a community, as a society? We may be actresses in the "limelight" but at the end of the day each one of us are human. Why aren't we talking about it? Don't remain silent, now is not the time," the note added.

Earlier, taking a strong stance against the viral deep fake video of her, Rashmika had penned a long note on social media, and said: "I feel really hurt to share this and have to talk about the deep fake video of me being spread online. Something like this is honestly extremely scary not only for me, but also for each one of us who today is vulnerable to so much harm because of how technology is being misused."

"Today, as a woman and as an actor, I am thankful for my family, friends and well wishers who are my protection and support system. But if this happened to me when I was in school or college, I genuinely can't imagine how could I ever tackle this. We need to address this as a community and with urgency before more of us are affected by such identity theft," she added.

Megastar Amitabh Bachchan had also taken a stand for his 'Goodbye' co-star Rashmika, and demanded a legal action in the matter.

Meanwhile, on the work front Rashmika has 'Animal', 'Pushpa 2: The Rule' in her kitty.



## Ananya, Sara finally reveal internet sensation Orry's identity

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Actresses Sara Ali Khan and Ananya Pandey, who are set to grace the couch of the chat show 'Koffee With Karan' season 8, have spilled the beans on the internet sensation Orry, and divulged the details about his identity.

Orry is all over the internet and people have been wondering who he is and what he does. Sara and Ananya share a great friendship with him, and indulged in a fun conversation with host Karan Johar, talking about who he is indeed.

KJo asked: "Who is Orry, the world wants to know?"

Talking about the same, Sara shared: 'He is a man of many things, he is a really funny person.'

Ananya added, "I think he is going by - Loved but misunderstood. He is good with captions, so I keep asking him for captions. Not sure what he does. He works on himself."

The season 8 has introduced some new unseen, unheard segments as the filmmaker and host Karan Johar is set for unfiltered and candid conversations. From the iconic rapid fire segment to new additions like the Imposter game, Koffee wrecktangle, Kwiz & tell and Ask me Anything with Karan, this season will bring you close to your favourite stars. This time around gracing the couch are some of the top talent from the Indian film industry - Sunny Deol, Bobby Deol, Sara Ali Khan, Ananya Pandey, Alia Bhatt, Kareena Kapoor Khan, Rani Mukherjee, Kajol, Ajay Devgn, and Rohit Shetty to name a few.

## Mouni Roy reveals key to strong relationship: 'Don't talk about your ex too much'

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Actress Mouni Roy has shared some important love tips to strengthen relationship. The actress said not talking too much about the former partner and not overthinking is the mantra to a perfect relationship.

Here's what Mouni, the Queen of Hearts from Temptation Island, shared: Take Interest in Your Partner's Interests:

Building a common ground is crucial for a thriving connection. Mouni emphasises the importance of sharing interests to engage in activities together and deepen the bond.

Don't Talk About Your Ex Too Much:

Avoid delving into the past excessively. Mouni advises against oversharing about ex-partners, as it can potentially bother the current partner and hinder the growth

of a relationship.

Don't Overthink!

Overanalysing every aspect of a relationship can lead to unnecessary complications. Mouni encourages going with the flow, allowing connections to develop organically.

Don't Forget to Have Fun:

Embrace the little joys in relationships. Having fun together strengthens the bond. As Mouni suggests, a touch of playfulness can be a powerful ingredient for a lasting and fulfilling connection.

'Temptation Island India' streams on JioCinema.



## FILM STARS ARE STRUGGLING, OTT STARS MOVING FORWARD: NEIL NITIN MUKESH

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Film star Neil Nitin Mukesh, who will soon be seen as a judge on a mentor-based fashion reality show 'Glam Fame', said actors are struggling in films, but OTT stars are getting more and more work.

The actor, who was last seen in the film 'Bypass Road' in 2019, will soon appear as a mentor along with actresses Sunny Leone and Esha Deol in the reality show that promises to fulfill the dreams of aspiring models all across the country.

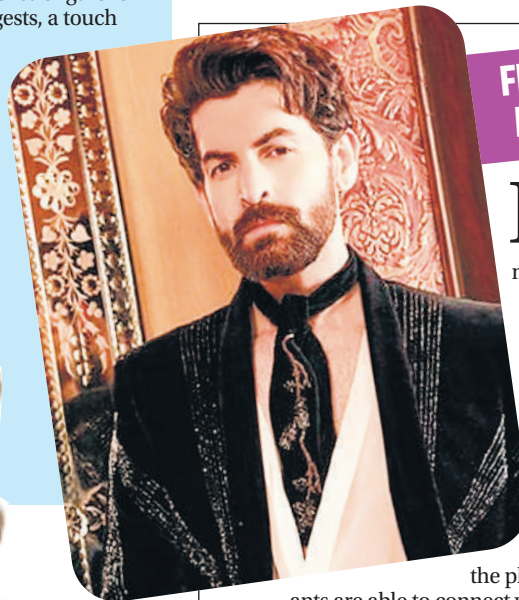
In a candid conversation, the actor spoke about the show, his experience, changing trends of OTT and much more.

In today's world, when OTT is ruling the world, how the show will help the contestants, he said: "Today is the time of OTT. So many shows are coming on OTT, we are watching the trend. We film stars are struggling and OTT stars are progressing and moving forward. Today everyone wants to be on the platform where they can reach a larger audience. If the contestants are able to connect with any casting director or director, it can definitely change their lives."

Talking about the show 'Glam Fame' he said: "I am very excited for the show. It is one show which will encourage the youth who want to make a career in the fashion industry. There are some big names who will be mentoring these aspiring youth."

"I am coming as a judge in the show but I don't see myself as a judge. I will be a friend or a brother to the contestants. Whatever I have learnt from my mistakes and experiences, I would try to share with everyone who participates in the show."

Produced by Whatever Productions and Krishna Kunj Production, the series 'Glam Fame' will release soon on JioCinema.



## Boichek mirrors the realities of life, says Brijendra Kala

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Brijendra Kala, the seasoned actor known for his character work in Hindi films, has also left a mark in web series and teleplays. Starting with a small role in "Mera Pati Sirf Mera Hai," he progressed to writing dialogues for TV shows like "Kahani Ghar Ghar Ki" and made his official film debut in "Haasil" (2003). However, it was his notable roles in films like "Jab We Met," "Mithya," "Agneepath," "Paan Singh Tomar," "PK," and "83" that earned him recognition in popular cinema.

One of his recent screen appearances was in Zee Theatre's teleplay "Boichek," inspired by the work of German writer Karl Georg Büchner's "Woyzeck." Kala firmly believes that in today's evolving

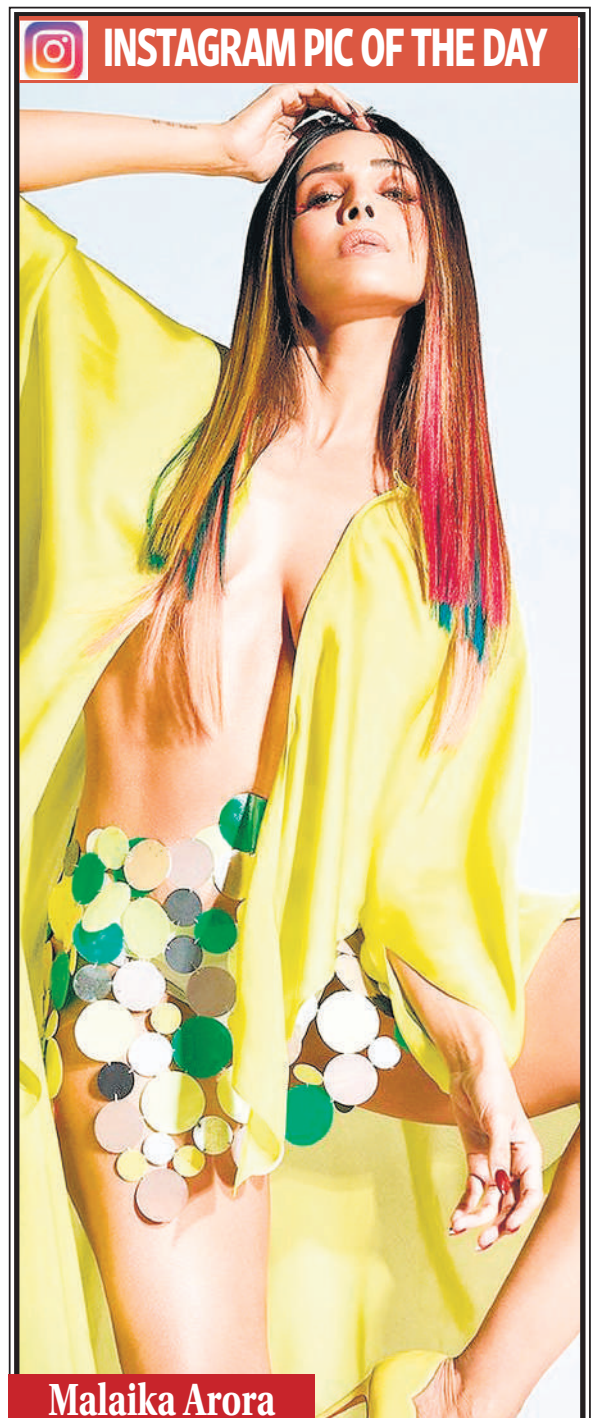


entertainment landscape, an actor must stay updated and equipped to tackle a wide range of roles that resonate with them, regardless of the medium.

"When Santosh Ji (Santosh Sivan) narrated my role in 'Boichek,' I honestly didn't think about any specific

preparations. Instead, I attempted to convey it by incorporating nuances on the spot once the shoot began. That's how I approached it. I've portrayed police officers in various roles before, but this one was distinct - he's harsh and irresponsible, exploiting his authority for personal gain," says Kala.

If you've seen the play, you'd notice how the director portrayed the wolf and nature, aiming to immerse the audience in the events, shooting it in a way that makes them feel as though they are right there with the character. I also believe that the entire cast, including all the actors, did justice to the original version, even though the narrative was transplanted to rural India. The overwhelmingly positive response to the teleplay reaffirms this belief," says Kala.



Malaika Arora