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Rahul Gandhi ran away from Amethi but Wayanad won't be easy this...

मोदी-रुहेल्लार



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Elizabeth Hurley reveals a 'mummy rule' she follows that isn't very popular...



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Akshay Bhatia seals a thrilling win in Valero Texas Open...

"How Many Will Be Jailed Before Polls?" Supreme Court's

BIG JUDGMENT

Team Absolute | New Delhi

The Supreme Court has restored the bail granted to a Youtuber who allegedly made derogatory remarks against Tamil Nadu Chief Minister MK Stalin saying that every one who makes allegations on social media cannot be jailed.

The bench, comprising Justices Abhay S Oka and Ujjal Bhuyan, said that there was no evidence to suggest that A Duraimurugan Sattai had mis-used the liberty granted to him. During the hearing, Justice Oka raised a crucial question, addressing Senior Advocate Mukul Rohatgi, who represented the State, stating, "If before elections, we start putting behind bars everyone who makes allegations on Youtube, imagine how many will be jailed?"

The court also did not entertain the request to impose a condition on Sattai to refrain from making scandalous remarks while on bail. Justice



Oka challenged Mukul Rohatgi, asking who would determine whether a statement is scandalous or not.

The case stemmed from Sattai's challenge to a Madras High Court order, which had cancelled his bail. The High Court had observed that shortly after giving an undertaking

before the court, based on which he was granted relief, Sattai had engaged in further offense by making derogatory remarks against the Tamil Nadu Chief Minister.

Seeking justice, Sattai approached the Supreme Court, which issued a notice on his plea in July 2022. The top court continued the bail granted to him in August 2021. Consequently, Sattai remained on bail for more than 2.5 years.

In support of the State's case, Mukul Rohatgi highlighted two FIRs registered against Sattai in December 2022 and March 2023.

The ruling comes just days ahead of the Lok Sabha elections, voting for which will be held across seven phases starting April 19. The results will be declared on June 4.

AAP ALLEGES 'MASSIVE' DONATIONS TO BJP AMID CORPORATE LOSSES

New Delhi: The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) on Monday alleged that 33 companies, which incurred losses of around Rs one lakh crore in seven years, have given Rs 450 crore in donations to BJP through electoral bonds or after getting tax exemptions.

Addressing a press conference in the national capital, AAP MP from Rajya Sabha Sanjay Singh said that in the past few years, the Modi government has hidden from the public the corruption done under the name of electoral bonds, granting tax exemptions.

"Thanks to the Supreme Court, the entire data has been placed before the public. What I am revealing is a complete series," said Singh, adding that there are 33 companies that have incurred losses of Rs one lakh crore in seven years and have given BJP Rs 450 crore in donations.

Sanjay Singh said that 17 companies have either paid zero taxes or received tax exemptions. "Six companies have given the BJP Rs 600 crore in donations. One company has given three times more donations from its profits. One company has given 93 times more donations from its profits. Three companies have given Rs 28 crore in donations and zero taxes," he claimed.

Women power is the honor of our country: MP CM



Team Absolute | Bhopal

Women power is the honor and respect of our home and our country. We do not celebrate any Teej or festival without mothers and sisters. BNP starts its programs with the worship of daughters. We live in a country where Mother India is worshipped. We celebrate our mothers with the praise of Bharat Mata. When even God was tired, Mother Jagadamba had to come in her fierce form. Chief Minister Dr. Mohan Yadav said this while addressing the Nari Shakti Vandan program organized in

Thatipur, Gwalior. Earlier, Chief Minister Dr. Yadav, who arrived here, was warmly welcomed and felicitated. Chief Minister Dr. Mohan Yadav also addressed the workers conference organized in Gwalior.

Addressing the Nari Shakti Vandan program, Chief Minister Dr. Mohan Yadav said that Chaitra Navratri is starting from Gudipadwa. Mother Jagadamba will be worshipped for 9 days. In our culture, mothers and sisters are worshipped. No auspicious work or festival is celebrated without mothers and sisters. Mother Lakshmi is

worshipped for wealth and Mother Saraswati is worshipped for knowledge. Mother Durga is worshipped for strength. He said that we are people of that God culture, who get directly connected with the Gods and Goddesses just by looking at their parents. Chief Minister Dr. Yadav said that BJP governments have always given first priority to women. Mothers and sisters have been given respect by running ambitious schemes like Mukhyamantri Ladli Yojana, Mukhyamantri Kanyadan Yojana and now Mukhyamantri Ladli Brahmin Yojana.

Tribals mean forest dwellers for BJP: Rahul Gandhi

Team Absolute | Bhopal

Criticising the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Monday said there was a difference between the outlook of the BJP and the grand old party towards the tribals, while underlining the ideological differences between the two parties.



and Prime Minister Narendra Modi call you (referring to tribals) 'vanvasi', which means you live in the forest and you will not get possession of your land. Congress calls tribals 'aadivasi', which means, the first owner of the land and forest." "The upcoming electoral

contest is between two contrary ideologies. On one side is the BJP and RSS' ideology of 'difference' and on the other side is the Congress ideology of 'uniformity'. The people have to decide which one is right," the Congress leader said.

He also spoke about the Congress' promises in its election manifesto released recently. He said the Congress has promised to bring a new law for employment on the lines of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act it had brought in 2005, if voted to power at the Centre.

RAHUL GANDHI HAS LINKS WITH TERROR OUTFIT PFI: SMRITI IRANI

Amethi: Union Minister Smriti Irani on Monday accused Congress leader Rahul Gandhi of taking help from the banned organisation Popular Front of India (PFI) to contest the Lok Sabha elections from Wayanad in Kerala.



Talking to reporters here, Smriti Irani said, "We have received information that Rahul Gandhi took the support of terrorist organisation PFI to contest the elections from Wayanad. When you read the charge sheet filed in the context of the PFI, you will get to know that it had planned to kill Hindus in every district."

"Rahul Gandhi should tell the people of Amethi why is he taking the help of the PFI that plans to kill Hindus. He has insulted Amethi. It was Prime Minister Narendra Modi who developed Amethi and the people of the city will always bless him."

The Union Minister also said the BJP workers know that the Gandhi family will come to contest the elections from Amethi.

Ex-Union Minister Birender Singh quits BJP, to join Congress on Tuesday

Chandigarh | Agencies

Former Union Minister and BJP leader Birender Singh, who was one of the four Cabinet ministers sworn in in the first expansion of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Council of Ministers in 2014, resigned from the party on Monday.

Singh will now join the Congress, a party he was previously involved with for over four decades.

"I have resigned from the primary membership of the BJP and sent my resignation to party chief J.P. Nadda. My wife Prem Lata, who was an MLA from 2014-2019, has also quit the party. Tomorrow, we will join the Congress," he told the media.

A well-known leader from the Jat community, Singh joined the BJP in August 2014, just before the elections to the Haryana Assembly.

Singh's induction into the Congress is seen as a move to woo the Jat voters in Haryana, Rajasthan, and western Uttar Pradesh. On March 10, Singh's



son Brijendra resigned as a BJP MP and joined the Congress citing "compelling political reasons".

Not scared even if PM converts the entire Parliament building into jail: Mamata Banerjee

Kolkata | Agencies

West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee said on Monday that she is not scared even if Prime Minister Narendra Modi converts the entire Parliament building into a jail after the Lok Sabha elections.

Referring to the Prime Minister's recent note of caution that there will be strong action against corruption after the Lok Sabha elections, the Chief Minister said that such statements were made just to rejuvenate the morale of the BJP workers.

"Whom are you trying to threaten? We are not scared. The Prime Minister is threatening to send everyone behind bars after June 4. Do such statements suit the Prime Minister? Does he want to convert the Parliament building into a jail? Already the entire country is being converted into



a virtual prison by misusing the central agencies. Do whatever you can. But do not threaten us," Banerjee said while addressing an election rally in Bankura district. To recall, Trinamool candidates were defeated by the BJP nominees in both the

Lok Sabha seats in Bankura district in 2019.

Addressing the gathering, the Chief Minister also launched a scathing personal attack against Saumitra Khan, the sitting BJP MP who has been renominated from Bishnupur, one of the two Lok Sabha constituencies in Bankura district, where the Trinamool has fielded Khan's estranged wife Sujata Mondal Khan.

"I don't know if the divorce has finally happened. His wife is a candidate here this time. If I reveal some of his photos, the people of Bishnupur will understand the kind of people flocking to the BJP. I have all the pictures," the Chief Minister said.

She also launched a scathing attack against the BJP on the Uniform Civil Code issue. "There are sub-castes in Hindu religion as well. The tribal population has different marriage-related rules.

Rajasthan: Cong announces alliance with BAP but its candidate fails to withdraw nomination

Jaipur | Agencies

The suspense over the Banswara Durgapur Lok Sabha seat continued on Monday when Congress candidate Arvind Damor did not withdraw his nomination on the last day for withdrawals even after the party had announced an alliance with the Bharatiya Adivasi Party (BAP) on Sunday.

Monday is the last day for withdrawal of nominations. However, Congress' Lok Sabha candidate Arvind Damor and Bagidora assembly



bly by-election candidate Karpoo Singh did not withdraw their nominations even after the party in-charge Sujinder Singh Randhawa announced the Congress' alliance with the BAP. Both the candidates did

not agree to withdraw their nominations even after pressure from the district and state Congress committee, switched off their phones and remained missing throughout the day.

Party leaders said that the PCC leaders pressurised the district president for the withdrawal of names and calls were coming from the state Congress committee since the morning to withdraw the nominations. District president Rameshchandra Pandya could not contact both the candidates and appeared dejected.

6-YEAR-OLD GIRL RAPED BY 11-YEAR-OLD BOY IN AGRA

Agra | Agencies

A six-year-old girl has been allegedly raped by an 11-year-old boy in a village in Agra, an official said.

The official said that the incident took place on Saturday. The police have apprehended the minor accused who is a Class 4 student. The girl was admitted to a local hospital where her condition is said to be critical.

The girl's statement could not be recorded by the police



at the hospital. As per the First Information Report (FIR) lodged at the local police station by the girl's father, she had gone for tuition classes on Saturday when the boy convinced her to accompany him to an isolated place and raped

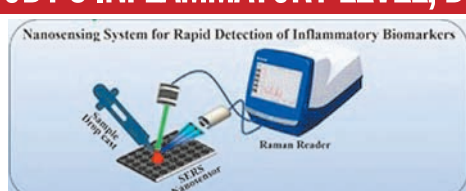
her. "When she reached home around 7.30 pm, she was bleeding and somehow told us what happened. She knows the accused. We took her to the hospital and then went to the boy's house and handed him over to the police," the father said in the FIR. Officers said adequate police force has been deployed in the village following the incident in a bid to prevent further trouble as the accused and the victim belong to different communities in the village.

NEW NANOSENSOR TO CHECK BODY'S INFLAMMATORY LEVEL, DIAGNOSE DISEASE IN 30 MINUTES

Jodhpur | Agencies

Researchers at the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Jodhpur have developed a novel nanosensor that targets cytokines -- proteins that help control the body's inflammation levels -- and helps in the rapid diagnosis and progression of various diseases in 30 minutes.

Currently used techniques for cytokine detection include enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA) and polymerase chain reaction (PCR), which although reliable are highly time-consuming. These also require trained personnel and a long sample preparation or analysis time that can take over 6 hours to produce the results.



However, the new sensor takes only 30 minutes in comparison and is also cost-effective, for developing therapeutics for conditions like Multiple Sclerosis, Diabetes, and Alzheimer's disease, among others, said the team. They added that the technique could also detect 'trace-level molecules with high precision and selectivity.'

"It uses Surface Enhanced Raman Spectroscopy to detect analytes even at low concentrations, and is based on semiconductor process technology and works on the principle of Surface Enhanced Raman Scattering (SERS)," the Institute said.

"This technique which is currently in its development stage has provided exciting and encouraging results for three biomarkers i.e. interleukin-6 (IL-6), interleukin-beta (IL-beta), and TNF-alpha which are key pro-inflammatory cytokines, released by inflammatory cells," said Prof. Ajay Agarwal, Department of Electrical Engineering, IIT Jodhpur. "As of now, the testing is done for controlled samples, but the team aims to take the technology to clinical trials soon."

2024 LS POLLS A BATTLE BETWEEN STABILITY & INSTABILITY: PM



Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday slammed the Congress and the INDIA bloc, saying that the upcoming Lok Sabha elections are a battle between stability and instability.

and extended Navratri and Gudi Padwa wishes to the people. He also made a special mention of Chandrapur from where wood was sent for the construction of Ram Mandir and the new Parliament building.

Chandrapur | Agencies

Arvind Kejriwal would walk out of jail in a day if he joins BJP: Atishi

Guwahati | Agencies



Delhi Minister Atishi claimed on Monday that if Arvind Kejriwal decides to join the BJP, he would walk out of jail within a day.

people of Assam have shown their love for AAP in earlier elections as well.

"We have seen good results in the local body polls in Guwahati," she said.

Atishi, who holds the education portfolio in Delhi, among others, also alleged that the quality of education is poor in Assam.

"In the last few years, at least 8,000 schools were shut down in Assam citing poor enrolment. People are not sending their children to government schools in Assam because they lack good infrastructure," she claimed.

According to Atishi, the AAP government has revamped the education system in Delhi where people are now opting for government schools over private institutions.

Delhi court denies interim bail to BRS leader K. Kavitha



'scam' by the ED, is currently in judicial custody till April 9.

Special Judge Kaveri Bajewa of Rouse Avenue Court on Monday dismissed her plea saying the stage was not right to enlarge her on interim bail.

Team Absolute | New Delhi

Delhi court on Monday denied interim bail to Bharat Rashtira Samithi (BRS) MLC K. Kavitha in connection with a money laundering case related to the alleged excise policy scam.

Last week, she had moved the court opposing the CBI's plea seeking to interrogate and record her statement in Tihar Jail and urging the court to recall its order.

Notably, the court had allowed on April 5 the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) to question Kavitha in Tihar Jail.

The court is to hear the matter now on April 10 after the CBI sought time to reply to Kavitha's plea.

Tejashwi Yadav taking false credit for jobs, says Nitish Kumar

Patna: Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar on Monday slammed the situation before 2005 in Bihar. People were so scared that they were not stepping out of their homes in the evening.

present. What was there before 2005."

"Please remember the situation before 2005 in Bihar. People were so scared that they were not stepping out of their homes in the evening. There were no roads at that time. Please ask the older people. They will tell you what the atmosphere was like here before 2005."

Kumar said: "He is telling lies in public. He is doing publicity for the work I did. I am not a person who believes in advertisements. I believe in doing work for people. Look at the streets, buildings, highways etc in Patna and other districts at

Table with columns: Sr. No., Name of Borrower, Co-Borrowers & Guarantor, Details of Secured Asset, Date of Demand, Amount due as per demand notice, and Date of Demand Notice & Date of Repayment. Includes entries for various borrowers like Suren Singh, Lakhansingh, and others.



Dynasty politics: MahaYuti, MVA partners bet big on nominees with family links

Sanjay Jog | Mumbai

Amid raging dynasty politics debate, the MahaYuti comprising BJP, Shiv Sena and NCP and the Maha Vikas Aghadi consisting of Shiv Sena (UBT), NCP (SP) and Congress have given nominations to the relatives of the established leaders from the respective parties. Interestingly, BJP, which is targeting opposition over dynasty politics, tops the list among its candidates so far declared in Maharashtra followed by the Eknath Shinde-led Shiv Sena and Congress party. They are betting big on their nominees with family links.

The list of BJP nominees included Pankaja Munde, who is the daughter of veteran party leader and former Union minister Gopinath Munde and is contesting the Lok Sabha election for the first time from Beed constituency which is represented by her real sister Pritam Munde since 2014 and by her father till his early death in June 2014.

The party nominee from Dindori and Union minister Bharati Pawar is the daughter of former state minister AT Pawar while Heena Gavit, who has been renominated from the tribal-dominated Nandurbar is the daughter of the minister Vijaykumar Gavit; Navneet Rana, who has been party's nominee from Amravati, is the wife of an independent legislator Ravi Rana; Union minister and party nominee Piyush Goyal who has been fielded from North Mumbai is the son of former Union minister Ved Prakash Goyal and party legislator Chandrakanta Goyal; and Raksha Khadse, the daughter-in-law of former minister Eknath Khadse, is a candidate from Raver seat. Incidentally, Khadse



is set to rejoin BJP in a fortnight leaving the NCP faction led by Sharad Pawar.

Further, party nominee from Akola, Anup Dhore is the son of sitting MP and former Union minister Sanjay Dhore; Sujay Vikhe-Patil, who is the son of state revenue minister Radhakrishna Vikhe Patil and the grandson of cooperative baron and former minister Balasaheb Vikhe-Patil, has been renominated from Ahmednagar constituency and Smita Wagh, who is the wife of BJP's former Jalgaon district unit chief late Uday Wagh, is party's nominee from Jalgaon seat.

In the case of Congress, Chhatrapati Shrimant Shahu Maharaj, who has been nominated from the

Kolhapur seat, is a descendant of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj; Praniti Shinde, who is the daughter of former Union minister and veteran party leader Sushilkumar Shinde, is party's candidate from Solapur seat; Prashant Padole, who is the son of former legislator late Yadavrao Padole, has been nominated from Bhandara-Gondiya constituency and sitting legislator Pratibha Dhanorkar, who is party's nominee from Chandrapur seat, is the wife of former MP late Balu Dhanorkar.

As far as Shiv Sena is concerned, the party nominee from Yavatmal-Washim, Rajashree Patil is the wife of the party MP from Hingoli Hemant Patil who has been dropped. The party nominee from Hatkanangale, Dhairyashil Mane is the son of former MP Nivedita Mane; the party nominee from Kolhapur, Sanjay Mandlik is the son of former MP Sadashiv Mandlik and the party candidate from Kalyan seat, Shrikant Shinde is the son of Chief Minister Eknath Shinde.

The NCP led by Deputy Chief Minister Ajit Pawar has nominated Archana Patil from the Dharashiv seat who is the wife of BJP legislator Rana Jagjit Singh Patil while the party nominee from Baramati, Sunetra Pawar is the wife of Ajit Pawar.

The NCP (SP) has renominated the sitting MP Supriya Sule from Baramati who is the daughter of party chief Sharad Pawar.

The Vanchit Bahujan Aghadi founder Prakash Ambedkar, who is contesting from the Akola seat, is the grandson of Bharat Ratna B. R. Ambedkar.

The Shiv Sena (UBT) has nominated Amol Kirtikar from North West Mumbai who is the son of sitting MP Gajanan Kirtikar who is now in the Shinde faction.

Mumbai BJP chief Ashish Shelar relishes Ramadan lunch with Salman's family



Team Absolute | Mumbai

President of Mumbai Bharatiya Janata Party Ashish Shelar visited the home of Bollywood mega-star Salman Khan in what is being described as a "lunch diplomacy" in political circles, as the Lok Sabha election season 2024 is underway.

Shelar, Bandra west MLA called on the Khans on Sunday afternoon for a hearty meal as the holy month of Ramadan draws to a close this week, punctuated by scores of VVIPs hosting late-evening iftaar parties in the past four weeks.

"Pleased to meet Salim Khan ji, Helen ji and family over lunch..." gushed Shelar after the luncheon and posted his picture with the famous father-son duo.

He added that over lunch, he discussed their social work in areas of healthcare and assisting the needy, the initiative launched by Salim Khan and pursued for two decades with utmost sincerity.

The family runs 'Being Human - The Salman Khan Foundation' since 2007, which is engaged in a variety of social-cultural-health initiatives in various schools, NGOs, hospitals, drought relief and other activities.

Pune Engineering student kidnapped, strangled by college friend

Team Absolute | Pune

A 22-year-old female engineering student from Pune who was missing since March 30 was found murdered in Ahmednagar on Sunday, a police official said. She

was allegedly kidnapped by three persons, including a college friend, for ransom and was later strangled, the official said.

"She was pursuing engineering in a college in Wagholi area here. On March 29, a male college friend and

two others met her and dropped her to her hostel. On March 30, they took her to Ahmednagar. They sought ransom of Rs 9 lakh from her parents. They then strangled her, buried her body on the outskirts of Ahmednagar and removed the SIM

of her cellphone," he said.

After her family filed a missing person complaint, a police probe zeroed in on the three accused through technical analysis, following which they were arrested, the official said.



Sharad Pawar puts poll campaign on hold to empathise with thirsty farmers of Pune

Quaid Najmi | Pune

At the height of the Lok Sabha campaigning and cacophony, Nationalist Congress Party-SP President Sharad Pawar on Monday took time off electioneering to visit drought-hit areas in Pune district of western Maharashtra and interact with farmers there.

Shortly after dawn, Pawar went on a tour of some affected regions of Baramati in the district and spent time with the farmers to understand their summer challenges.

Pawar, 83, visited some of the worst-affected villages like Undawadi (KP), Supe, Riseipise, and Rajouri and also went around a cattle camp at Zhendewadi in different parts of the district,

said his aides.

Received by the peasantry and their families, plus the farm workers, Pawar had a glimpse of the grim situation they currently encounter in the middle of summer, with the monsoon at least 50-60 days away. "The farmers informed that they are facing alarming scarcity of drinking water, insufficient water for agriculture and their cattle, plus a shortage of fodder... Pawar Sahab gave them a patient hearing and understood their predicament," said the aide. The weathered Pawar, not sporting a cap or sunglasses, took a bird's eye view of some of the local farms and witnessed the parched, cracking earth with not a blade of grass visible as the fiery sun roasted the region with 40 degrees

Celsius plus temperatures, and occasionally a cloud of dust was blown off by a sporadic gust of warm breeze. Later, the NCP-SP supremo addressed the groups of farmers on the scenario and promised to take up the issue with the district administration. In his address, he recalled his early days in 1965 when he took his first youthful steps in grassroots politics and saw the drought problems in the region which barely got 6-7 inches of annual rainfall, but all the water flowed away. He later organised and inspired the locals to take measures to save this water in ponds and percolation tanks which could help the villagers, farmers, agriculture and livestock, creating over 300 big and small lakes.

Eknath Khadse joining will help BJP garner OBC votes

Team Absolute | Mumbai

BJP's move to roll out a red carpet to former minister and NCP legislator Eknath Khadse ahead of Lok Sabha polling is a calculated move to play the OBC card and avoid backlash from the politically influential Maratha community especially against the backdrop of protests Manoj Jarange-Patil demanding reservation to the community.

The Central leadership's green signal for Khadse's "Ghar Wapsi" is aimed at giving Khadse, who is the mass leader in OBC, respect and thereby consolidate its position during Lok Sabha elections to achieve its Mission 45 plus and also in the state assembly for carrying out 200 plus target in Maharashtra.

Further, the Central leadership has given prominence and preference to the party's victory instead of internal differences between Khadse and Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnis and the state minister Girish Mahajan.

Khadse after his entry is expected to be soon involved in the party's campaigning across Maharashtra.

Khadse, who is one of the prominent OBC leaders, had slugged for over four decades for BJP's rise in Maharashtra along with Gopinath Munde before he parted ways in 2020 to join NCP criticising the state leadership. The party insiders strongly believe that Khadse's entry will help make up for the possible loss in Maratha votes.



It is not Khadse who will be brought into the fold so that he can regain his past glory but the party took a cautious decision to nominate Pankaja Munde another OBC leader from the Vanjani community from Beed and party ally Rashtriya Samaj Paksh founder Mahadev Jankar from Parbhani. Incidentally, Jankar falls from the Dhangar community and he has been accommodated in MahaYuti's seat-sharing arrangement from the Ajit Pawar-led NCP's quota from the Parbhani seat.

Ex-cop Pradeep Sharma need not surrender in 2006 fake encounter case: SC



Team Absolute | New Delhi

The Supreme Court on Monday ordered that retired high-profile police officer and encounter specialist Pradeep Sharma need not surrender till further orders in an 18-year-old fake encounter case. A bench of Justices Hrishikesh Roy and Prashant Kumar Mishra was hearing an appeal filed by Sharma against the March 19 verdict of the Bombay High Court which had reversed his acquittal and sentenced him to a life term. The Bombay High Court had ordered Sharma, who was acquitted earlier by a Mumbai sessions court in July 2013, to surrender within a period of three weeks. Observing that the trial court had ignored the overwhelming evidence available against Sharma, and the common chain of evidence unerringly proving his involvement in the fake encounter case, a division bench of Justices Revati Mohite-Dere and Gauri Godse of the High Court had termed the acquittal order as "perverse" and "unsustainable". The Bombay High Court had also upheld the life sentences given to 13 other accused, including 12 policemen, in the November 11, 2006 encounter killing of Ramnarayan Gupta, 33, alias Lakhan Bhaiya, an alleged functionary of the Rajendra Sadashiv Nikhalje alias Chhota Rajan's mafia syndicate. The matter will be taken up by the apex court after four weeks for further hearing.

Delhi acid attack perpetrator accused arrested from Maharashtra



Team Absolute | New Delhi/Mumbai

A 61-year-old man, who allegedly killed his wife by pouring acid on her, was arrested from Maharashtra's Kolhapur after a months-long hunt, a Delhi Police official said on Monday.

The accused was identified as Jitendra aka Jitu and a reward of Rs 25,000 was also declared on information leading to his arrest.

On April 29, 2023, Jitendra threw acid on his wife to kill her as he suspected that she had an extramarital affair. During treatment, she succumbed to her injuries and charges of murder were added in the case. Deputy Commissioner of

Police, Crime Branch, Amit Goel said that recently, a specific input was received that Jitendra was living somewhere in Maharashtra. "After receiving inputs and gathering intelligence, on April 2, a police team departed to Maharashtra's Nashik but the accused had escaped from there," he said.

Goel said that the team started tracking him by showing his photograph at bus stands and in this way, reached Solapur, where it was learnt that the accused was asking someone about Baru Mama Mandir. Accordingly, the team reached Baru Mama Mandir in Kolhapur district, and finally, zeroed down on the accused and apprehended him from there, he added.

6 Arrested With Gold Worth Rs 4 Crore At Mumbai Airport, They Hid It In Clothes, Body



Team Absolute | Mumbai

Mumbai Customs on Monday said it seized over 8.10 kg of gold worth Rs 4.81 crores and arrested six passengers. The Airport Commissionerate, Mumbai Customs Zone-III, said that the arrested passengers had hidden gold in their

clothes, bodies, and in the rectum. The recoveries were made between April 6 and April 7 in 12 separate cases.

While a gold chain, a rhodium-plated pendant, and a locket were concealed on the body of a passenger, a gold wax in oval-shaped capsules was hidden inside the rectum of another passenger,

the customs said. Earlier last week, the Mumbai Customs seized over 4.37 Kg of gold valued at Rs 2.46 crore and arrested three passengers. They had also recovered 172.96 kg of assorted silver jewelry valued at Rs 2.59 crore and electronics and cosmetic goods valued at Rs 22.90 lakh.

Veteran CPI-M leader Narsayya Adam extends support to Cong nominee Praniti Shinde

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Congress nominee and former Union Minister Sushilkumar Shinde's daughter Praniti Shinde on Monday received a major boost after her political rival and veteran Communist leader Narsayya Adam extended support to her.

Praniti is pitted against BJP nominee Ram Satpute. Adam hoggged the headlines after he shared a dais with Prime Minister Narendra Modi in January this year at the inauguration of the Ray Nagar Pradhanmantri Avas Yojana housing colony, a township of 15,000 houses at Kumbhari in Solapur district. Adam had conceived the project and took it to the Centre during the UPA rule and later followed it up during the BJP-led NDA government since 2014.

Adam's decision came after Praniti met him in his office to seek his support. "During the last 10 years there was no vision for development and political will," he said and declared his support to the Maha Vikas Aghadi in Maharashtra and to the INDIA Alliance at the national level during the Lok Sabha elections. The BJP had held the Solapur Lok Sabha seat in the 2014 and 2019 elections defeating the Congress nominee and former Union home minister Sushilkumar Shinde.

Adam has staked claim to the Solapur Central assembly seat for the CPM saying that he has already held talks with NCP SP chief Sharad Pawar, Shiv Sena Uddhav Balasaheb Thackeray chief Uddhav Thackeray and state Congress chief Nana Patole. "Accordingly, it



was decided that the Solapur Central assembly seat will be made after talks with Congress leader Sonia Gandhi. Former minister Sushilkumar Shinde has conveyed to me that he would not have any objection if the Congress high command gives its go ahead," he said.

Adam had won the assembly elections in 1978, 1995 and 2004 but he lost to Praniti in the 2009 elections and thereafter in the 2014 and 2019 polls. Even though Adam had extended his support to the Congress-led UPA at the national level, the situation was different in Solapur due to the rivalry with Praniti and her father.



EDITOR'S SPECS

Urgency of universal access to quality healthcare

In the pursuit of health equity and universal access to quality healthcare, the World Health Organization (WHO) is celebrating April 7 as World Health Day with the theme 'My Health My Right'. This year's theme resonates deeply amidst escalating global health challenges, underscoring the imperative of safeguarding every individual's fundamental right to health, say healthcare professionals. They called for reaffirming our commitment to championing the fundamental right to health for all individuals. "By fostering inclusive healthcare systems, prioritising preventive measures, fostering and incentivising an active lifestyle and advocating for environmental stewardship, we can pave the way towards a healthier and more resilient future for generations to come," they said. Across the globe, billions of individuals find their right to health imperilled by a myriad of threats, ranging from environmental crises to inadequate healthcare access. The toll of disease and disability continues to escalate, exacerbated by conflicts, disasters, and the pervasive scourge of air pollution. Shockingly, one life succumbs to the adverse effects of air pollution every five seconds, underscoring the urgent need for decisive action to mitigate environmental hazards and safeguard public health. In 2021 alone, over 4.5 billion individuals, representing more than half of the world's population, were left without access to essential health services, highlighting the urgent need for concerted efforts to bridge existing gaps. Embracing the 'My Health My Right' theme, the World Health Organization underscores the pivotal role of equitable access to quality medical care in achieving health for all. Essential components such as medical services, adequate information, safe drinking water, clean air, good nutrition, quality housing, and a discrimination-free environment form the cornerstone of comprehensive healthcare, ensuring that every individual can exercise their right to health without discrimination or financial barriers.

Geopolitics is impacted by faith-based conflicts

D.C. Pathak

The world is in the midst of major developments - political, ideological and combative, attributable to the projection of religion in international politics. The rise of Islamic radical forces symbolised by Taliban, Al Qaeda, ISIS, Boko Haram and Palestinian Islamic Jihad, the fall out of the Israel-Hamas confrontation and the coming together of Iran, China and Russia in political opposition to the US, are setting the global trend of a constant shift towards geopolitics driven by faith-based conflicts. To the extent this was linked to certain historical legacies, the trend could aggravate matters for the future by strengthening forces of 'revivalism'. The need of the hour is to consolidate the democratic world order that shuns identity politics, practices the inherently secular mandate of 'one man one vote' and encourages human rights, universal values and economic advancement of all. The hostility of Islamic radicals towards the US-led West, the intensification of Shia-Sunni conflict with the rise of fundamentalism in both these segments of the faith and the impact of internal divides in the Islamic world, on the emerging Cold War between the US on one side and the China-Russia axis on the other, are the major points of study and strategic analysis for making a long term assessment of India's national security as also this country's potential for contributing to global peace and world economy in the current scenario. India has already been exposed for a long to cross-border terrorism in which Pakistan had used Islamic militant outfits under its control such as Hizbul Mujahideen, Lashkar-e-Toiba and Jaish-e-Mohammad, in Kashmir in particular but in other parts of India as well. There is no gainsaying the fact that the US-led 'war on terror' launched in the wake of 9/11 - first in Afghanistan and then in Iraq, proved to be a protracted combat in a proxy mode during which Islamic radical forces managed to survive and spread their hold in the Muslim world. They have also derived an advantage from the alignments they were able to forge in the face of political and ideological divides that were cropping up between the US and its opponents at the global level. While the Taliban-Al Qaeda combined ruling Afghanistan concentrated on the Afghan-Pakistan region, a powerful offshoot of the former emerged as Islamic State in the Iraq-Syria belt (ISIS) - on a note of competitive militancy. The latter - with its known animosity towards Shiism - is now becoming instrumental in pushing Iran ruled by Ayatollahs, towards the Russia-China axis that supported the regime of Syrian President, Bashar Al Assad-an Alawite. In the 'war on terror', the US focused on eliminating the leaders of Islamic radicals like Al Qaeda leader Osama bin Laden and ISIS's first leader Abu Musab Al-Zarqawi in 2011 and 2006 respectively but could not disrupt the process of induction of new militants through 'radicalisation' that exploited the social media in full measure. By 2015, ISIS under the leadership of Abu Bakr Al Baghdadi, had captured large parts of Iraq and Syria and declared a Caliphate. A powerful regional wing of ISIS called ISIS-K has since been operating covering Afghanistan, Iran and Turkmenistan - the area historically known as Khorasan. ISIS is in violent opposition to Shia Muslims - more strongly than Al Qaeda would be - and the two Sunni streams of Islamic radicals carry the historical legacy of the anti-West Wahhabi 'revolt' witnessed in the middle of the 19th century in Algeria, Arabia and India under the leadership of prominent Ulema like Al Tijani, Abdul Wahab and Shah Waliullah whose contention was that the political decline of Islam - after a thousand



years of constant rise - was attributable to the deflection of the rulers from the path of pure Islam as it existed in the times of the 'Pious Caliphs'. The 'revivalist' call of going back to that golden period also put focus on the episode of Kharijites rejecting Ali on the ground that the Fourth Caliph and his partisans - the Shias - had started propagating that the Caliph - now called Imam - had inherited elements of 'divinity' and could even create new Hadis. Kharijites were the precursor of Sunnis who looked upon Shias as the practitioners of the worst form of 'Shirk'. The puritanical stream of Salafis in Islam derives its name from Salaf or the Companions of the Prophet. Wahhabis however, are Salafis with a difference in as much as they consider the US-led West as their prime enemy and are represented by Islamic radicals of Taliban, Al Qaeda and ISIS. On the other hand, Saudi Arabia practices Salafism but is a close strategic ally of the US. ISIS rooted in the Iraq-Syria region is far more ruthless in opposing the Shias in comparison to Al Qaeda. Osama bin Laden considered the Shiites as heretics but seldom targeted them for killing whereas beheading of Shiite religious persons became the hallmark of Al Zarqawi's leadership of ISIS. ISIS' violent disposition towards Shiite Muslims is further aggravated by the fact that political rulers of Syria and Iraq were not only Baathists believing in secularism and socialism but they were also Alawites - representing a sect of Shiism. They were thus doubly vulnerable as the targets of Islamic radicals. ISIS-K received a fillip from the stand of ISIS that Al Qaeda had become too engrossed in the struggle against the NATO forces in Afghanistan to give due attention to the Jihad movements in the Central Asian region. ISIS-K was therefore meant also to counter-balance the threat of anti-Islamic influences wielded by Russia in the former Soviet states in Central Asia. Incidentally in May 2019, ISIS declared that Balochistan and Kashmir were being included as new branches in the regional set-up of ISIS-K. ISIS has carried out multiple attacks on Shias in Afghanistan and Pakistan and after the Taliban took over Afghanistan in 2021 stepped up violence against Hazaras and other religious minorities there. It may be mentioned that in 2016, the leader of ISIS-K - Wali Hafiz Sayeed Khan - reportedly described how Wilayat Khorasan was important in terms of its history of having conquered Secularists, Rafida (Shias), Murtads (Apostates), cow-worshipping Hindus and the atheist Chinese. The current Israel-Hamas conflict unravels the linkages of the US, Iran and the Russia-China axis in the Middle East and the play of faith-based politics there. The most objective stand on this development can be credited to India which maintained that the October 7 attack of Hamas on Israel last year was an act of terrorism, called for a ceasefire and talks and upheld the right of Palestinians to have a homeland under the 2-state solution. Hamas is a product of the 1987 Palestinian uprising whose roots

were in the Palestinian branch of the Muslim Brotherhood. It is a Sunni Muslim organisation which significantly stated in 2017 that its struggle was against Zionists not Jews and that its chief 'cause' for conflict with Israel was the latter's atrocities in Gaza and the attack on the Al Aqsa mosque in East Jerusalem - the third holiest centre for Sunnis after Mecca and Medina. It may be recalled that the Muslim Brotherhood established in Egypt and Syria in 1928 was against the secular, nationalist and pro-socialist regimes there and was appreciated by the US then. Hamas as its offspring in Palestine however became radicalised with the passage of time with the result that the US got it declared a terrorist outfit in 1997. In the wake of the Israel-Hamas conflict, Saudi Arabia - a friend of the US - does not approve of Hamas but has taken a stand much on the line of India's response that both sides should abstain from killing civilians. Saudi Arabia is not opposed to the Abrahamic accord reached by UAE and Bahrain with Israel on the mediation of the US. What is even more important, the Israel-Hamas confrontation has seen Iran and Syria coming in support of Hamas in spite of the fact that Hamas is now like a Sunni radical organisation. The political alignment of these two countries against the US-Israel combine apparently outweighs other considerations. The deadly attack by ISIS terrorists on March 22 night on a largely attended concert on the Moscow outskirts - barely 20 kilometres from the Kremlin - has exposed the world to the tentacles of faith-based terror and revealed the contours of political divides coinciding with religious conflicts to produce a new era of proxy wars. A group of five gunmen in army fatigues entered the venue with automatic rifles and used incendiary bombs and grenades apart from resorting to indiscriminate firing, to leave 143 dead and more than 250 injured. Newly re-elected President Vladimir Putin underplayed the intelligence failure of Russia and tried to be dismissive of the reports released by the US that it had shared advance intelligence of the attack with Moscow. The US would have certainly put in its best efforts to infiltrate Al Qaeda and ISIS - its worst enemies. Since 2022, ISIS-K is known to have attacked diplomats of China, Russia and Pakistan in Afghanistan - notwithstanding the fact that these countries had developed good relations with the Taliban. ISIS has presently become the front-line leader of radicalised Islamic forces. It disapproves of Pakistan trying to become an ally of the US and resents the policy of China and Russia to support the Assad regime in Syria. A major reason for ISIS to direct its hostility on Russia is that Moscow helped Bashar Al-Assad regain the territory he had earlier lost to ISIS. Russia's slaughter of Chechen Muslims in its war in Chechnya in 2000 has not been forgotten too. For ISIS, the US and Israel are the prime political adversaries while Iran is an enemy because of the historical Shia-Sunni religious animosity. The Moscow attack by ISIS puts Russia and India together in opposing and combating terrorism in all its forms and also denouncing cross-border terrorism instigated by Pakistan against India in Kashmir and elsewhere. In a nutshell, geopolitical conflicts today are driven substantially by motivations of religion and this is a warning signal for the democratic world to do something to avoid its own future being put at risk on that count. (The writer is former Director of the Intelligence Bureau. Views are personal)

international

Pakistan session court sentences man to 80 lashes in a rare decision

Hamza Ameer | Karachi

In a rare punishment sentenced to a man falsely accusing his ex-wife of adultery and refusing to accept the paternity of his child; a session court in Karachi, Pakistan has sentenced the man to 80 lashes, a punishment which is very rare. Additional District and Sessions Judge Malir Shehnaz Bohyo sentenced the accused Fareed Qadir to at least 80 lashes. The controversial decision was taken under Section 7(1) of the Offence of Qazf (Enforcement of Hadd) Ordinance, 1979, which reads "Whoever commits qazf liable to had shall be punished with whipping numbering eighty stripes." The judge wrote in the verdict that: "It is crystal clear that the accused is a liar and had fabricated an allegation of Qazf upon the complainant regarding illegitimacy of her daughter. Thus, he is convicted and sentenced to 80 stripes each under Section 7(1) of the Qazf Ordinance, 1979." The judge's ruling also maintained that: "As the accused is sentenced to whipping only, he shall remain on bail, provided that he agrees to appear at the time and place designated by this court for the execution



of the punishment of whipping, following the confirmation of the conviction and sentence by the court of appeal, and submits a bail bond in the sum of Rs.100,000." The court also ruled that after the conviction, evidence provided by Fareed Qadir would not be admissible in any court of law. As per details of the case, Fareed Qadir (convict) ex-wife had filed a complaint in court, stating that she got married in February 2015 and lived with Fareed for at least one month. In December 2015, Fareed's wife gave birth to a baby girl. "My husband (Fareed) failed to provide maintenance or even take me and our newly born daughter back to his house. I filed a case in the family court and got a decree in my favour. The court directed Fareed to provide for maintenance of his

daughter and me (ex-wife of Fareed)," said Fareed's ex-wife. "But my husband submitted two applications in court during the proceedings, seeking a DNA test for the baby girl and disowning his daughter. These applications were later and subsequently withdrawn by Fareed," she added. On the other hand, the accused Fareed denied allegations levelled by his ex-wife, stating that his wife had only spent six hours with him. "Me and my wife stayed together only for six hours. Then she left home and never returned," he said. While the case may or could have been handled differently under the law of the land in Pakistan; sentencing to 80 lashes is a punishment which has not yet been witnessed since the Zia ul Haq era of the 70s till late 80s. "I have not witnessed any convictions of flogging under Section 7 of the Qazf Ordinance during my last 14 years of service as a lawyer," said prosecutor Saira Bano. "This conviction of flogging may be the first instance of its kind as corporal punishment in decades," she added.

S. Korea launches 2nd spy satellite into orbit with SpaceX Falcon 9

Seoul | Agencies

South Korea launched its second indigenous spy satellite on a SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket from Kennedy Space Center in the US state of Florida on Monday (Seoul time), according to the country's defence ministry. The Falcon 9 lifted off at 8:17 a.m. (7:17 p.m. local time) from the John F. Kennedy Space Center and sent the reconnaissance satellite into orbit approximately 45 minutes after the launch, the ministry was quoted as saying by Yonhap news agency. "We will check whether the satellite normally operates



through communication with overseas ground stations," the ministry said. It is the second military

The satellite was equipped with synthetic aperture radar (SAR) sensors that capture data using microwaves and are capable of collecting data regardless of weather conditions. The other three satellites will also be equipped with SAR sensors. Electro-optical and infrared sensors capable of capturing detailed images of the Earth's surface were fitted on the first satellite launched in December. When operated together, the five satellites are expected to provide regular coverage at about two-hour intervals, according to analysts.

Zaporizhzhia nuclear plant reports 'Ukrainian' drone attacks

Moscow | Agencies

Ukrainian drones attacked the Zaporizhzhia Nuclear Power Plant (NPP) on Sunday, including one on the dome of the 6th power unit, according to the plant's press service. The NPP said the attack on the dome had not caused critical injuries or casualties and that there were no threats of violation of safety limits, Xinhua news agency reported. "The radiation background at the station and the adjacent territory has not changed and is at a level corresponding to the normal operation of the power units, and does not exceed the natural background values," the NPP's press service said on Telegram. RIA Novosti news agency cited the International Atomic Energy Agency's statement as saying that the agency's experts



were informed about the explosion. The agency's head, Rafael Grossi, has called for measures to avoid any actions

that could threaten the Zaporizhzhia NPP. Earlier in the day, the power plant reported an attack in the area of its canteen, which damaged a truck unloading food. It added that another drone arrival was registered in the cargo port area. Zaporizhzhia NPP had recorded multiple Ukrainian military drone arrivals at the nuclear facility in recent days, the press service said on Friday. Also on Friday, Russia Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Maria Zakharova warned Ukraine and its Western allies against attempts to attack or destabilize the Zaporizhzhia NPP. The Zaporizhzhia NPP is the largest nuclear power plant in Europe and includes six power units with a total capacity of 6 gigawatts. At the end of February 2022, the facility was taken under Russian control.

IDF now prepares for Rafah operation after Khan Yunis



Tel Aviv | Agencies

The Israel Defense Forces (IDF) is bracing up for the Rafah operation after it wrapped up the Khan Yunis operations in southern Gaza and the 98th division of the IDF withdrew from the area. Israel Defense Ministry sources told reporter that the withdrawal was done for ground invasion into the Rafah region. Defense Minister of Israel Yoav Gallant, widely considered a hawk, met the senior officers of the 98th division of the IDF on Sunday and dis-

cussed the Rafah operations. The allies of Israel, including the US and other Western powers had earlier told Israel not to enter into a ground invasion in the Rafah region as that would lead to major casualties among civilians. Rafah region of Gaza is densely populated and has an estimated 1.3 million people. The Egyptian president, Abdel Fattah Al-Sissi had expressed his concern over a possible Rafah operation with the US Secretary of State, Antony Blinken during the latter's visit to Egypt in March.

Australia appoints special advisor to examine Israeli airstrike investigation



Canberra | Agencies

A former head of the Australian Defence Force (ADF) has been appointed as the country's special advisor on Israel's response to strikes that killed aid workers in Gaza. Penny Wong, Australian minister for foreign affairs, on Monday announced that retired Air Chief Marshal (ACM) Mark Binskin will oversee official investigations into the strikes that killed seven World Central Kitchen (WCK) staff in Gaza, Xinhua news agency reported. Australian citizen Zomi Frankcom was among the WCK humanitarian workers who were killed when the convoy they were travelling in was hit by an Israel Defense Force (IDF) airstrike in central Gaza on April 1 local time. Wong said on Monday that Binskin was eminently qualified to advise the government on the sufficiency and appropriateness of the steps taken by Israel and on any further actions that could be taken to hold those responsible to account. ACM Binskin will engage with Israel and the Israel Defense Forces on the response to the attack which killed Zomi and her colleagues. Australia has made clear to the Israeli government our expectation and trust that this engagement will be facilitated," she said in a statement.



CONGRESS WILL FILL 30 LAKH VACANT POSTS AS SOON AS IT COMES TO POWER: RAHUL GANDHI



Team Absolute | Seoni

Former national president of Congress Rahul Gandhi promised in Dhanora of Seoni district of Mandla parliamentary constituency that as soon as the Congress government is formed at the Centre, recruitment will be done on 30 lakh vacant posts.

In view of the Lok Sabha elections, Rahul Gandhi reached Dhanora on Monday to participate in a public

Rahul Gandhi said that due to demonetization and wrong GST policy of the Centre, small industries have closed down and due to this unemployment has increased. Congress will bring a new law like MNREGA. In MNREGA where 100 days work is given. Under the new scheme, every new youth will be given one year apprenticeship, in which Rs 1 lakh per year will be given. This will be the right of every youth.

He told that we have made a big scheme for women empowerment, under which one woman from every family will be given one lakh rupees every year. At the same time, a law will be made regarding paper leaks to prevent irregularities in the examination. The work of preparing papers and conducting examinations will not be given to private agencies.

Rahul Gandhi termed the policies of the Central Government as anti-farmer and said that the farmer wants the right price for his produce. The government is not ready to give it to him. Center has waived off Rs 16 lakh crore of industrialists but does not waive off the loans of farmers. If Congress comes to power, farmers' loans will be waived off and farmers will get the legal minimum support price.

BJP CANDIDATE'S PICTURE IN THE MEETING POSTER!



Mandla: The poster put up on the stage of former Congress national president Rahul Gandhi's public meeting in Dhanora of Mandla parliamentary constituency surprised everyone. This poster had the picture of BJP candidate Faggan Singh Kulaste. This public meeting is in Dhanora and a huge poster has been put up behind the stage that has been built. The picture of BJP candidate Faggan Singh Kulaste was also seen in the poster along with all the big leaders of Congress. Later this picture was covered and the picture of a Congress leader was put up.

Disappointment in Congress before voting in Khajuraho

Team Absolute | Bhopal

Even before the elections in Madhya Pradesh, the Indian alliance has faced disappointment. Congress workers are most disappointed after the nomination of the candidate from Khajuraho seat given to Samajwadi Party under the agreement was rejected. Congress has its own mass base in this area.

There are 29 Lok Sabha seats in the state, out of which Congress has to contest on 28 and its candidates have also been declared.

Under the agreement, Congress had given Khajuraho seat to Samajwadi Party. SP candidate Meera Deepak Yadav also filed nomination from here, but it was rejected.

The leaders of SP and Congress are busy cornering the District Election Officer, but the grassroots workers of Congress are disappointed with this whole incident.

In Khajuraho, state party president Vishnu Dutt Sharma is contesting as a candidate from BJP for the second consecutive time. He had won the last election by a margin of about 1.5 lakh votes. Now a big problem has arisen in front of SP and Congress that whom should they support, because as a national level party, only Kamlesh Patel of Bahujan Samaj Party is in the fray. Congress leaders sitting in Bhopal and Delhi are busy searching for a candidate whom their party can support. His effort is to support All India Forward Bloc's candidate, former Indian Administrative Service officer



Raja Baihya Prajapati. The leaders of Khajuraho parliamentary constituency do not agree with this and are not ready for election campaign.

A senior Congress leader says that Khajuraho parliamentary seat is the seat where Congress candidates have been winning the elections at some point in time, but the leaders sitting in Delhi took a very strange decision and gave this seat to the Samajwadi Party. Now the Samajwadi Party candidate's nomination has been rejected. Congress has lost this election even before voting. In such a situation, if anyone will suffer the biggest loss, it will be Congress. If we will not go among the public in the Lok Sabha elections, then how will we go among the public in whatever elections are held in the future. Overall, Congress has suffered a big loss in Bundelkhand.

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Sr. No.	NameofBorrower, Co-Borrowers&Guarantor/ LoanAccountNo	DetailsofSecuredAsset	DateofDemand Noticeand DateofNPA	Amountdue asper demandnotice
75	RajuMeenaS/O akatSinghMeena (Borrower), RamwatiMeenaW/O Raju Meena (Co-Borrower), SunilMeenaS/O GulabSingh (Guarantor) LoanA/CNo. HLNHFLNCR0010115	HouseNo.30, Survey No.98, Patwari Halka No.02, Ward No 06, Village Name Ganakhedi, Gram Panchayat Knatakhedi, Tehsil-Berasia, Dist. Bhopal(M.P.)-463106	05-07-2023 and 14-05-2023	Rs.2,42,215/- ason 05-07-2023alongwithalong thefurtherinterest, costs, expenseselec. accrued/tobe accruedthereonillthepayment.
76	SonuMeenaS/O akatSinghMeena (Borrower), UshaBaiW/O SonuMeena (Co-Borrower), DevendraMeenaS/O Ram Meena (Guarantor) LoanA/CNo. HLNHFLNCR0011091	HouseNo.83, SurveyNo.90, Patwari Halka No.48, Ward No 07, Village Name Konyakala, Gram Panchayat Konyakala, Tehsil-Chachaura, Dist. Guna(M.P.)-473118	05-07-2023 and 11-05-2023	Rs.2,93,912/- ason 05-07-2023alongwithalong thefurtherinterest, costs, expenseselec. accrued/tobe accruedthereonillthepayment.
77	MakhanSinghMeenaS/O bhikamSingh Meena (Borrower), RajbaiW/O Makhan Singh (Co-Borrower), VikramLodhaS/O VikramSingh Lovewanshi (Guarantor) LoanA/CNo. HLNHFLNCR0011404	HouseNo.12, SurveyNo.124, Patwari Halka No.48, Ward No 04, Village Name Kherkheda, Gram Panchayat Kherkheda, Tehsil-Maksudangarh, Dist.Guna(M.P.)-473287	05-07-2023 and 14-05-2023	Rs.3,51,444/- ason 05-07-2023alongwithalong thefurtherinterest, costs, expenseselec. accrued/tobe accruedthereonillthepayment.
78	DharmendraMeenaS/O JammalMeena (Borrower), SagarSinghMeenaS/O JammalMeena (Co-Borrower), Niranjan SinghS/O MardanSingh (Guarantor) LoanA/CNo. HLNHFLNCR0012444	HouseNo.01, SurveyNo.279, Patwari Halka No.31, Ward No 04, Village Name Burakhedi, Gram Panchayat Khejra, Tehsil-Chachaura, Dist.Guna (M.P.)-473115	05-07-2023 and 13-05-2023	Rs.1,22,406/- ason 05-07-2023alongwithalong thefurtherinterest, costs, expenseselec. accrued/tobe accruedthereonillthepayment.
79	DineshMeenaS/O Shihari (Borrower), AnarBaiW/O DineshMeena (Co-Borrower), BhagwanSingh YadavS/O Madanlal Yadav (Guarantor) LoanA/CNo. HLNHFLNCR0012579	HouseNo.04, SurveyNo.173, Patwari Halka No.30, Ward No 30, Village Maksudangarh, Gram Panchayat Maksudangarh, Tehsil-Maksudangarh, Dist.Guna(M.P.)-473287	05-07-2023 and 14-05-2023	Rs.2,36,119/- ason 05-07-2023alongwithalong thefurtherinterest, costs, expenseselec. accrued/tobe accruedthereonillthepayment.
80	MunnaS/O Dhannal (Borrower), TaraBaiW/O Munna (Co-Borrower), NarayanSinghS/O AmarSingh (Guarantor) LoanA/CNo. HLNHFLNCR0012696	HouseNo.10, SurveyNo.27, Patwari Halka No.10, Ward No 17, Village Name Karaghatl, Gram Panchayat Rajalwadi Kala, Tehsil-Sultanpur, Dist.Raisen(M.P.)-464986	05-07-2023 and 13-05-2023	Rs.1,30,962/- ason 05-07-2023alongwithalong thefurtherinterest, costs, expenseselec. accrued/tobe accruedthereonillthepayment.
81	SonuBaghelS/O JagdishBaghel (Borrower), BimleshW/O Sonu Baghel (Co-Borrower), RamdayalGadari S/O Harjilal (Guarantor) LoanA/CNo. HLNHFLNCR0007929	HouseNo.17, SurveyNo.278, Patwari Halka No.55, Ward No 02, Village Name Bapchi, Gram Panchayat Pipalkhedhi, Tehsil-Raghogarh, Dist-Guna(M.P.)-437287.	31-07-2023 and 09-07-2023	Rs.1,71,630/- ason 27-07-2023alongwithalong thefurtherinterest, costs, expenseselec. accrued/tobe accruedthereonillthepayment.
82	PahalvanMeenaS/O BharatSingh (Borrower), KeraBaiW/O BharatSingh (Co-Borrower), SantoshRameshGir (Guarantor) LoanA/CNo. HLNHFLNCR0008189	HouseNo.05, SurveyNo.50, Patwari Halka No.06, Ward No 07, Village Name Barkedekadur, Gram Panchayat Kadayakalan, Tehsil-Berasia, Dist-Bhopal(M.P.)-462400	31-07-2023 and 08-06-2023	Rs.2,01,458/- ason 27-07-2023alongwithalong thefurtherinterest, costs, expenseselec. accrued/tobe accruedthereonillthepayment.
83	RambabuS/O UkarSingh (Borrower), MahendraS/O UkarSingh (Co-Borrower), BiramSinghS/O JaganSingh (Guarantor) LoanA/CNo. HLNHFLNCR0008519	HouseNo.11, SurveyNo.200/11, Patwari Halka No.37, Ward No 13, Village Name Shapurjua, Gram Panchayat Kaitalita, Tehsil-Khujner, Dist.Rajgarh(M.P.)-465661.	31-07-2023 and 09-07-2023	Rs.2,57,439/- ason 27-07-2023alongwithalong thefurtherinterest, costs, expenseselec. accrued/tobe accruedthereonillthepayment.
84	JagdishChohanS/O ChenSingh Chohan (Borrower), ChenSingh S/O ChohanS/O Bhawanlal (Co-Borrower), KamalSinghS/O Deviram (Guarantor) LoanA/CNo. HLNHFLNCR0009255	HouseNo.17, SurveyNo.107, Patwari Halka No.45, Ward No.17, Village Name Bapchi, Gram Panchayat Kachhi, Tehsil Rajgarh, Dist.Rajgarh(M.P.)-465674.	31-07-2023 and 09-07-2023	Rs.2,14,071/- ason 27-07-2023alongwithalong thefurtherinterest, costs, expenseselec. accrued/tobe accruedthereonillthepayment.
85	PremSinghS/O MangilalMeenaS/O Mangilal Meena (Borrower), ReshamBai S/O PremSinghS/O MangilalMeenaS/O Devi SinghS/O Mangilal (Guarantor) LoanA/CNo. HLNHFLNCR0009294	HouseNo.03, SurveyNo.27, Patwari Halka No.23, Ward No.04, Village Name Shyamur, Gram Panchayat Siyahedi, Tehsil Maksudangarh, Dist.Guna(M.P.)-473287.	31-07-2023 and 09-07-2023	Rs.2,23,919/- ason 27-07-2023alongwithalong thefurtherinterest, costs, expenseselec. accrued/tobe accruedthereonillthepayment.
86	HiralalS/O FulsingShehariya (Borrower), DeepshahBaiW/O Phul Singh Shehariya (Co-Borrower), BhagChand (Guarantor) LoanA/CNo. HLNHFLNCR0009290	HouseNo.18, SurveyNo.07, Patwari Halka No.38, Ward No.01, Village Name Mahapura, Gram Panchayat Bhagvatapur, Tehsil Maksudangarh, Dist.Guna(M.P.)-473287.	31-07-2023 and 08-06-2023	Rs.1,81,426/- ason 27-07-2023alongwithalong thefurtherinterest, costs, expenseselec. accrued/tobe accruedthereonillthepayment.
87	HariramMeenaS/O LalaramMeena (Borrower), OmvatiBaiMeena W/O Hariram (Co-Borrower), Murarilal MeenaS/O PappuMeena (Guarantor) LoanA/CNo. HLNHFLNCR0006318	House No. 87 Survey No.312, Patwari Halka No.32, Ward No 09, Village Name Gehukhedi, Gram Panchayat Gehu khedi, Tehsil Chachaura, Dist.Guna(M.P.)-473115	31-07-2023 and 09-07-2023	Rs.2,61,800/- ason 27-07-2023alongwithalong thefurtherinterest, costs, expenseselec. accrued/tobe accruedthereonillthepayment.
88	MeharbanSinghMeenaS/O SodanSingh Meena (Borrower), ReenaBaiMeena W/O MeharbanSinghMeena (Co-Borrower), MukeshMeenaS/O Kamal Singh (Guarantor) LoanA/CNo. HLNHFLNCR0006373	House No.42, SurveyNo.70, Patwari Halka No.38, Ward No-11, Village Barkedhi Hathi, Gram Panchayat Bhagwatpura, Tehsil-Maksudangarh, Dist.guna, Madhya Pradesh-473287.	31-07-2023 and 09-07-2023	Rs.1,92,178/- ason 27-07-2023alongwithalong thefurtherinterest, costs, expenseselec. accrued/tobe accruedthereonillthepayment.
89	HimmiSinghMeenaS/O HaribabuMeena (Borrower), AnitaMeenaW/O Himmat SinghMeena (Co-Borrower), Bhajanlal MainaS/O HakuramMaina (Guarantor) LoanA/CNo. HLNHFLNCR0006561	House No. 65, Survey No. 225, Patwari Halka No.36, Ward No 01, Village Name Diroll, Gram Panchayat Diroll, Tehsil Maksudangarh, Dist.Guna(M.P.)-473287.	31-07-2023 and 09-07-2023	Rs.1,60,710/- ason 27-07-2023alongwithalong thefurtherinterest, costs, expenseselec. accrued/tobe accruedthereonillthepayment.
90	RupsinghS/O Mulchand (Borrower), RamakanyaW/O Rupsingh (Co-Borrower), SunilS/O IshramSingh (Guarantor) LoanA/CNo. HLNHFLNCR0009093	House No. 112, Survey No.416, Patwari Halka No.63, Ward No.11, Village Name Jamoniya Ganesh, Gram Panchayat Jamoniya Ganesh, Tehsil Narsinggarh, Dist. Rajgarh (M.P.)-465667	31-07-2023 and 09-07-2023	Rs.2,18,448/- ason 27-07-2023alongwithalong thefurtherinterest, costs, expenseselec. accrued/tobe accruedthereonillthepayment.
91	JagdishS/O HimmatSingh (Borrower), KoushalyaBaiW/O Jagdish (Co-Borrower), DurgaprasadS/O Khanji (Guarantor) LoanA/CNo. HLNHFLNCR0009234	HouseNo.14, SurveyNo.113, Patwari Halka No.55, Ward No.03, Village Name Mehrajpura, Gram Panchayat Mehrajpura, Tehsil Khiljipur, Dist. Rajgarh(M.P.)-465679	31-07-2023 and 08-06-2023	Rs.2,22,180/- ason 27-07-2023alongwithalong thefurtherinterest, costs, expenseselec. accrued/tobe accruedthereonillthepayment.

Rahul Gandhi does not know Hindi and Jitu Patwari does not know counting: Narottam Mishra

Team Absolute | Bhopal

Dr. Narottam Mishra, former minister of Madhya Pradesh and state convener of BJP's New Joining Committee, took a jibe at Congress by claiming that more than 2 lakh 82 thousand people took membership on the party's foundation day and said that Rahul Gandhi should learn Hindi and Hindi. Jeetu Patwari doesn't know how to count.



Municipality President, District Member, BJP Councilor are more than that. Influenced by the ideology of BJP and the policy, leadership and intentions of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, he has joined BJP. On April 6, 2 lakh 82 thousand 242 new people took membership of BJP at the booths.

Dr. Mishra said that if Jitu Patwari had left the policy of 'Eka Chalo' and discussed with his seniors like Kamal Nath, Digvijay Singh, Umang Singh, then perhaps he would not have become a laughing stock today. This is a question mark on the leadership ability of Jitu Patwari as to why lakhs of people are leaving Congress during his presidential tenure. The number of people joining BJP that he has told, each leader is bringing in vehicles in a day.

Broadcast of any election matter through any medium will be prohibited till 48 hours before the end of polling

Election Commission of India issues guidelines for media coverage. Violation of provisions can result in imprisonment up to 2 years, fine or both

Team Absolute | Bhopal

Detailed guidelines have been issued by the Election Commission of India in the context of media coverage for the Lok Sabha Elections-2024. The Commission has said that as per Section 126(1)(b) of the Representation of the People Act, 1951, there will be a ban on broadcast of any election related matter (advertisement or publicity etc.) through television, cinematograph or other similar communication medium. This restriction will remain in effect for a period up to 48 hours before the end of polling in any polling area. The Commission has clarified that no person shall show any election matter to the public through the medium of cinematograph, television or other similar equipment. For violating these provisions, the guilty person can be punished with imprisonment of up to two years or fine or both. According to the Commission, any attempt to influence the outcome of the election or such intention or calculation will be considered as an election matter.

There are allegations of violation of the provisions of Section 126 of the Representation of the People Act, 1951 in the telecast of panel discussions/debates and other news and current affairs programmes on TV channels. In this regard, the Commission has clarified that

TV/radio channels and cable networks should ensure that the content of programmes broadcast/displayed by them during the period of 48 hours mentioned in section 126 does not contain any such material, including visuals. Appeals made by panels/participants may be construed as promoting the prospects of a particular party or candidate or influencing the outcome of the election. This will include public opinion polls and standard debates, analysis, visuals and a display of sound-bytes. It also includes political advertisements on any electoral matter on TV, cable networks, radio, cinema halls, use of bulk SMS/voice messages, audio visual displays etc. in any polling. The Commission has clarified that political advertisements on electronic media will require pre-certification by the committees constituted at the state/district level as per the earlier orders of the Commission. In this context, special attention of the Commission has been drawn by the Commission to the "Guidelines for Election Broadcasting" issued by NBSA on March 3, 2014 for electronic media. The Internet and Mobile Association of India (IAMAI) has developed a "Voluntary Code of Conduct" for all participating social media platforms to ensure fair, ethical use of their platforms to maintain the integrity of the electoral process during general elections.



Elizabeth Hurley reveals a 'mummy rule' she follows that isn't very popular

Los Angeles | Agencies

British actress Elizabeth Hurley shares that she still has a "very annoying mummy rule," which she makes her 22-year-old son Damian stick to even now, and is about television. The 58-year-old actress shares her son Damian with late former partner Steve Bing. "I've always had what you say is a very annoying mommy rule in the house. We're never allowed to put the TV on until 6 p.m. That included lockdown! We've always stuck to that. So

we try to work all day, but at 6, we'll go into the TV room," Hurley told People magazine. Despite having the TV rule, the pair have "had some amazing times watching television together," reports femalefirst.co.uk. The actress said: "We really started over lockdown, and I wanted to show Damian a lot of the films that had been part of my growing up. So '80s and '90s films and '70s too in some cases." Despite bonding over old shows and movies, Elizabeth and Damian - who has directed his mother in her latest movie 'Strictly Confidential', which he

also wrote - love nothing more than doing "work" together. Damian said: "We don't have a conversation that isn't about work or filming or making a movie in some aspect." Talking about moving out of his London apartment during the pandemic to be with his mother, he added: "I never really left. It went straight from COVID into making this film into the edit for this film to the press for this film. My little apartment sits there, sadly."



How cookies & cake helped Sarah Jessica Parker raise healthy children

Los Angeles | Agencies

Hollywood actress Sarah Jessica Parker didn't want her children to grow up thinking food was "the enemy" so she never deprived them of sweet treats. The 'Sex and the City' actress has James, 21, and 14-year-old twins Tabitha and Marion with husband Matthew Broderick. Parker said on the 'Ruthie's Table 4' podcast: "In our house, we have cookies, we have cake, we have everything." She added: "And I think, as a result, you kind of have a healthier relationship, and my daughters will have the figures they have and hopefully they'll be healthy. And they're athletes and they enjoy food and they have different palates. You can't make someone like something they don't like or want." The actress said that she didn't want her children "to have a relationship with food that was antagonistic, or they felt like this was their enemy and that they were going to have to sort of, like, stake out a position with food." Her approach towards food stemmed from her own upbringing, when she and her siblings weren't allowed to have sugar in their house, reports femalefirst.co.uk. She said: "When I was growing up, we weren't allowed sugar in the house, we weren't allowed cookies and we weren't allowed chocolate. And, of course, all we did the minute we moved out was buy Entenmann's cakes and cookies."

DRAKE OFFERS TO PAY FOR FEMALE FAN'S DIVORCE PROCEEDINGS AT CONCERT

Los Angeles | Agencies

Rapper Drake helped a female fan at his 'It's All a Blur' Tour who needed help paying legal fees for her divorce. "I'm going to get you a good lawyer, and we're gonna pay for your divorce tonight," Drake said in a viral clip of the moment that circulated on X, formerly called Twitter. "You gonna be single and ready to mingle." The rapper added: "While you're at it, you need to find you somebody to take you out on a date, too. I'll pay for the date, too, don't worry about it." This is not the first time the rapper has given out a gift. In March, he halted a gig in Missouri to pledge to pay off the mortgage of a fan's late mother, reports people.com. During another stop in his hometown of Toronto, the 'One Dance' hitmaker gave away a Mercedes-Benz G-Class car to an audience. Rather than personally selecting a fan in the audience to go home with the luxury prize, he picked someone at random, according to footage captured by the audience. "So, this is what I'm going to do: I'm going to pick the winning ticket out of this drum right here," he said, as members of his crew brought a raffle drum up to the stage. "I want everybody to be super quiet. I want to hear the winner scream." He then spotted the fan who was taking home the new vehicle and added: "They got 'em? They up top? You better bring your ass down here. We're going to send somebody up there to check that ticket." Since July, Drake, during his tour, has given out \$50,000 to a fan going through a break-up, gifted a luxe Birkin bag and offered to help out a fan who was holding a sign saying she was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis.

JESSICA SIMPSON POSES IN RUFFLED PLAYSUIT FROM HER MEXICO VACATION

Los Angeles | Agencies

Singer-songwriter Jessica Simpson is having tons of fun in Mexico during her vacation. The singer posted a picture of herself on Instagram in which she can be seen wearing a white playsuit while on vacation in Los Cabos. In the picture, she looks over her shoulder with her back to the camera in the photo, but subtle ruffle details were visible on the shorts of the suit, as well as a peek of her brown wedge sandals, reports 'People' magazine. Simpson held a pair of white sunglasses in her hand as she posed by the water, which stretched out to the horizon. As per 'People', it's unclear who Simpson was vacationing with, but her getaway comes just a few weeks after she celebrated her youngest child Birdie's fifth birthday by taking the little girl on her first visit to Disneyland in Los Angeles. Simpson posed with her daughter and husband Eric Johnson in one photo. Birdie wore a pink and white polka-dot dress that matched her Minnie ears, along with a badge that marked her first visit to the park.



CHRISSY TEIGEN SHARES PICS OF HERSELF, KIDS IN TRADITIONAL CLOTHING DURING THAILAND TRIP



Los Angeles | Agencies

Chrissy Teigen has shared more glimpses from her family's trip to Thailand, giving her followers a chance to experience Thailand vicariously through her posts. The wife of the Grammy-winning musician John Legend, who is also an author and model, showed off her and her kids' traditional Thai looks on her Instagram stories, as they prepared to spend some more time visiting her extended family, reports 'People' magazine. In one video, Teigen, who is half Thai, took a selfie wearing an embellished pink and purple dress with lots of gold bling on top. As per 'People', she tagged her makeup artist, Pimpawee Somporn, who oversaw her elegant, glowing glam look. Teigen also wore a golden headpiece over her slicked-

back hairstyle, adorned in jewels of all different colors, as well as a gold arm band. Meanwhile, Teigen's five-year-old son, Miles, sported a boys' traditional formal outfit featuring a white collared shirt, shiny purple pants, a pink sash around his waist and a gold chain across one of his shoulders. The family's eldest daughter Luna, 7, also dressed up for the occasion, wearing a sparkly pale pink top and sash, which was embroidered with beads and jewels, as well as a long blue silk skirt. Luna finished her look with a top knot bun, a small golden hairpiece and matching pink pearl earrings and bracelets. Teigen, her four kids and her husband, John Legend, have been spending time in Thailand visiting her mom, Vilailuck "Pepper" Teigen, who moved back to her childhood hometown of Korat in January.

ABSOLUTE PIC OF THE DAY



Megan Moroney

'Eternals' star Ma Dong Seok, Ye Jung Hwa to host a belated wedding ceremony

Seoul | Agencies

Actor Ma Dong Seok and model Ye Jung Hwa will be hosting a post-wedding ceremony. The actor, who has worked in films "Train to Busan", "Derailed", "The Bad Guys: Reign of Chaos" and MCU's "Eternals" will be holding the wedding ceremony with Jung Hwa, who is 17 years his junior. According to a report, the ceremony is in



May. The couple's agency confirmed the news, reports koreaboo.com. "The couple will be getting married in May. The wedding will be held in a quiet private ceremony," said Big Punch Entertainment, the agency. Dong Seok first announced that he was dating Jung Hwa, a model, in 2016. The couple reportedly first registered their marriage in 2021, but could not hold their wedding due to the pandemic.



'Disheartening to see, each of your acts is an attempt to sideline me': PT Usha

Team Absolute | New Delhi

IOA president PT Usha on Monday wrote a strongly-worded letter to the executive council members of the association, giving response to the "unjust termination letter to Captain Ajay Kumar Narang (Retd)".

"I write with reference to the termination letter received by Captain Ajay Kumar Narang (Retd) via e-mail dated 04.03.2024 and termination letter dated 11.03.2024 (hereinafter referred to as "Termination Letters") and the notice dated 02.04.2024 posted at various places at the IOA Bhawan (collectively called "Termination Documents"), the letter read, a copy of which is with IANS.

"It is disheartening to see that we are still not able to work as a team and each of your acts is an attempt to sideline me. It is brought to your notice that Captain Ajay Kumar Narang (Retd) was appointed as my Executive Assistant ("EA") vide an appointment letter dated 07.06.2023 which was signed by me. As the President's EA, Captain Ajay Kumar Narang (Retd) was to report to me alone and attend all correspondence/travel/appointments/meetings etc., of the President, IOA.



Thus, it naturally falls that his extension and/or termination would be based on my recommendation and not on the whims and fancies of anybody else, including the Executive Council who have absolutely no knowledge of the work done by him."

The legendary athlete further wrote that, "I take note that you in the Termination Letters have made refer-

ence to clause 10 of his appointment letter signed by me. Please note that I, as the President of IOA very well form a part of the IOA who has the rights envisaged therein. Moreover, it was your sacrosanct duty to consult me and seek my opinion on Captain Ajay Kumar Narang's (Retd) performance, having no idea whatsoever as to the same."

"In view of the above, the members

who have signed the Termination Documents have erred in issuing the same in excess of the powers granted to them. Thus, the Termination Documents are an absolute nullity. In any case, I am currently satisfied with the work done by Captain Ajay Kumar Narang (Retd) and do not find any reason to terminate his services.

"Further, I am left with no option but to remind you all that the day-to-day administrative functions including hiring and firing of staff IS NOT THE job of the Executive Council. As the Executive Council, we should be using our powers and rights for much more important aspects of taking the IOA to heights. Furthermore, the Sr. Vice President/Vice President may take over duties and responsibilities of the President ONLY in the cases of the President's absence. Thus, it is requested to all Executive Council members to not act in excess of the powers and responsibilities granted by the IOA Constitution and thereby being in direct violation of the provisions therein. I yet again implore you to start working as a team for the betterment of the athletes and the Olympic Movement in India."

Akshay Bhatia seals a thrilling win in Valero Texas Open



San Antonio | Agencies

Indian-American Akshay Bhatia held his nerve in a tense finish and held off a brilliant late run by Denny McCarthy to win the 2023 Barracuda Championship, an opposite-field PGA Tour event that earned him no points.

Bhatia nearly ran away with the tournament, holding a six-shot lead entering the 10th hole before McCarthy birdied eight of the final nine holes — including seven straight to finish — to reach 20-under par and put the pressure on Bhatia.

Bhatia then made his 11-foot birdie putt to force a playoff. He birdied the first playoff hole while McCarthy double-bogeyed, sealing his second career PGA Tour win.

Rory McIlroy was third, but nine shots behind Bhatia and McCarthy. Bhatia made news at a young age when he turned pro at 17 after an illustrious junior golf career. Instead of going the college route, Bhatia

went through the struggles of professional life, missing seven straight cuts in 2020 and losing his tour card in 2021. He then earned back his card in 2022 and went on to win the 2023 Barracuda Championship, an opposite-field PGA Tour event that earned him no points.

Bhatia turned a corner entering in 2024. He was Top 15 at The Sentry, the Sony Open and the Farmers Insurance Open. He missed the next three cuts but is now on a run of T17 (Valspar), T12 (Houston) and a dominant win this week in San Antonio against a solid field. He will also play the US Open.

Bhatia went wire-to-wire for the big win. He opened Thursday with a 63 to take a three-shot lead at TPC San Antonio and never let it go. He entered the weekend with a five-shot lead, but maybe most impressive was how he weathered some slight Saturday struggles to reduce the lead to just one. His response was to go four-under on his last 10 holes and carry a four-shot lead into Sunday.

Bhatia did little to give his

lead away. He birdied three of his first four holes Sunday and bogeyed just one hole all day to shoot a 67. McCarthy's 63 put the pressure back on Bhatia, and Bhatia weathered a shoulder injury down the stretch to win.

McCarthy forced a playoff with an incredible string of eight birdies over the final nine holes, and after he buried a seventh straight birdie putt on 18, it appeared he might be poised for his first PGA Tour victory.

Bhatia responded with a huge birdie putt of his own on the tournament's 72nd hole, and then watched as McCarthy made a surprising and fatal mistake by chunking a wedge from 99 yards out on the playoff hole — and splashing it into a creek.

It was Bhatia's second PGA TOUR victory in his 54th start at the age of 22 years. Both wins have come in playoffs (2023 Barracuda Championship, 2024 Valero Texas Open. He moves up to No. 12 in the FedExCup standings and is now fully exempt through the 2026 PGA TOUR season.

CAPTAIN RAHUL CAME TO ME AND SAID 'THIS COULD BE YOUR DAY': YASH THAKUR

Lucknow | Agencies

Gujarat Titans were on 54 for none in the chase of 164 against Lucknow Super Giants when Yash Thakur came to bowl his first over and went on to finish the game with the impressive figure of 5/30 (3.5 overs). It was Super Giants' first win against the Titans in five outings and it came defending a total of 163. Speaking to reporters after the match, Yash said, "I'm so glad I got my first paw. For this, I want to thank bowling coach Morme Morkel, coach Justin Langer and captain KL Rahul, who kept faith in me. They kept supporting me throughout the match. Our score was a little low, but we knew that the wicket would be a little slower in the second innings. We stuck to our plans. We have been defending small scores before also."

"I kept getting success on the slower balls and bouncers I bowled. After Mayank Yadav got injured, captain Rahul came to me and said, 'this could be your day and you can win us the match. Just believe in yourself and don't think about external things which we have no control over.' We will focus only on what we

have control over."

"This season, my only focus is to keep my mind clear and not to think about too many things. I have been told that I can bowl at any stage during the match. I am ready for this. I did this last year also. I know my limitations and strengths, so I will not try to achieve Mayank-like speed. He is a different and extraordinary bowler," he added. Thakur joined the LSG squad after a good Ranji Trophy 2023-24 season. The Vidarbha bowler took 27 wickets in seven matches including two six-for in pre-quarters and quarters against Madhya Pradesh and Mumbai. "I never take pressure. If the team expects me then I am happy that I have to perform well and



help the team win. I always think about the welfare of the team, whether I play or not. Even if the coach and captain feel that I am not in their combination as per the pitch and conditions, it doesn't matter, in the end the team should win."

Liverpool miss chances to return to Premier League lead

London | Agencies

Liverpool failed to return to the top of the Premier League after they were held to a 2-2 draw after a thrilling game away to Manchester United at Old Trafford, on Sunday night.

The result leaves Liverpool level on points with Arsenal at the top of the table, but Arsenal, who won 3-0 away to Brighton on Saturday, remain leaders on goal difference, reports Xinhua.

Liverpool took a 23rd minute lead when Darwin Nunez flicked on for Luis Diaz to fire home from a corner that was badly defended by Manchester United and Liverpool went on to create and miss enough chances to have the game sewn up by halftime.

They paid for their profligacy after 50 minutes, when Bruno Fernandes scored from inside of the center circle after a horrible pass from Jarell Quansah gave the ball away with Caoimhin Kelleher stranded outside his penalty area. It was 2-1 to United in the 67th minute when Robbie Mainoo turned in the corner of the Liverpool penalty area and curled a shot home at the far corner on the net.

Mohamed Salah saved a point for Liverpool after 63 minutes from the penalty spot and both sides had chances in the closing minutes.

Liverpool and Arsenal are a point ahead of Manchester City after Pep Guardiola's side won 4-2



away to Crystal Palace on Saturday.

Tottenham move into fourth place after beating Nottingham Forest 3-1 at home on Sunday evening after second half goals from Mickey van de Ven and Pedro Porro assured them victory. The first half of the game saw Nottingham forward Chris Wood's 27th minute header cancel out Murillo's own goal.

Chelsea conceded a 93rd minute goal away to Sheffield United as Ollie McBurnie saved a point for the home side that won't be enough to keep them in the top-flight, but which once again exposed Chelsea's flaws.

Chelsea led twice through Thiago Silva and Nomi Madueke, but were pinned back, first through Jaydon Bogle and McBurnie's late finish from four yards after beating the Chelsea offside trap.

Mendis and Bouchier named ICC Players of the Month for March 2024

Dubai | Agencies

Sri Lanka's Kamindu Mendis and England's Maia Bouchier have been named the Men's and Women's Player of the Month for March 2024, the International Cricket Council (ICC) revealed on Monday. The awards were revealed after the shortlists were announced last week.

Mendis overcame fellow standout performers in Tests, Ireland's Mark Adair and New Zealand's Matt Henry to claim the March award, while Bouchier wins from past winners Amelia Kerr of New Zealand and four-time Women's Player of the Month, Australia's Ashleigh Gardner.

Mendis claimed the ICC Men's Player of the Month award after his historic efforts at the crease helped Sri Lanka comfortably win the first Test in their ICC World Test Championship showdown against Bangladesh in Sylhet.

Bouchier won the ICC Women's Player of the Month prize for March 2024 thanks to a sparkling series of



scores in New Zealand as the tourists secured a statement 4-1 T20I series win in March.

ICC Men's Player of the Month Mendis may have made a quiet start to the month in the T20I series that opened Sri Lanka's tour to Bangladesh, but he soon reversed his fortunes with a memorable performance in the first Test match in Sylhet, the ICC informed.

Striding out to the crease with the tourists at 57 for five, Mendis rescued Sri Lanka's first innings alongside

crossed the three-figure milestone, but Mendis' mammoth 164 in 237 balls was the standout performance as Sri Lanka eventually sealed victory by 328 runs.

With his century in the second innings, Mendis became the first player batting at number seven or lower to hit two centuries in a single Test.

ICC Men's Player of the Month for March, Kamindu Mendis, said, "I am extremely happy to be named the ICC Men's Player of the Month, which I consider an inspiration for my international career. A recognition such as this motivates and makes us as players work more and more to deliver in the middle for the team, country, and fans."

"I also wish the very best for the other two players who were nominated along with me, Mark Adair and Matt Henry, whom I consider excellent players and good competitors."

ICC Women's Player of the Month Bouchier secures her maiden win after starring in England's T20I series in New Zealand.

SHIVAM WINS BOXING GOLD FOR JUNIOR BOYS IN REC

New Delhi: Sports Trainee Shivam Dubey won the gold medal in the 48 to 50 Kg weight category in the Khelo India REC Combined National Talent Hunt Programme for junior boys in boxing organised by the Sports Authority of India (SAI) from March 30 to April 6 at Rohtak, Haryana.



Seven Sports Trainees of the Air Force Boys Sports Squadron (AFBSS) participated in the event with Sports Trainee Shubham winning the gold medal in the 75 to 80 Kg weight category while Sports Trainee Priyanshu won a silver medal in the 44 to 46 Kg weight category. Sports Trainee Surya won the bronze medal in the 54 to 57 Kg weight category.

The Air Force Boys Sports Squadron (AFBSS) was established at Air Force Station Jalahalli, Bengaluru in the year 2017 for the games of Boxing and Wrestling. It is a joint venture of the Indian Air Force (IAF) and the Sports Authority of India (SAI).

AFBSS aims to prepare future Olympians for the country and work on the "Catch Them Young" policy of SAI.

A total of 40 boys (20 in each discipline) are trained round the year for excelling at National and International levels. Their schooling is undertaken through the National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS).

Mayank Yadav seemed okay, which was quite a relief for us, says Krunal Pandya

Lucknow | Agencies

Lucknow Super Giants' exciting young fast-bowler Mayank Yadav had to walk off the field after bowling just one over against Gujarat Titans in Sunday's match. Before that, Mayank was down on pace and was hit for three boundaries in his solitary over yielding 13 runs. After the game ended, which LSG won by 33 runs after bowling out GT for 130, left-arm spin all-rounder Krunal Pandya said Mayank looked okay, which was a big relief for the side. "I don't know what is happening, but I did have a brief couple of seconds' chat -- he seemed okay, which was quite a relief for us," said Krunal to broadcasters after the match ended.

Speaking about the impact Mayank has made in the tournament with blistering three-wicket spells against



Punjab Kings and Royal Challengers Bengaluru, Krunal said, "A bright

prospect, I'd been watching him from last two years. He used to bowl gun in the nets. Last year, unfortunately, missed it (due to injury). But again, whatever conversation I have had, what I see is that he has a good head on his shoulders as well."

Apart from pacer Yash Thakur's fivefer, Krunal himself had a huge impact in LSG's third win of IPL 2024, varying his pace well to take out B. Sai Sudharsan, B.R. Sharath and Darshan Nalkande in a miserly spell of 3-11. "I like to know the batsman's strengths and weaknesses and bowl according to that. Some days it comes off and some days it doesn't."

"At the end of the day, I backed my strength, and I had the longer side (of the boundary on the leg side in the stadium). So I made sure that if I'm going to get hit, I'll get hit over deep midwicket, not offside," he said.

Captain K.L. Rahul was also pleased

with how his bowlers, despite Mayank's absence, fired in unison to defend yet another total at their home venue.

"We knew very early that (the pitch) was not as good as the other day. We were not trying to get to a particular score and were just trying to bat and see how many we would get. We put up a score and then you expect the bowlers to do their job. All three spinners have been key for us."

"Sid (Manimaran Siddharth) has done very well; he bowls a crucial part when he bowls with the new ball. He has shown great temperament, and he has given us steady bowling in the first 2-3 overs. He has picked up wickets, but his job is to restrict runs. KP (Krunal Pandya) has played for so many years, and he is smart and knows how to bowl. Have played with Bishnoi also for a lot of years," Rahul said.



'Not joining any party or contesting elections': Sanjay Dutt

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Bollywood actor Sanjay Dutt, has cleared the air about reports of him joining politics. The actor took to his X handle on Monday to share that as of now, he has no intention of stepping into the arena of politics. He also requested his followers not to believe in such rumours, saying that if there's any political development in his career, he will be the first to announce it.

"I would like to put all the

rumours about me joining politics to rest. I am not joining any party or contesting elections. If I do decide to step into the political arena, I will be the first one to announce it. Please refrain from believing what is being circulated in the news about me as of now," Dutt tweeted.

On the work front, the actor also has a tentpole in the form of 'Welcome to Jungle' in the pipeline. The film features an ensemble cast and is a stand-alone sequel to 'Welcome' and 'Welcome Back'.



STILL A CHALLENGE FOR WOMEN, BOTH AT WORK AND HOME: RAVEENA TANDON

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Bollywood actress Raveena Tandon, feels that despite progressive laws and the improved thought process of society, patriarchy is still very much prevalent in the current times. The actress also said that women still

face the challenges thrown by patriarchy in both their personal and professional circles.

Elaborating on the same, Raveena, who plays lawyer Tanvi Shukla in 'Patna Shukla', said, "Patriarchy is something that every woman has faced and is still facing, be it at work or at home. 'Patna

Shukla' is a journey of a woman commanded by patriarchy and one who breaks away from it."

"Tanvi doesn't see patriarchy as a challenge, she chases justice and breaks the glass ceiling of patriarchy along the way. I want the audience to take in Tanvi's courage, warmth, and determi-

nation because no challenge will sustain for long then," she added.

The film dives into the education scam of fake roll numbers that affects the lives of thousands of earnest students in India.



My whole world Ileana shares picture of son with hubby

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Bollywood actress Ileana D'Cruz has shared an adorable picture of her "world" featuring her toddler Koa Phoenix with husband Michael Dolan.

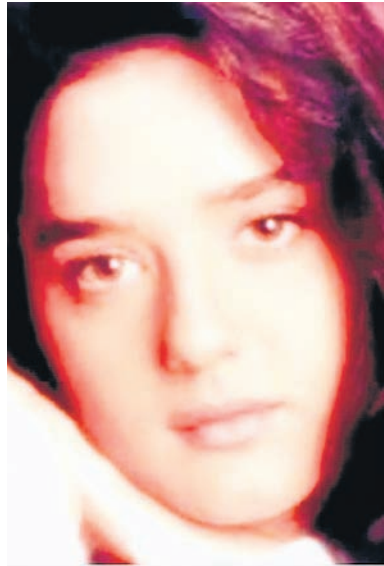
Ileana, on Monday, morning took to Instagram stories, where she uploaded a monochrome picture of her son resting on Dolan, who is asleep in bed. Little Koa is on his father's lap, wide awake.

The actress captioned the image: "My whole world (evil eye and heart emoji)."

Ileana welcomed Koa with Dolan last year on August 1.

About her work, Ileana will be seen in 'Do Aur Do Pyaar' starring Vidya Balan and Pratik Gandhi. The film is about a cheating couple, who fall in love once again and are confused how to open up to their respective partners with whom they were having an extramarital affair.

PREITY SHARES 1ST PHOTOSHOOT WHEN SHE WAS IN HER 20S



Team Absolute | Mumbai

Bollywood actress Preity Zinta, who is currently busy with the ongoing season of IPL with regards to her team Punjab Kings, went through her archives on Monday.

The actress shared a picture from her 1st photoshoot. The actress took to her Instagram and shared a throwback picture. The picture is a close-up of the actress. She wrote in the caption: "Was going through some old stuff and found this photo! OMG! My first photo shoot ever... I was all of 20 & I thought I knew everything I needed to know about the world... except how to pose for a photo shoot #20yearoldme #memories #throwback #ting."

Earlier, Preity Zinta took a walk down memory lane and recalled her 2004 film 'Veer-Zaara' with Bollywood megastar

Shah Rukh Khan, who she says helped in "brightening" her day after she felt like a "zombie" during rehearsals.

Taking to X, Preity shared a video featuring the two stars during their dance rehearsals. The song 'Tere liye' could be heard playing in the background as they practised.

The actress wrote in the caption: "This was us rehearsing for an award show. I remember I had no sleep for two days and I felt like a zombie. @iamsrk helped brighten the day and the rehearsal with his easy charm and timely jokes."

Preity then talked about a dance step, which she revealed was taken from the song 'Jiya jale' from the 1998 film 'Dil Se'. The actress wrote: "The flip when he is holding me was the same step we did in 'Jiya Jale'. #memories #tereliye #veerzaara #jiyajale #flashbackfriday #Ting."

Took time to get noticed but 'finally I am there': Mrunal Thakur

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Mrunal Thakur, known for her versatile performances, is earning praise for her recent release 'The Family Star'. The actress said that it took a long time but finally, she has made a place into the hearts of the audience.

Mrunal visited Siddhivinayak Temple in Mumbai on Saturday to seek blessings. The actress said: "I want to say thank you to everyone for giving me so much love. It took me a long time to reach into the hearts of the audience but now when I am finally there, I am very grateful. I will keep working hard and will bring more and more films."

Talking about doing a rom-com for the first time, she said: "I had never thought this film would be received like this. I have never done a rom-com before. So this is my first and people are loving it. They love the songs. I really enjoyed doing comedy. All my previous roles were serious and hectic. Working on this film was really like a breeze for me. Soon the film will be released in Hindi as well and the Hindi audience will also be able to enjoy the film."



INSTAGRAM PIC OF THE DAY



Rhea Chakraborty

Team Absolute | Mumbai

Actress Alia Bhatt and Australian cricketer David Warner on Monday wished Telugu superstar Allu Arjun on his 42nd birthday. Taking to Instagram Stories, David, who is a big fan of Allu Arjun, shared the teaser and wrote: "Happy birthday".

On March 29, David shared the picture of Allu posing next to his wax figure at the Madame Tussauds in Dubai, and had referred to him as a legend.

Even during the Australia vs Pakistan match at the ICC Men's World Cup in 2023,

DAVID WARNER, ALIA BHATT WISH ALLU ARJUN ON HIS 42ND B'DAY;



Warner celebrated his century by performing the iconic 'thaggedele' step from 'Pushpa: The Rise'.

Alia also took to Instagram Stories, and said: "happy birthday @alluarjunonline !!!! What an outstanding teaser!!!!", followed by several fire emojis. Actress Sophie Choudry penned a note saying: "Happy bday to the most iconic, my absolute fave @alluarjunonline .. Ufff what a teaser, what a look #pushpatherule !! May you have the most incredible year."