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14 Naxalites, including 11 with cumulative bounty of Rs 41 lakh

Sanjay Kumar Bijapur, May 13: 14 Naxalites, including 11 carrying a cumulative bounty of Rs 41 lakh on their heads, were arrested in Chhattargarh's Bijapur district, a police official said on Monday. These ultras, comprising six women and eight men, were part of the outlawed Left Wing movement's 'military company number 2' and 'Gangaloor area committee', the official said. They were held on Sunday from forests of Mutvendi and Pidia villages under Gangaloor police station limits by a joint team of the District Reserve Guard and district police, a statement from Bijapur police said. "Eleven of the 14 Naxalites were carrying cumulative reward of Rs 41 lakh. These include Renu Kovasi, a member of mili-

tary company number 2, and Mangli Avlam of Gangaloor area committee with reward of Rs 8 lakh each," the release said. "Gangaloor area committee members Bichchem Uika, Sharmila Kursam and Lakshmi Tati were carrying rewards of Rs 5 lakh each. Four cadres were having bounties of Rs 2 lakh each and two had rewards of Rs 1 lakh each," it added. Based on their questioning, four tiffin bombs, two cooker bombs, detonators, cordex wire, gelatin sticks, firecrackers and other Maoists-related materials concealed by them were recovered, the release said. Incidentally, security forces had gunned 12 Naxalites in a 12-hour long operation in the forests of Pidia village on May 10 and had rounded up several persons from the site on suspicion.

Lok Sabha elections 2024 Phase 4: Over 62 per cent turnout

Simmi Kaur Babbar

New Delhi, May 13: A voter turnout of more than 62 per cent was recorded on Monday in the fourth phase of the Lok Sabha polls in 96 constituencies spread over 10 states and Union Territories amid incidents of violence in Andhra Pradesh and West Bengal. According to the Election Commission, a voting percentage of 62.31 was recorded till 5 pm. The voting will continue till 6 pm. Jammu and Kashmir witnessed the lowest voting percentage till 5 pm with 35.75 per cent of voters exercising their franchise, while West Bengal recorded the highest with 75.66 per cent. Among other states, Andhra Pradesh recorded 68.04 per cent polling, Bihar 54.14 per cent, Jharkhand 63.14 per cent, Madhya Pradesh 68.01 per cent, Maharashtra 52.49 per cent, Odisha 62.96 per cent, Telangana 61.16 per cent and Uttar Pradesh 56.35 per cent. BJP candidate in Telangana's Hyderabad Lok Sabha seat K Madhavi Latha was booked by election authorities after a video clip surfaced online in which she was purportedly seen

asking burqa-clad women voters to show their faces to compare with the photo identity cards. In Andhra Pradesh, the TDP and YSRCP traded charges and accused each other of resorting to violence, especially in Palnadu, Kadapa and Annamayya districts. YSRCP also wrote to the EC, alleging poll code violations by rival TDP in several assembly segments, including Vemuru, Darsi, Icchapuram, Kuppam, Macherla, Markapuram, Palakonda and Pedakurapadu. Polling for 175 Assembly seats and 25 Lok Sabha constituencies in the coastal state is taking place simultaneously. The YSRCP alleged that TDP leaders captured five polling booths in the Vemuru constituency as it requested additional police forces and immediate action. The ruling party also claimed that the polling officer of booth number 57 in Kuppam colluded with the opposition TDP leaders to allow them to rig elections. YSRCP leader and

Tenali MLA A Shiva Kumar allegedly handled a voter in Tenali following an argu-

The YSRCP alleged that party agent Suresh Reddy was stabbed at Mandi Krishnapuram village in Chittoor's Gudipala mandal. It also alleged that TDP supporters attacked party member B Anji Reddy at Aravallipadu in the Darsi constituency. TDP MLC Mohammed Ahmed Shariff wrote a letter to Chief Electoral Officer Mukesh Kumar Meena, complaining about alleged attacks by YSRCP cadres on TDP supporters at Rentala village in Rentichintala mandal of Palnadu district. TDP activists allegedly damaged the vehicle of senior YSRCP leader Nandigam Suresh, the YSRCP said in a statement. It further alleged that TDP supporters attacked party member B Anji Reddy at Aravallipadu in the Darsi constituency, resulting in a head injury. Meanwhile, TDP supremo Chandrababu Naidu alleged that there was "no peaceful atmosphere in the state for people to exercise their franchise".



Supreme Court notice to Himachal Pradesh High Court on plea of two district judges questioning HC collegium picks

New Delhi, May 13: The Supreme Court on Monday sought a response from the registrar general of the Himachal Pradesh High Court on a plea of two senior most district and sessions judges alleging that their merit and seniority were not considered by the high court collegium in selection of names for HC judgeship. A bench comprising justices Hrishikesh Roy and Prashant Kumar Mishra took note of the submissions of senior advocate Arvind Datar, appearing for the two district and sessions judges, that the judicial officers, who are junior to them, had been recommended for the high court judgeship under the in-service quota. The petition was filed by Chirag Bhanu Singh and Arvind Malhotra, who are presently serving as the district and sessions judges at Bilaspur and Solan, respec-



tively in the state, alleging non-consideration of their names by the high court collegium for the judgeship. The senior lawyer referred to a collegium resolution of January 4, 2024 of the apex court and the subsequent communication of the Union Ministry of Law and Justice to the Himachal Pradesh High Court and said that as per these, the names of the petitioner judicial officers should have been considered by the high court collegium. "The petitioners are the senior most judicial officers in the state and they have unblemished records," Datar said. The plea questioned the selection process of the judicial officers by the high court collegiums for elevation to as HC judges and said their merit and seniority were ignored despite the issue being specifically referred to in the apex court collegium's resolution. The plea said the apex court collegium's decision to send their names for reconsideration by the HC collegiums was followed by a communication from Union law minister to the Chief Justice of the high court urging him to reconsider the names of the petitioner judicial officers. It alleged that the high court collegiums did not consider these and proceeded to deliberate upon names of other judicial officers.

Haven't received anything worthy of being probed by Indian agencies

Mumbai, May 13: India has not received anything which is specific and worthy of being pursued by its probe agencies, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar on Monday said over a fourth arrest made by Canada in the killing of Khalistan separatist Hardeep Singh Nijjar. Jaishankar said New Delhi is open to an investigation if Ottawa has any evidence or information related to any violence which is relevant to be investigated in India. "We have not received anything which is specific and worthy of being pursued by our investigative agencies and I am not aware that anything has changed in the last few days in that regard," the minister said in response to a question during a press conference here. As a consular practice, it is informed to the government or the embassy of the country of origin when arrests of foreign nationals are made, Jaishankar said. Nijjar, 45, was killed outside Guru Nanak gurdwara in Surrey, British Columbia, on June 18, 2023. A fourth Indian national has been arrested by Canadian authorities in connection with the killing of Nijjar, a week after police arrested three Indians linked with the high-profile case that has severely strained India's relations with Canada.

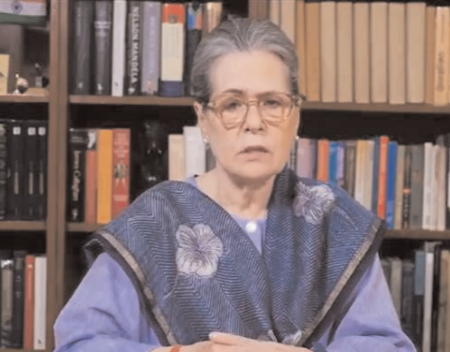
Congress' 'guarantees' will help change lives of women: Sonia Gandhi

Navdeep Singh Sahni

New Delhi, May 13: Congress parliamentary party chairperson Sonia Gandhi on Monday assured people that the "guarantees" listed by the party in its Lok Sabha poll manifesto will change their circumstances in this "difficult time". In a video message, which was shared by the Congress on social media, she said women of the country are facing tough times in the wake of a "severe crisis" and the party's 'Mahalakshmi scheme' for them will help change their lives. "My dear sisters, women have made a huge contribution, from the freedom struggle to the creation of modern India. However, today our women are facing a crisis amid severe inflation. To do justice to their hard work and penance, the Congress has come up with a revolutionary guarantee," Sonia Gandhi said. "The Congress' 'Mahalakshmi' scheme guarantees that we will give Rs 1 lakh every year to a

woman from a poor family," she said in her message, an appeal to people voting in the ongoing fourth round of the seven-phase general elections to support the Congress. Sonia Gandhi said the Congress' "guarantees" have already changed the lives of crores of families in Karnataka and Telangana, where it has also implemented the scheme. The Congress is in power in these two southern states. "Be it MGNREGA, Right to

Information, Right to Education or through schemes like Food Security, the Congress party has empowered millions of Indians. The 'Mahalakshmi' is the latest guarantee to take our work forward," Sonia Gandhi said. "In this difficult time, I want to assure you that the hand of Congress is with you and this hand will change your circumstances. Thank you. Jai Hind," the former Congress president said, referring to her party's symbol. Her appeal was shared by Congress chief Mallikarjun Kharge, former party president Rahul Gandhi and party general secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra on their X handles. Rahul Gandhi, while sharing his mother's message, said, "Women from poor families remember - your one vote is equal to Rs 1 lakh annually in your account." "The Congress' 'Mahalakshmi' scheme is going to be a lifesaver for women struggling amid terrible inflation and unemployment.



SC issues notice to ED on ex-Jharkhand CM Hemant Soren's petition

Tejinder Kaur Babbar

New Delhi, May 13: The Supreme Court on Monday issued notice to the Enforcement Directorate (ED) on former Jharkhand Chief Minister and JMM leader Hemant Soren's petition challenging his arrest in a money-laundering case linked to a land scam. A Bench of Justice Sanjiv Khanna and Justice Dipankar Datta asked the ED to respond to Soren's petition by May 17, the next date of hearing. Initially, the Bench was not inclined to take up the matter before May 20 but it agreed to list it on May 17 after senior counsel Kapil Sibal submitted on behalf of Soren that the whole exercise would become infructuous if there was delay in deciding the petition as the Lok Sabha election would be over. Sibal sought to emphasise that Soren's prayer for release was covered by the top court's May 10 order granting a three-week

interim bail to Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal to campaign in the ongoing Lok Sabha polls. Polling for 14 Lok Sabha seats in Jharkhand is scheduled to be held in four phases - May 13 (4 seats), May 20 (3 seats), May 25 (4 seats) and

nothing to do with the land. This statement can be recorded," Sibal told the Bench. Soren has challenged the May 3 order of the Jharkhand High Court dismissing his petition against the arrest. He has also sought interim bail for campaigning in the Lok Sabha election till the court delivers its verdict on his plea against arrest. Soren was arrested on January 31 in the case after he resigned as Jharkhand chief minister, and party loyalist and state transport minister Champai Soren was named his successor. Soren is lodged in judicial custody at the Birsu Munda Central Jail in Ranchi. The ED has alleged that "huge amounts of proceeds of crime" were generated by Soren through manipulation of official records by showing dummy sellers and purchasers in the guise of forged/bogus documents to acquire huge parcels of land having value in crores of rupees.



JD(S) MLA HD Revanna granted bail in kidnap case by Bengaluru court

Naresh Malhotra

Bengaluru, May 13: A Special Court for Elected Representatives on Monday granted bail to JD(S) MLA H D Revanna in connection with a kidnap case. The 66-year-old former Minister was arrested by the Special Investigation Team (SIT) in an alleged case of abduction of a woman, linked to the allegations of sexual abuse of women by his son and Hassan MP Prajwal Revanna, on May 4. The special court judge Santhosh Gajanan Bhat heard the matter and granted conditional bail to Revanna. While granting the bail, the court invoked conditions, as per which Revanna will be given bail upon executing Rs 5 lakh bond, he shouldn't be allowed to leave the country, and he should not try to influence the victim or other related parties to the case. According to sources, he is likely to be released from prison on Tuesday. Revanna's three-day police custody

ended on May 8, following which he was produced in the XVII Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate Court, which remanded him to seven days' judicial custody, till May 14. The case was registered following a complaint by the woman's son, who alleged that his mother was sexually abused by Revanna's son Prajwal. The woman was allegedly abducted to prevent her from testifying against Prajwal, police sources have said. The SIT has also secured the custody of Revanna's confidant Sathish Babanna in connection with the case. The SIT arrested Babanna on May 3 and subsequently rescued the woman allegedly from a farmhouse in Mysuru's Hunsur taluk on May 4, hours before the arrest of Revanna from his father and former PM H D Deve Gowda's residence in Bengaluru's Padmanabhanagar. While

Revanna engaged senior counsel C V Nagesh for his bail plea, Special Public

Prosecutor Jaina Kothari and Additional Public Prosecutor Ashok Naik argued on behalf of SIT. Nagesh claimed that there is a political conspiracy behind Revanna's arrest and the victim has recently said in a video that she has not been abducted by Revanna or his family. Kothari and Naik coun-

tered it by saying, SIT recorded statements both under CrPC sections 161 (examination of witnesses by police) and 164 (statements recorded by Magistrate) and the victim has given a statement against Revanna. The SIT advocates also argued that the bail application was moved when the accused was already in custody and hence the matter is not maintainable. However, the Judge differed with this argument and said "...you please argue on the merit of the case." Nagesh further added that the victim's son lodged the complaint saying his mother had not come home and he also mentioned that she had gone with the known individual on a motorbike. "How is it interpreted as kidnap? It is not a case of kidnap." Naik said that the victim and her family have been threatened by the accused and the victim needs police protection.



Scattered incidents of violence mar 4th phase polling in Bengal: Dilip Ghosh

Kolkata, May 13: Scattered incidents of violence marred the fourth phase of Lok Sabha polls in the eight parliamentary constituencies of West Bengal on Monday as TMC and BJP workers clashed in various parts of violence-hit Birbhum and Bardhaman-Durgapur seats. Although the poll panel claimed that voting has been peaceful so far, it said it had received 1,700 complaints till 1 pm from different political parties alleging EVM malfunctioning and agents being stopped from entering booths. Clashes broke out between supporters of TMC and BJP in Monteswar's Susunia area of Bardhaman-Durgapur Lok Sabha seat around noon, as BJP candidate Dilip Ghosh was on his way to a polling booth following complaints of booth jamming. As Ghosh was on his way, TMC supporters blocked his convoy and squatted in front of his vehicle, starting a protest against him.

Stones were hurled at his convoy, following which some of the cars of the security personnel tailing his convoy were damaged. Ghosh was also heckled by the TMC activists, sources claimed. "Police are just mute spectators. The TMC has let loose a reign of terror. Since morning, TMC goons have beaten up our polling agents and are not allowing polling to be free and fair," Ghosh told reporters. Ghosh's convoy was again attacked at Kalna gale in Bardhaman-Durgapur constituency. Ghosh said he had gone to a booth there following allegations of TMC not allowing BJP's booth agents. Bricks were pelted at his convoy leading to serious injury of central police personnel deployed in his security, sources claimed. "This is for the second time that my convoy was attacked today. Two of my security personnel were injured and had to be taken to hospital for treatment," Ghosh said.

CM: Govt to procure rain-soaked paddy

Hyderabad: Chief minister A Revanth Reddy on Sunday said farmers need not be worried if their paddy stocks at the procurement centres are soaked due to untimely rain and directed officials to buy the moisture-containing produce.

The CM enquired about the damages caused due to strong winds, rain and lightning reported from several districts, including Adilabad, Medak and Sangareddy. He directed the district collectors of the rain-hit districts and officials to be on high alert as the India Meteorological Department (IMD) has given forecasts for further rains in the next few days. "Extend all help to the people hit by rains," he said. The CM expressed grief over death of two people due to lightning in Medak district. He said the govt also published the following articles recently

IMD forecasts rain for next two days may lower heat, raise humidity. IMD forecasts 2 days of light to moderate rainfall, maintaining temperatures. Humidity may rise to 85%. Private forecasters anticipate increased rain intensity. Trough may bring thunderstorms, changing wind direction to southeasterlies. Isolated spells expected.

4 killed in lightning strikes in 3 UP districts. Four deaths and seven injuries occurred in Kushinagar, Gorakhpur, and Maharajganj due to lightning strikes. The victims included Abhimanyu, Sanjay Kumar, and Vikram Manjhi, with further details of the incidents and responses from authorities.

Rain likely on poll day, IMD issues yellow alert in Telangana. IMD's yellow alert for heavy rains and thunderstorms in Telangana on May 13 may disrupt voting. Hyderabad and numerous districts, including Ranga Reddy and Medak, are expected to be affected, with lightning and gusty winds.

Optimal age for motherhood is 21: ICMR report

Bengaluru: New research from the National Institute for Nutrition under the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) indicates that 21 is the ideal age for a woman to get pregnant and begin motherhood. This claim is supported by evidence showing the biological and social factors that align at age 21 to meet the demands of pregnancy and childbirth.

At 21, a woman's cervix is fully mature and her pelvis has finished developing, reducing risks during labour and delivery. The chances of contracting sexually transmitted infections such as chlamydia, gonorrhoea, syphilis and infections causing cervical, vaginal or vulvar cancers are also lower compared to younger ages.

Gynaecologists also say instances of preterm babies and chances of infant mortality are high with teen pregnancies. As per the ICMR report, undernourished women are at higher risk of giving birth to babies with small gestational age or low birth weight (under 2.5kg), or even preterm babies. Although the state govt says it has, through awareness and health schemes, ensured a reduction in cases of low weight at childbirth, its latest Economic Survey points to low birth weight being a major cause of infant deaths in 2020. "The ideal age for pregnancy differs for each individual, but for many, 21 represents a balance of physical readiness and



emotional maturity for parenthood," said Dr N Shailaja, a gynaecologist and member of the American Aesthetic Association. By 21, a woman's skeletal growth is complete and her hormones have stabilised, minimizing risks of anaemia that can impact proper cell formation in the baby and deplete haemoglobin levels in mother and child. The report highlights teen pregnancies are more difficult because of the competing nutritional demands of the adolescent's development and the pregnancy's needs.

To optimize maternal and infant health for pregnancies at age 21 and older, the

research recommends maintaining a nutrient-rich diet, taking iron and folic acid supplements, and getting regular physical activity and sunlight exposure.

— Tvisha Sinha We also published the following articles recently Tips to deal with physical and mental discomforts during pregnancy, discomforts like nausea, back pain, and swollen feet are common. Hormonal changes cause mood swings and anxiety. Symptoms like morning sickness and heartburn are discomforting. Insomnia, emotional sensitivity, and weight gain intensify with pregnancy progression. Support and monitoring are crucial.

ICMR warns against protein supplements: All about the potential health risks ICMR cautions against protein supplement consumption, emphasizing potential risks like kidney damage, digestive discomfort, and nutrient imbalances. Proper protein intake balance is essential for overall health and well-being.

India's apex medical research body releases diet plan for all age groups ICMR-NIN's dietary guidelines for Indians stress balanced diet, food safety, avoiding processed foods. Recommendations cover all age groups, emphasizing healthy lifestyle choices and proper nutrition intake to prevent diseases and promote overall well-being

Most candidates find ComedK exam easy

Bengaluru: Over 1 lakh candidates participated in the computer-based ComedK's UGET-2024 exam held on Sunday at 264 centres in 189 cities across India, including 72 in Karnataka and 33 in Bengaluru. UGET-2024, the gateway for admissions to UG engineering courses in private colleges of Karnataka and select colleges elsewhere in India, by the ComedK, was held in three sessions. About 88% of the 1.2 lakh registered candidates turned up. Sarvasya MJ, a candidate, said: "I wrote physics, chemistry, and maths exams, and found it moderately easy. Though I hadn't prepared well, I found the papers easier than last year." Another student, Harshi A, echoed the same sentiment: "It was a simple entrance exam, so I studied the basic 12th grade portions. I'm writing JEE (Joint Entrance Exam) too, so this was a good practice. There were no issues at the centre." "The preparation that went into the exam was okay. I also wrote KSET (Karnataka State Eligibility Test), so the preparation was the same for this exam too. I think physics and chemistry are doable," said Dhruv Shivaprasad, a candidate. Though the overall impression of the test for most students was good,



some found physics paper lengthy. Aditi SH, a candidate, said: "I'm preparing for NEET, so the maths paper was a little tough, but I could manage physics and chemistry, though I found the physics paper quite lengthy..." The exam is for admissions to about 20,000 UG seats in 150 engineering colleges of Karnataka and 40 private universities in India. The provisional answer keys will be notified Tuesday along with forms for challenging them. The final answer key is slated for release on May 21, followed by the scorecard release on May 24.

COMEDK UGET Admit Card 2024 out at comedk.org: Direct link to download exam hall ticket COMEDK released UGET admit cards on May 7, 2024. Applicants must log in to verify and download the hall ticket. Contact authorities for discrepancies. Admit card is essential for the online exam.

COMEDK UGET 2024 exams to be held in three sessions: Download admit cards from May 7 at comedk.org, check details here COMEDK UGET Admit Card 2024 available on May 7th. Exam on May 12 in 3 sessions. Answer key on May 21. Results on May 24. Exam in English, total 180 marks. For engineering, dentistry programs.

CUET UG 2024: Syllabus for English, Chemistry and Physics; subjects with the highest number of applicants for undergraduate exam NTA to hold 2024 Common University Entrance Test for Undergraduates from May 15th to 24th, covering subjects like English, Chemistry, and Physics with detailed syllabus information available for each subject.

Puducherry residents demand new shed, more taps at purified water distribution units

The units operate between 7 am-12 pm and 4 pm-7 pm, besides being open for half a day on Sundays and closed on public holidays.

PUDUCHERRY: The residents from several areas in Puducherry have demanded the government install sheds and more water taps at several of the 69 purified drinking water distribution units established across the region. A majority of the residents, who purchase purified water for Rs 7 per 20-litre can and Rs 3 for the lid from these units, belong to the lower and middle economic strata and could not afford to have water purifiers at home or spend over Rs 20 per water can. The Puducherry government, in collaboration with the Public Works Department (PWD) and private organisations, established the water distribution units, with five of the 69 maintained directly by the PWD and the rest by several private entities. The units operate between 7 am-12 pm and 4 pm-7 pm, besides being open for half a day on Sundays and closed on public holidays. N Jeeva Lakshmi, a resident of Anna Nagar, said that though the equipment is housed in closed sheds, the water taps remain exposed. Because of this, the residents have to wait outside, often in longer queues, despite the



weather, added the resident. One Naratajan from Netaji Nagar in Oupalam, said that it is difficult to wait in the heat, especially this year.

"During rainy seasons, rainwater fills our cans, rendering them useless to carry purified water. In our area, there's a large tree by the unit. Dried leaves and bird waste often fall into our cans. We have to empty and clean them each time, which incurs an additional cost as the unit operators do not provide a refill for free," he said. The residents reportedly wanted the unhygienic conditions of the units to be addressed. They further raised concerns about difficulties in obtaining change as several units are allegedly not accepting ten-rupee coins. A senior PWD official said, "The purification equipment is ten years old, limiting us to two taps per unit. We have proposed a revamp, but due to the elections, the approval is delayed." The residents' demands would be considered, though there was no immediate plan to install sheds for taps, added the official. They are considering issuing prepaid cards, the official said for the ten-rupee coin issue, assuring to look into the matter.

Coimbatore Tasmac staff restricted to official hours, sales likely to drop

COIMBATORE: Tasmac employees in the Coimbatore North District have been barred from taking additional time for their clerical and preparation work before and after the permitted running time of the shop. As per an order they should enter the shop only at the scheduled opening time and are barred from lingering after the closing time. The official timings of Tasmac outlets are 12 noon to 10 pm.

However, the staff at the liquor outlets said complying with the order is not practically possible, and, if so, the sales time is likely to drop significantly from one to two hours as they have to complete all their work in the shop within the timelimit as per the new order. The new instruction was given on May 10, following a police inquiry held at Katoor

police station on Thursday (May 9). The sources said the police team from the Katoor station picked up the staff of the Tasmac shop (No: 1543) for inquiry as they were in the shop before 12 pm. Though they explained that they were preparing for sales, the police accused them that it was an offence as they were at the shop before the permitted time. Later the staff explained the nature of the work and the need for their presence earlier for preparation. Upon hearing the explanation, police set them free and the issue was settled. But after knowing about the issue, the Coimbatore North District Tasmac Manager issued an order barring the staff from entering the shop before 12 pm and after 10 pm. The staff strongly opposed it and felt it would directly impact the liquor sales.

"Business in outlets starts at 12 pm and goes on till 10 pm without any break. Therefore, the staff should come to the store before 12 pm and check the stock in the store, the details of newly arrived stocks and maintain records. Since Tasmac shops mostly operate in a single room, it takes time to prepare the stock for retail sale after disposing of empty cartons and bottles and stacking the bottles to be sold for the day. Similarly, after the sale, the day's revenue should be tallied and compared with the number of bottles sold. Therefore, an average of one-and-a-half hours of administrative and preparatory work is required before and after the sale every day. We can't start selling without doing these basic works. We are doing these works beyond our work schedule," said a supervisor

on condition of anonymity. A John, secretary of the TASMAC employees' association affiliated with CITU, said it's practically impossible to have staff come in just as customers arrive at the opening time. "If this order is implemented, the sales hours will decrease and hence the revenue will fall in each outlet. Obviously, it indirectly creates a favourable situation for private bars. The officers should consider the practical difficulties in the operation," he said. When asked, Manager M Vanilakshmi Jagathambal said that the instruction has been given to the staff to avoid law and order issues as the model code of conduct is in force. "We understand they should have some time for their official work before and after the shop's working hours."

However, the staff at the liquor outlets said complying with the order is not practically possible

Forgotten survivors of Irshalwadi landslide shunned by candidates

Mumbai: Away from the high-pitched electioneering in the hilly backyards of a 'Third Mumbai' connected to the island city by the Atal Setu, are the forgotten people of Irshalwadi in makeshift barracks on the village's outskirts. This is the location in Raigad district where over 80% of a village was obliterated by a catastrophic landslide, killing 84 people on July 19 last year. Of the 228 inhabitants from 43 families, 144, including 23 children, survived. The bodies of 57 of those killed still lie buried in the landmass visible on the hill, as a daily reminder of the tragedy. The villagers are part of the Maval Lok Sabha constituency that is going to polls on Monday, the fourth phase of general elections in Maharashtra. Chief minister Eknath Shinde Sena's sitting MP Shrirang Barne and Shiv Sena (UBT)'s Sanjog Waghare are the prominent candidates locked in battle. However, the candidates have not been seen here.

UBT Sena spokesperson Harshal Pradhan blames the govt for neglecting Irshalwad and

its survivors, but is silent on why candidates are not approaching them. "Other than just offering them homes and money, a serious attempt should have been made by the govt machinery to restore their day-to-day livelihood and ensure that they move ahead and make progress in their life." Mangesh Chivate, Officer on Special Duty to the CMO on relief measures, however, said besides new homes and compensation, govt was trying its best to provide a livelihood to the survivors by offering skill training and creating better academic as well as job opportunities for them in the vicinity of the village. The survivors say they will soon get their new homes at the foothills this year and have received some cash as aid from the govt and NGOs, but their traditional way of life in homes on the hilltop surrounded by farms is gone forever. Before the tragedy last year, the entire village practiced collective farming.

Ganpat Pardhi, the president of the union of displaced villagers of Irshalwadi, who is among 11 surviving families said, "Orphans

are now being taken care of by the close relatives who are alive. However, breathing new life into the day-to-day chores of all whose morale has been low is a challenge. We all need a strong shoulder to get back to the original livelihood we enjoyed," he said. Pardhi, like other survivors from affected families, lives in the rectangular container-shaped artificial barracks set up on an area of an abandoned petrol pump along the old Pune highway near Chauk village.

Ganpat said all affected villagers, except for 11 families whose homes remained intact to a certain extent, have received monetary help. "We too have lost livelihood and homes like others because our buried village and surrounding farms have been closed owing to the risks," says Rajendra, Ganpat's brother. Majority of youths here used to earn Rs 500 to 1,000 daily by helping trekkers to the fort atop the hill almost every season. Temporarily, Ganpat has taken up a



job as a cook with a hotel nearby, while Rajendra is a daily-wage worker. Gangu Laxman Pujari, a 40-year-old farmer and homemaker, lost seven of her family members on that dreadful night and is taking care of their orphaned children. Today, she is struggling to make ends meet. "I am alive as I was away from the village with my daughter that night."

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NEWS BOX

Scottish man behind viral white-gold dress admits he tried to strangle wife

World Back in 2015, a 38-year-old Scottish man, Keir Johnston, sparked a debate on social media over the colour of a dress that was worn by his mother-in-law at his wedding. The dress went insanely viral as some people saw it as "black and blue", others thought that it was "gold and white".

Eight years later, the same man behind the viral dress pleaded guilty to endangering his wife's life, and admitted to attempting to strangle her.

Keir Johnston appeared at the High Court in Glasgow on Thursday, where he pleaded guilty to a "terrifying" attack on his wife, Grace Johnston, that left her "fearing for her life", but alive, according to The Daily Record. Johnston, from the Isle of Colonsay, off the west coast of Scotland, was remanded in custody until his sentence next month, scheduled for June 6.

The debate over the dress's true colours broke the internet, drawing thousands of comments, including from celebrities. Kim Kardashian also posted that she had argued about it with her then-husband, Kanye West. Ellen DeGeneres invited the Johnstons onto her talk show, where they were given \$10,000 and a trip to Grenada.

This week, the Scottish court heard that Johnston left his wife fearing for her life, and had a history of domestic abuse towards her. Chris Macintosh, prosecutor for the Crown, told Lady Drummond and the court how Grace lived in fear of her abusive husband. "There is no permanent police presence on the island, and she was in a situation where she felt trapped," he said.

The court heard that Grace had once refused her husband's demands not to attend a job interview on the mainland. Days later, he told her he was leaving her before the pair got into an altercation where Johnston grabbed his wife and threw her to the ground. "Johnston woke up and said that he was going to leave her. She went outside the property to stop him leaving. He followed her and pinned her to the ground," Macintosh said, according to The Record. "He placed both knees on her arms, so she was unable to move. He then began strangling her with both his hands."

"She was initially able to scream and feared for her life and believed Johnston intended to kill her as he was very forceful," Macintosh said that despite suffering severe bruising, Johnston did not require medical treatment.

Lawyers for Johnston said he had accepted responsibility for the assault. Lady Drummond denied Johnston bail and placed him in custody, telling him, "I have no need to tell you that this is a serious and violent offence."

Hamas condemns Biden for saying 'truce tomorrow if hostages freed'

DOHA. Remarks by US Prez Joe Biden that a ceasefire in Gaza would be possible if Hamas released its hostages are a "setback" to negotiations, the Palestinian militant group said Sunday. "We condemn this position by the US prez, we consider it a setback from the outcomes of the latest round of negotiations, which led to the movement's agreement to proposal put forward by mediators," Hamas said in a statement.

Biden said on Saturday that a ceasefire in the Israel-Hamas war would be possible "tomorrow" if Hamas gave up hostages seized in its Oct 7 attack. The US prez raised the topic of the hostages during a speech in Seattle. Negotiations between Hamas and Israel for a truce and hostage exchange deal, mediated by Egypt, Qatar and the US, appear to have stalled amid Israeli military action in the southern Gaza city. Hamas said Israeli PM Benjamin Netanyahu had "rushed to overturn" the talks by launching an offensive in Rafah.

UK foreign secretary says halting arms sales to Israel would only strengthen Hamas

LONDON. Halting arms exports to Israel is "not a wise path" and would only strengthen Hamas, Britain's foreign secretary said Sunday. Asked whether the UK would follow the US in threatening to cut the supply of offensive weapons to Israel if it carried out an attack on the southern Gaza city of Rafah, Foreign Secretary David Cameron said the two countries cannot be compared because unlike the US, Britain supplies a very



small amount of Israel's weapons. "The UK provides less than 1% of Israel's weapons and it's not a state supplier," Cameron told the BBC on Sunday. "We have a licensing system and those licences can be closed if it's judged there's a serious risk of a serious international human rights violation."

US President Joe Biden has said that his government will stop supplying weapons and artillery to Israel if its forces launch an all-out assault on Rafah, the last major Hamas stronghold in Gaza. Britain's opposition Labour Party and human rights groups have argued that the UK should follow a similar position and stop the sale of British-made weapons or components in a Rafah offensive.

The US government said Friday that Israel's use of US-provided weapons in Gaza likely violated international humanitarian law. But it added that wartime conditions prevented US officials from determining that for certain in specific airstrikes. Cameron said the UK did not support a major offensive in Rafah without a clear plan about how civilians can be protected. The Campaign Against Arms Trade nonprofit group estimates that the real value of UK arms exports of Israel is at least 1 billion pounds since 2015, much higher than government figures. It says that British industry, namely BAE Systems, provides about 15% of the components in the F-35 stealth combat aircraft used by Israel. The group alleges that the jets were used in recent bombardment of Gaza. The full value of component and other licenses is not known, it said. Cameron also said that putting British boots on the ground in Gaza as part of international efforts to deliver aid would be "a risk that we shouldn't take". His comments came after reports that UK authorities

Vladimir Putin replaces Sergei Shoigu as defence minister in surprise move

Moscow Russian President Vladimir Putin tapped a civilian economist as his surprise new defence minister on Sunday in an attempt to gird Russia for economic war by trying to better utilise the defence budget and harness greater innovation to win in Ukraine. More than two years into the conflict, which has cost both sides heavy casualties, Putin proposed Andrei Belousov, a 65-year-old former deputy prime minister who specialises in economics, to replace his long-term ally, Sergei Shoigu, 68, as defence minister. Putin wants Shoigu, in charge of defence since 2012 and a long-standing friend and ally, to become the secretary of Russia's powerful Security Council, replacing incumbent Nikolai Patrushev, and to also have responsibilities for the military-industrial complex, the Kremlin said. Patrushev will get a new, as yet unannounced, job. The changes, certain to be approved by parliamentarians, are the most significant Putin has made to the military command since sending tens of thousands of troops into Ukraine in February 2022 in what he called a special military operation.

Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said the change made sense because Russia was approaching a situation like the Soviet Union in the mid-1980s, when the military and law enforcement authorities accounted for 7.4% of gross domestic product (GDP). That, said Peskov, meant it was vital to ensure such spending aligned with and was better integrated into the country's overall economy, which was why Putin now wanted a civilian economist in the defence ministry job. "The one who is more open to innovations is the one who will be victorious on the battlefield," Peskov said. Belousov, a former economy minister known to be very close to Putin, shares the Russian leader's vision of rebuilding a strong state, and has also worked with Putin's top technocrats who want greater innovation and are open to new ideas. Belousov has played an important role in overseeing Russia's drone programme. The shake-up, which caught the elite off-guard, indicates Putin is doubling down on the Ukraine war and wants to harness more of Russia's economy for the war after the West sought,



but failed so far, to sink the economy with sanctions.

ECONOMIC WAR

Russia's economists have so far largely ensured economic stability and growth despite the toughest sanctions ever imposed on a major economy, even though the failings of the Russian military were laid bare shortly after the invasion. "The proposal to appoint one of the main court economists and the main state minister in the economic bloc to head the Defence Ministry may mean that Putin is planning to win the war with the defence industry plants and international markets," said Alexander Baunov, a

former Russian diplomat who is now a senior fellow at the Carnegie Russia Eurasia Center. The winning strategy in this case will not be mobilisations and breakthroughs, but slow pressure on Ukraine with the superior power of the Russian military-industrial complex and the economy as a whole, which, apparently, is supposed to be made to work more effectively for the front and rear. "Putin's move, though unexpected, preserves balance at the top of the complex system of personal loyalties that make up the current political system. The shake-up gives Shoigu a job that is technically regarded as senior to his defence ministry role, ensuring continuity and saving Shoigu's face. Valery Gerasimov, the chief of Russia's General Staff and someone with a more hands-on role when it comes to directing the war, will remain in post.

Shoigu was heavily criticised by Russian military bloggers for a series of retreats the Russian military was forced to make in 2022. Yevgeny Prigozhin, the leader of the Wagner mercenary group and one of Shoigu's fiercest critics.

6.4-magnitude earthquake strikes near Mexico-Guatemala border

A strong earthquake measuring 6.4 on the Richter scale shook the border of Mexico and Guatemala early Sunday, driving frightened residents into the streets. The tremor struck just before 6 a.m. near the Mexican border town of Suchiate, where a river by the same name divides the two countries.

The epicentre was just off the Pacific coast, 16 km west-southwest of Brisas Barra de Suchiate, where the river empties into the sea. The earthquake had a preliminary magnitude of 6.4, according to the US Geological Survey and a depth of 75 km. In Mexico, there were no immediate reports of damage, but more mountainous, remote parts of the border are prone to landslides.

Across the border, Guatemala's national disaster prevention agency shared photos of small landslides on highways in the Quetzaltenango region and large cracks in walls in a hospital in San Marcos on its social media accounts,

but there were no reports of deaths.

In Tapachula, near the border, civil defence brigades were moving through the city looking for signs of damage.



Didier Solares, an official with Suchiate's Civil Defense agency, said so far they had not found damage.

"Luckily, everything is good," Solares said. "We are talking with companies, to the (rural areas) via radio and there's nothing, there's no damage thank God," he said. The early morning quake still gave people a fright.

In the mountainous and picturesque colonial city of San Cristobal, the shaking was strong.

"Here we got up because we have the seismic alert service," said resident Joaquin Morales. "The alert woke me up because it comes 30 seconds before (the quake)." In Tuxtla Chico, a town near Tapachula, Mar-a Guzman, a teacher said: "It was horrible, it felt strong. It was a real scare." Later Sunday, there was a swarm of at least two dozen small earthquakes in Mexico's northern state of Baja California, near the US border. The largest of the quakes was of 4.6 magnitude,

while the majority were between 2.5 and 3.7. No immediate damage was reported in the sparsely populated region roughly 50 m south of a relatively unpopulated area south of El Centro, California. They did not appear related to the quake in Suchiate, which is almost 3,750 km to the southeast.

Major fire burns down shopping complex with 1,400 shops in Poland's Warsaw

Warsaw,UPDATED A major fire broke out Sunday morning in a vast shopping complex in the Polish capital of Warsaw that housed some 1,400 shops and service outlets and where many of the vendors were from Vietnam.

Huge plumes of black smoke could be seen rising over the vast area. The fire department said that more than 80 per cent of the Marywilka 44 shopping complex burned in the Bialoleka district of Warsaw, and that the roof caved in. Police reported no injuries, but traders were in despair at the loss of their livelihoods. The Gazeta Wyborcza daily reported that some Vietnamese vendors wanted to enter to save their goods from the complex, but were blocked by security guards.

The Association of Vietnamese Entrepreneurs in Poland said the blaze meant "great financial losses for

merchants", calling it a "terrible tragedy for thousands of merchants and their families". Chemical and environmental rescue specialists were



among the large numbers of rescue officials who took part in the operation. Authorities sent a text message warning Warsaw residents about the fire, and telling them to stay home with the windows closed. Mirbud, an

industrial construction company listed on the Warsaw Stock Exchange, owns the shopping centre. Warsaw police said it had begun investigating the blaze, which began at around 3.30 am, but hadn't yet determined the cause. The Warsaw city administration planned on Monday to discuss financial support for the small traders whose livelihoods were destroyed. Shopping centres and large shops are usually closed on Sunday because of a ban on trade imposed by the previous government, which had close ties to the Catholic church.

However, small business owners are exempt from the ban, and many of the small shops at the centre worked on Sundays.

Ex-US Marine pilot arrested in Australia had links with Chinese hacker: Lawyer

Sydney,UPDATED A former US Marine pilot fighting extradition from Australia on US charges of training Chinese military pilots to land on aircraft carriers unknowingly worked with a Chinese hacker, his lawyer said.

Daniel Duggan, 55, a naturalised Australian citizen, feared requests by Western intelligence agencies for sensitive information were putting his family at risk, the lawyer said in a legal filing seen by Reuters. The lawyer's filing supports Reuters reporting linking Duggan to convicted Chinese defence hacker Su Bin. Duggan denies the allegations that he broke US arms control laws. He has been in an Australian maximum security prison since his 2022 arrest after returning from six years working in Beijing. US authorities found correspondence with Duggan on electronic devices seized from Su Bin, Duggan's lawyer Bernard Collaery said in the March submission to Australian Attorney General Mark Dreyfus, who will decide whether to surrender Duggan to the US after a magistrate hears Duggan's extradition case. The case will be heard in a Sydney court this month, two years after his arrest in rural Australia at a time when Britain was warning its



former military pilots not to work for China. Su Bin, arrested in Canada in 2014, pleaded guilty in 2016 to theft of US military aircraft designs by hacking major US defence contractors. He is listed among seven co-conspirators with Duggan in the extradition request. Duggan knew Su Bin as an employment broker for Chinese state aviation company AVIC, lawyer Collaery wrote, and the hacking case was "totally unrelated to our client". Although Su Bin "may have had an improper connection to

(Chinese) agents, this was unknown to our client", Duggan's lawyer wrote. "OVERT INTELLIGENCE CONTACT" AVIC was blacklisted by the US last year as a Chinese military-linked company. Messages retrieved from Su Bin's electronic devices show he paid for Duggan's travel from Australia to Beijing in May 2012, according to extradition documents lodged by the United States with the Australian court. Duggan asked Su Bin to help source

Chinese aircraft parts for his Top Gun tourist flight business in Australia, Collaery wrote. The Australian Security Intelligence Organisation (ASIO) and US Navy criminal investigators knew Duggan was training pilots for AVIC and met him in Australia's Tasmania state in December 2012 and February 2013, his lawyer wrote. ASIO and the US Navy Criminal Investigation Service did not respond to Reuters requests for comment on the meetings. ASIO has previously said it would not comment as the matter was before the court.

An ASIO officer suggested that while carrying on his legitimate business operations in China, Mr Duggan may be able to gather sensitive information, his lawyer wrote. Duggan moved to China in 2013 and was barred from leaving the country in 2014, his lawyer said. Duggan's LinkedIn profile and aviation sources who knew him said he was working in China as an aviation consultant in 2013 and 2014.

He renounced his US citizenship in 2016 at the US embassy in Beijing, backdated to 2012 on a certificate, after "overt intelligence contact by US authorities that may have compromised his family safety", his lawyer wrote.

Blinken questions Israel's post-war plan as forces push deeper into Rafah

World Israel's offensive against Hamas intensified further as Israeli forces pushed deeper into the city of Rafah in southern Gaza, with Palestinian health officials reporting 19 deaths and dozens of injuries. As Israel expanded its operations, US Secretary of State Antony Blinken reiterated America's strong opposition to a major military assault on the enclave that houses over a million Palestinians, saying that Israel would "be left holding the bag on an enduring insurgency" without an exit from Gaza and a post-war governance plan. Meanwhile, ramping up the pressure on Tel Aviv, Egypt on Sunday said it would intervene in support of South Africa's case against Israel at the International Court of Justice.

Here are the latest developments in the Israel-Hamas war: Israeli forces sent tanks into eastern Jabalia in the northern Gaza Strip, with heavy aerial and ground bombardments. They also pushed deep into Jabalia camp, closer than the first time when they invaded northern Gaza. The Palestinian health ministry said the death toll in the war had exceeded 35,000 people. Antony Blinken said the United States was continuing to press Israeli leaders to provide a plan for Gaza once the war is finally over.

"Israel's on the trajectory, potentially, to inherit an insurgency with many armed Hamas cells, or if it leaves, a vacuum filled by chaos, filled by anarchy and probably refilled by Hamas," he said.

Citing the growing scale of Israel's operations in Gaza and their impact on civilians, Egypt pledged support to South Africa's ongoing lawsuit in the International Court of Justice accusing Israel of genocide in Gaza.

"The intervention in this case comes in light of the expansion in scope and scale of Israeli violations against civilians in Gaza," the Egyptian foreign ministry said, without specifying what the intervention would entail.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu in a Memorial Day speech vowed to continue fighting until victory in memory of those killed in the war. Netanyahu said that Israel has "completed about half" of its war against Hamas in Gaza, "but we are committed to completing this sacred task".

Meanwhile, pro-Palestine protesters disrupted college graduation ceremonies throughout the US over the weekend, with students walking out in protest of commencement speaker Jerry Seinfeld at Duke University and demonstrators splashing red paint on the steps of a building at the University of North Carolina.

Engg student found dead in lake

Bengaluru: A 21-year-old engineering student of a private college near Kengeri on Mysuru Road was found dead in Jigani Lake on Saturday afternoon. The body of Amruthesh Pandey, who was a resident of Jigani Town and third-year computer science student, was noticed by a passer-by who alerted police.

Cops said Pandey, who stayed in the college hostel, had not attended classes for the past six months. He had returned home for the summer vacation. His father, Vijay Shankar Reddy, an employee of a private firm, told police that he wanted to pay the college fees for the next year but there was no proper response from Pandey. He then checked with the college and learnt that he had been irregular in attending classes. Friday morning, Reddy reportedly chided Pandey for not attending classes. Pandey may have jumped into the lake and killed himself following the incident. Reddy and his wife, Hemalatha Pandey, have been living in the city for 20 years. A case of unnatural death has been registered by Jigani police. Further investigation is in progress and no suicide note has been found, a senior police officer said. We also published the following articles recently: Ananya Pandey's 5-Year Bollywood journey sparks emotions in mom Bhavana Pandey. Ananya Pandey's journey from debut to versatile talent is celebrated by her mother Bhavana Pandey. Amid rumors of a split with Aditya Roy Kapur, Ananya focuses on moving forward, finding comfort in her new furry friend.

Exclusive - Fahmaan Khan and Shagun Pandey pay tribute to their moms with heartfelt messages. Fahmaan Khan and Shagun Pandey honor their moms on Mother's Day. Khan values a mother's love as a child's superpower, while Pandey credits his acting skills to his mother, the family's entertainer. Both express gratitude and cherish memories with heartfelt messages. Lee Sang Hee revealed to have been married for 5 years. Lee Sang Hee's heartfelt speech at the 2024 Baeksang Art Awards, expressing gratitude to her husband, resonated deeply with the audience, sparking emotional reactions.

Rooftop solar panel users in Kerala decry generation duty hike

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM: Consumers who have installed rooftop solar panels have been dealt a severe blow with a steep increase in electricity generation duty imposed on them. The levy on consumers who generate energy for their consumption has been raised from 1.2 paise to 15 paise per unit from April 1.

Moreover, consumer groups have decided to move legally against the power department, the KSEB and the chief electrical inspector for violating the central government's decision that generation duty should not be collected for solar power, which is renewable energy. The chief electrical inspector had come out with an order dated March 27 stating that electricity generation duty would be imposed on all licensees from the start of the financial year. It was only when consumers received their generation bills this month that the additional burden came to light. Besides this tariff, these consumers also pay a fixed charge, meter rent, energy charges, duty, fuel surcharge and monthly fuel surcharge. One consumer's Rs 2,380 bill included Rs 89.55 in generation duty. Discussion threads on the Kerala Solar Power Community Facebook page, which includes those who have installed rooftop solar panels among its 72,000 members, have been deeply critical of the move. Jameskutty Thomas, a rooftop solar power unit owner who is also a retired

electrical inspector, said that it was in 1968 that the state government promulgated the Electrical Duty Act and Rules that said 1.2 paise per unit of power should be procured from consumers.

Violates central directive

"The 2023-24 state budget increased it to 15 paise per unit. This was despite the Centre maintaining that consumers cannot be charged generation duty for renewable



energy. For every Rs 6 per unit of power generated, the duty has gone up by 11.5%. For instance, a person who receives Rs 1,260 as generation bill will have to pay Rs 100-120 as generation duty," Thomas told TNIE. Chief electrical inspector G Vinod said the 1968 Rules did not have any mention of solar power. The electrical inspectorate had proposed amending the legislation.

"Since there have been many complaints from consumers, we had apprised the state

government of the Centre's recommendation not to impose generation duty. We are awaiting a policy decision. Also, currently the full budget has not yet been approved. Once the discussion arises, we will highlight the issue again," said Vinod. According to the Solar Producers' Association, the Kerala State Electricity Regulatory Commission did not have a role in the decision. The commission has called a meeting of rooftop solar panel owners in Thiruvananthapuram on May 15.

Gross metering grouse

At the meeting, customers are also expected to raise objections against the introduction of gross meters. They are peeved as a decision to roll in a gross metering system was called off after widespread protests two years ago. Those who feed solar power to KSEB's grid and use KSEB's power for household purposes were thus far required to pay only for the excess power used. This was measured using the net metering system. The board's decision to switch to gross metering has come under flak from solar-power generators. They allege that this will result in separate meters for solar power and electricity used for household purposes. Until now, a solar power user who returns excess power to the KSEB was getting 12.69 a unit. With the introduction of gross metering, this is expected to drop to 12.50-2.15.

Health, environment & infra are key demands in youth manifesto

Mumbai: From enforcement of anti-littering laws to open space development, from increased importance to be given to water quality index to accessible healthcare and affordable student hostels in the city, a manifesto developed by a youth-led organization working on improving electoral literacy, highlights some of the key issues plaguing the city. The organization, based on research, rigorous discussion and expert inputs, have divided their demands in three broad areas, including city & infrastructure, healthcare and environment. Health, environment & infra are key demands in youth manifesto. Mark Your Presence, an NGO, founded by Chaitanya Prabhu in 2018, is primarily managed by young students from across the city. The organization has been working with young voters in creating awareness and making college campuses voter friendly. Ahead of the elections, based on surveys with close to 1,000 students, it has drawn up an action plan for the political representatives. The idea was to bridge the gap between the youth and their elected representatives and to increase their participation in the democratic process. Prabhu, who conceived the idea of the manifesto document about a year and a half ago, said that many youths are politically aware and are interested in participating in the political discourse. "Documents like these are a reflection of youth's interest in the democratic process," he said. Among their long list of demands, divided in three sections, the students have asked for more open spaces, more employment opportunities from educational institutions, comprehensive waste management infrastructure, regulation of medical institutions, addressing the problem of ageing population, government grants for medical innovations, awareness workshops on health insurance, timely alerts and information on AQLs, better monitoring network, and incentives for cleaner energy sources. The NGO, which worked on the manifesto for over a year, not only took opinions from a diverse student population through questionnaires, held focused group discussions, but also took expert consultations. Housing expert and urban planner Chandrasekhar Prabhu, former dean of KEM Hospital Dr Avinash Supe and founder of Vanshakti and environmental activist Stalin Dayanand were part of the expert committee, which contributed to the manifesto. The organization also held workshops to ensure that their manifesto resonates with the grassroots. Feedback was also taken from the stakeholders and incorporated in the final document.

Another star hotel asked fighting couple, aide to leave

Kolkata: A day after a businessman from Gujarat and his aide from Mumbai were arrested for a severe attack on the businessman's wife at a star hotel in the city, police found on Sunday that the three had recently put up at another star hotel, which had asked them to leave on the night of May 8 for their constant rows, which had led other guests to expressed their displeasure. The wife, a transwoman, was also arrested on Sunday under Foreigners Act for using fake citizenship documents. After being asked to vacate that hotel, the three had checked into the star hotel on E M Bypass on May 9. Another star hotel asked fighting couple, aide to leave

Police said the couple had legally got married on May 2. "But the Vadodara-based businessman claimed they got married on May 6. Shortly, the woman apparently told him she faced multiple problems adjusting to his demands and that she wanted to end their marriage. The woman said she felt like a victim of marital rape," said an officer, adding this led to the couple's constant fights at the two hotels. On the intervening night of Friday and Saturday, the woman was found severely injured in the hotel's lobby and she had claimed she had been assaulted by her husband and his aide. The two men were arrested from near the airport and booked for attempt to murder and assault. "The men have been remanded in police custody till May 16 and the woman till May 18," said DC (East) Arish Bilal. Police are checking the CCTV footage from the two hotels' lobbies.

A probe has revealed the businessman's family was upset with the wedding and that they had sent his aide, who ran a security agency, to visit Kolkata and convince the businessman to break up. But with the turn of the event, the aide told police, he had sided with the businessman. Cops said the woman was a Bangladeshi national from Barisal who had illegally entered India through the Tripura border in 2012. She lived in Guwahati for some time, used forged documents to get an Aadhaar card from Howrah and started a sex-change procedure at a clinic in Delhi's Rohini in 2013. In 2020, she shifted to Uluberia and started living with a 'guruma'. She then frequented dance bars in Bihar, Delhi and Goa. She had met the businessman at a New Year's party last year in Goa and the two decided to get married, police said.

2 women die of heart attack

VILLUPURAM: Grief-stricken, S Anita from Karuvpillai Palayam near Thiruvannainallur Taluk appeared for her class 12 examinations on March 5, the day of her father's funeral. Not even 24 hours had passed since the girl lost her father, a 54-year-old chilli vendor, in a road accident, the very night before her English examination. A show of resilience, Anita kept on, to fulfil her father's dreams, attempted her board examinations and scored 85% -- 514 marks out of 600. "If my dad was alive, he would have made sure I joined the college, as he did for all four of my sisters," she told TNIE. She expressed her desire to pursue a career in Chartered Accountancy, however, the family could not afford to pay for her undergraduate course. "My mother is unable to source the money required," said Anita, a student from Saravanambakkam Government Higher Secondary School. Anita's father, M Subrayalu (51), made money by selling red pepper, carrying bags of it on his bicycle. On March 4, as he was crossing the Tiruchy-Chennai National Highway near Siruthanur, a car en route to Chennai reportedly struck him fatally, said the police. He is survived by his wife Kupammal and five daughters, two of whom are married. Anita said her father had dreamt of making her a police officer. Anita, as a last resort, has now sought the assistance of the district administration and the state government to pursue her higher education.



Greater Hyd braces for fierce poll battle

Hyderabad: Greater Hyderabad, which has four Lok Sabha seats — Hyderabad, Chevella, Secunderabad and Malkajgiri — is going to witness a fierce election battle. The situation is peculiar this election season because of the candidates in fray: Two MLAs, who are former ministers, two women candidates and senior politicians making their debut in the general elections, two of India's richest politicians, a Union minister and a leader who has never lost an election. While the two richest politicians, Konda Vishweshwar Reddy of BJP and G Ranjith Reddy of Congress, are pitted against each other in Chevella LS constituency, Union minister and BJP state chief G Kishan Reddy is facing Congress and BRS MLAs, Danam Nagender and T Padma Rao Goud, both former ministers, in the Secunderabad Lok Sabha seat. Ranjith Reddy contested the 2019 polls and won on a BRS ticket, and is seeking to retain the seat again, but this time on a Congress ticket. New faces & veterans. Meanwhile, BJP's K

Madhavi Latha and Congress' Patnam Suneetha Reddy are two of the candidates making their debut in the Lok Sabha polls. While Madhavi is challenging AIMIM's Asaduddin Owaisi in Hyderabad Lok Sabha constituency, a seat dominated by the MIM for the past 40 years, Suneetha is pitted against veteran politician and former minister Eatela Rajender of BJP, who is also testing his electoral fortunes for the first time in parliamentary election from Malkajgiri constituency. Even Congress candidate Sameer Waliullah from Hyderabad and BRS candidate Ragidi Laxma Reddy from Malkajgiri are making their debut in the Lok Sabha polls. While big guns such as G Kishan Reddy, Konda Vishweshwar Reddy, Eatela Rajender, Danam Nagender, T Padma Rao Goud and BRS' Kasani Gnaneshwar from Chevella, have previously tasted defeat in at least one election — be it the municipal, assembly or general polls — Owaisi has never lost an election. In the 2019 Lok Sabha

elections, all the four major political players in the state had shared the honours by winning one seat each, with Owaisi retaining Hyderabad, BJP Secunderabad, BRS Chevella and Congress winning the Malkajgiri constituency. We also published the following articles recently: Chevella constituency of Telangana Lok Sabha election 2024: Date of voting, result, candidates list, main parties, schedule. Secunderabad Lok Sabha constituency in Telangana includes 7 Assembly segments. BRS won 9 seats, BJP 4, Congress 3, and AIMIM's Owaisi emerged victorious. In 2023, Congress won 64 seats, BRS 39, BJP 8, and AIMIM 7. CPI secured 1 seat. Telangana votes on May 13. Malkajgiri constituency of Telangana Lok Sabha election 2024: Date of voting, result, candidates list, main parties, schedule. Malkajgiri Lok Sabha in Telangana, with seven Assembly segments, saw Anumula Revanth Reddy's 2019 victory. Lok Sabha 2024 fourth phase is on May 13, expecting over 3.17 crore.

No reprieve from MCC for K'taka as MLC elections are announced

Bengaluru: With LS polls in Karnataka completed earlier last week, the state administration appears to be on "paid leave" as the Election Commission of India (ECI) has refused to consider relaxing the model code of conduct in states, where polls are over. Dashing any hopes of Karnataka getting "specific" relaxation, the MLC elections to the graduates' and teachers' constituencies announced on May 9 has meant there will be no reprieve in the situation with all development works forced to a standstill. "With the ministerial meetings and CM's meetings with the DCs coming under the MCC, we asked for specific relaxation of MCC to help the state mitigate the drought situation in Karnataka rather than seek a

general relaxation," said a CMO official. It is said soon after the second phase of polling on May 7, CM Siddaramaiah directed chief secretary Rajneesh Goel to write to the ECI seeking a relaxation. But the MLC election notification was issued on May 9 and MCC was put in force. "While the model code of conduct is important, in those states where elections have been completed, the ECI must relax the MCC and open up for at least basic administrative requirements," said economic advisor to the CM Basavaraj Rayareddy. One of the restrictions is that MLAs cannot visit their offices in the constituencies or reach out to ministers to seek assistance in resolving their concerns. With close to 25 days left for the results

of the ongoing Lok Sabha elections to be declared, it is said govt is worried that the lack of sufficient rains in the state may raise concerns about drinking water and lead to yet another drought. At the other end, if rains do come in abundance, then the govt may be left "ill-prepared" to tackle any floods which may occur. However, sources say MCC per se will not hurt any works taken up to address exigencies and that only political decisions may be hard to make due to ban on ministerial meetings and reviews of the ground situation. We also published the following articles: recently BJP's Kaiserganj candidate for Lok Sabha booked for violating MCCFIR against BJP's Karan Bhushan Singh for violating Model Code of

Conduct with unauthorized rally at Belsar Market amid supporters. Investigation launched post media reports, District Election Officer Neha Sharma noted violations, leading to FIR under IPC sections. Working on sound ban relaxation for indoor events: CMCM Sawant is exploring allowing indoor events to play music beyond 10pm in Goa. TTAG supports the initiative and recommends streamlining event permissions and addressing high copyright fees. The most relaxed zodiac signs on weekends: Taurus, Cancer, and Virgo prefer cozy weekends at home. Libras seek balance with friends. Pisceans are creative dreamers. Sagittarians recharge outdoors, enjoying leisurely activities, and exploring.

Tribal girl in Tamil Nadu tops class 10 boards from outside network coverage

TIRUCHY: "The number you're trying to reach is not available at the moment," echoes the recording whenever someone attempts to contact R Dhanusha, a tribal community girl from Sillaiyur village who has secured a centum in mathematics in the class 10 public examination. As there is no mobile phone tower in her place, it's quite tricky to reach out to Dhanusha and her parents, who are cashew farm workers in the village at Vannadu panchayat, nestled in the hills of Pachamalai. In order to talk to TNIE, she had to walk over a kilometre to

get connectivity. A student of Government Tribal Residential Higher Secondary School in Chinna Illupur, Dhanusha is the only student among all the five tribal residential schools in the Thuraiyur region to score a centum in the boards this year. Scoring a total of 450 marks, Dhanusha is also the topper of her school. With her voice breaking up over the call, Dhanusha said, "I travelled back and forth to my village on weekends to work alongside my parents in the agriculture field. When my father goes to work in the downhill area, I



take responsibility of the field along with my mother."

Rathika, mother of Dhanusha, said, "We are cashew cultivators by profession. Along with her studies, she helped us a lot with work. Whatever she opts to study, we will stand by her and help her achieve her dream." P Selvam, headmaster of the school, said, "We are happy that our student has achieved a centum. She has scored 450 in the exam and topped in the school. Hailing from a poor background, she was able to achieve this through her hard work under teachers' guidance. Since she is staying in the hostel, we gave

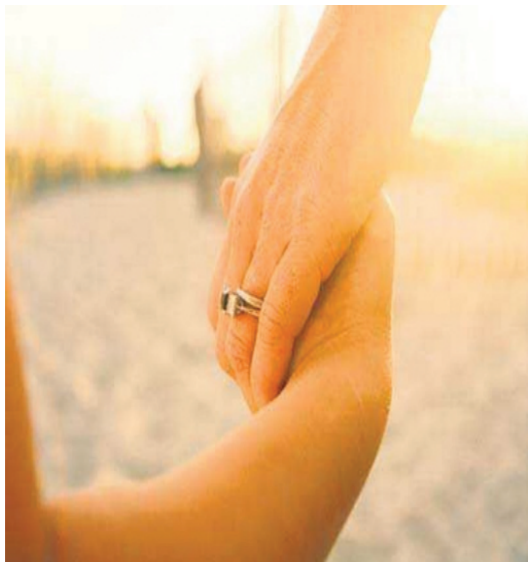
her focused training." He added, "If she had scored more than 90 in English, she might have scored above 480, setting a record for the highest marks scored by a student in the school's history. We are aiming for more centums in the next year." The same school achieved two centums in Science last year in the tenth public examination, as per sources. Dhanusha said, "I want to become a Collector (IAS officer) and do good for the people in my area. I want to thank my teacher R Suji and the headmaster for making this possible."

On Mother's Day, and every day

I can't forget that ear twisting I got from mom. I had taken a 10 paise coin from her purse to buy a kulfi without permission. Stealing is a bad habit was a lesson learnt, the harder way at that tender age of five. Her supervision and concern for me hasn't abated even after half a century of my existence. As the saying goes, life doesn't come with a manual, but it does come with a mother. Born in a middle class family in the mofussil town of Nabha, she disregarded the patriarchal societal diktats that discouraged girls from various outdoor activities. Be it playing hockey for college or attending NCC camps or pursuing her passion for music, she didn't let gender hamper her dreams. Later, she chose to teach instrumental music as a profession, something that wasn't common among girls from the so-called 'good families'. Finally retiring as a college principal, she was an epitome of women empowerment in her times.

Our father being in the Army was mostly away, posted in field areas. The responsibility of bringing up children singlehandedly fell upon her. During my years in boarding school, she would look me up every fortnight, travelling all the way in a bus on Sundays — the only easy day, perhaps, a working woman gets. When both her sons got commissioned, mom got the smartest salute from them. No doubt, a mother can take place of all others, but whose place no one else can take.

On entering teenage, I would get a pestering dose of lectures against drugs and juvenile vices to refrain from. "I have raised him this far, now I entrust you with the responsibility of grooming him for ethical soldiering" — she wouldn't hesitate even to 'instruct' my first commanding officer, who had been my father's subordinate in



the same regiment. A house proud octogenarian, she still manages her kitchen. On my getting married, she packed a 'working kitchen' for my bride, with an advice that the 'lady who manages the kitchen, controls the house'. Even today, she is our supplier of pickles, pinnis, homegrown mangoes and homemade wine. Before travelling, she never forgets to hand us an artistically packed meal for the journey. Love is invariably the secret ingredient in her cooking. She taught me the concept of God and that faith has always kept me anchored. A silent prayer of gratitude is better than a prayer of request, is what I learnt from her. Whenever the sea of life got rough, and for some reason I found God missing, I looked upon my mother to help me steer the right course.

Now, in the evening of her life, we don't have much time left under her protective wings. I dread the deafening silence that will follow once she returns to her maker. To the world, she is our mother, but to her family, she is the world.

I feel blessed that she has held my hand for such a long time, a privilege that has been denied to many.

Social erasure of women

Remember that many women are still laapataa. Worse, they don't even care to find themselves

Let us take a break from the daily exchange of disgusting barbs being flung by our venerable political leaders at each other. The level of political discourse has sunk so low by now that short of using actual swear words, rival candidates have tried everything else. So, a resolute silence over who will win and who will lose the 2024 elections! As far as I am concerned — and I'm sure there are many like me — we have all lost. Pity this proud democracy and its citizens for having such a useless bunch of leaders. That said, let me take you as far away from this muck as I can by recommending a film that needs to be seen and discussed for many reasons. Called 'Laapataa Ladies', produced by Aamir Khan and Kiran Rao, it is now available on Netflix for those who missed it in cinema halls. Long, long ago, Rabindranath Tagore wrote a story called 'Nouka Dubi' (The Boat Capsized) that had a similar theme. A barge carrying two sets of newly-wed couples capsizes, and in the melee that follows, the brides get exchanged. The story was made into a film and although I never saw it, it always tickled my fancy.

After all these years, Kiran Rao has picked up the same dilemma and brought it up to the present times by including some interesting twists in the plot. 'Laapataa Ladies' is set in the rural backwaters of the Hindi heartland, the last bastion of Hindu orthodoxy and patriarchal families. Like many of us, Rao says she always wondered what life in those sad-looking stations that trains pass by must be like. Dotted wind-swept fields and often a mere cluster of mud jhuggis with thatched roofs, they belong to an era that the rest of India left decades ago. Dusty, dismal, with no visible signs of modernity (such as electricity pylons, Internet towers and pucca buildings), life here seems frozen in a time warp. As we whizz past them in air-conditioned coaches, munching snacks and sipping fruit drinks, it is difficult to register this forgotten India that we all prefer not to see or think about, and ever visit.

The main plot of Rao's film is a variation of the Tagore story, where two brides — their faces covered by veils — get mixed up in the confusion of alighting from a train and end up with the wrong husband and wrong villages. One finds a home in the wrong sasural but the other — the really lost bride — has neither a home nor a sasural and ends up sitting on the platform of a tiny railway station, hoping that her husband (whose name she does not utter) will find



her. The efforts of the kindly station master and the local thanedar come to naught for Phool (this laapataa bride) cannot remember the name of her native village or that of her husband's village. Let me not say more about the delightful twists and turns that are negotiated by the scriptwriter and give the plot away, but here are some points that moved me.

Tempting as it must be to resort to stereotypes when creating low-level government characters, Rao manages to mine their softer side to reveal that humanity is still alive and kicking in India. Missing people are not just grainy photographs published in a remote corner of our newspapers, but lives that have an individual story that can shake one. That orphans, beggars and those with the least to offer are often the most generous among us, and that goodness is not yet completely buried by greed, goons and government karamcharis.

Beyond this, the curious case of a girl who doesn't remember her own name brought to my mind those countless women in our part of North India whose names were erased by their roles. So, bahu, bahurani, so-and-so ki amma, bitiya... all these were ways of making young brides forget that they had an identity of their own. Years ago, my nieces

decided to create a family tree of the women in their father's family. They were young feminists who did not like the idea that the official family tree they were shown had only men in all the branches. So they decided to ask their grandfather (the oldest person in their family) to help them fill in the blanks. Shockingly, he did not know his mother's name because she had passed away when he was just three. His own sisters, surrogate guardians after his mother's demise, were known as Choti Di, Bari Di, and referred to as only that. Other loving female relatives were Chachi, Bua, Mami and so on. Their names were laapataa! When our family panditji conducted any shraddh or puja, he only asked for the names of the males on either side (the paternal and maternal) to be recited. No woman was ever remembered in such rituals after she died.

PN Haksar's beautiful memoir ('One More Life, 1913-1929') is dedicated to all the nameless women of his family who gave him such a memorable early life, but who had no names other than the titles they were given in the family.

Think about this social erasure of women and remember that many women are still laapataa. Worse, they don't even care to find themselves.

Donkey flights

Jamaican case turns spotlight on the menace

LESS than five months after a Nicaragua-bound chartered plane, carrying mostly Indians, landed in Mumbai after running into trouble with the French authorities, a flight with 200-odd Indians on board was sent back to Dubai from Jamaica as immigration officials detected discrepancies in the passengers' documents. The group was reportedly transiting through the Caribbean country, with some of its travellers destined for Nicaragua 'in the hope of participating in a major housing development project'.

The Nicaragua angle has again turned the spotlight on the menace of donkey/dunki flights. Unscrupulous travel agents arrange such flights to Central American nations with the aim of facilitating passengers' illegal entry into the US. Nicaragua is popular among migrants apparently due to the ease of obtaining travel papers for the purpose. In January, the Gujarat Crime Investigation Department had said that the 66 passengers from the state on the chartered flight that was



grounded at Vatry airport in France in December 2023 on the suspicion of human trafficking had agreed to pay Rs

60-80 lakh to agents to illegally migrate to the US. Some passengers had allegedly paid an advance of up to Rs 8 lakh. At that time, the Punjab Police had formed an SIT to probe the case as several passengers were from the northern state.

It is obvious that an international network of agents — hand in glove with officials at every stage — is helping illegal migrants move from one country to another. The desperate travellers are risking life and limb, besides their life savings, to reach their final destination. Close coordination between agencies of various countries is needed to bust the flourishing human trafficking racket. It is a cause for concern that many unauthorised agents continue to ply their trade despite the frequently reported cases of boat tragedies and grounded flights. The Indian authorities must get their act together as the repeated involvement of its nationals in such illicit activities is an embarrassment for the nation.

Long court vacation goes against consumer interest

Consumer Protection Act mandates that cases be decided as expeditiously as possible. It is ironic that lawyers are seeking directions that go against the law

I have nothing against lawyers per se, but I certainly have strong reservations about their presence in consumer courts, because it militates against the very principle on which consumer protection jurisprudence and the grievance redress mechanism are built. They have not only slowed down the adjudication process in the consumer tribunals through repeated adjournments, but have also brought all the trappings of the civil court, making it difficult for consumers to fight their cases without lawyers. Now they want the apex consumer court, the National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission, to have long summer and winter vacations like the Supreme Court and the High Courts and have sought the intervention of the Delhi High Court to ensure that. If you look at the Consumer Protection (Consumer Commission Procedure) Regulations, first notified in 1987 (under the Consumer Protection Act of 1986), later revised in 2005 and notified again in 2020 under the new Consumer Protection Act, 2019, none of them provide for winter and summer vacations. The Regulations mandate normal working hours on all working days of the Central government in case of the National Commission and all working days of the state government in case of state consumer disputes redressal commissions and the district consumer disputes redressal commissions. So, declaring summer and winter vacations clearly violates the law. Yet, in a writ petition filed before the Delhi High Court, the All India Bar Association of the National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission has sought directions from the High Court to the Union government as well as the National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission to restore the summer vacation in the month of June and winter

vacation in the last week of December in the calendar of the Commission, in consonance with the calendars of the Supreme Court and the High Court and other tribunals and commissions working under different ministries. It is truly ironic that the lawyers, who are supposed to uphold the law, are seeking directions that go against the law! Unfortunately, the consumer commissions at the national, state and the district levels did violate the Regulations of 1987 and 2005 and enjoyed summer, winter and even Dasehra vacations. In fact, a look at the National Commission's calendar shows the declaration of summer and winter vacations till the year 2020. The calendar, however, changes from 2021 when the National Commission decided to abide by the Regulation notified in July 2020 and put a stop to those vacations and asked the state commissions and the district commissions to follow suit. Initially, some of the states were reluctant to comply, forcing the consumer affairs ministry in May 2022 to write to the chief secretaries of the states and the state commissions, urging them to comply with the Regulations in the interest of timely disposal of cases.

The effect of this, along with facilities like e-filing and videoconferencing, can be seen in the fact that the consumer commissions are recording for the first time a new, highly positive trend — the number of cases resolved in a year is more than the number of cases filed in that year. In 2023, for example, as against 1.26 lakh complaints filed, the number of



cases disposed of was 1.36 lakh. The record of the National Commission vis-à-vis the disposal rate was even more remarkable. Consequently, there is a slow decline in the number of pending cases before these commissions in the last few years. From 5,60,700 in 2021, the number of pending cases came down to 5,43,359 in 2023.

While consumers are upbeat about this, it is unfortunate that the lawyers are seeking an interim order from the Delhi High Court directing the National Commission not to list any cases in the

months of June and the last week of December. In other words, the lawyers now want a reversal of the encouraging developments of the last few years, just to suit their convenience. With its promise of simple and speedy consumer justice, the Consumer Protection Act mandates that cases be decided as expeditiously as possible and within three months. The law also says that no adjournment shall ordinarily be given. But, unfortunately, adjournments have been commonplace, thanks to lawyers.

Studies on the working of the consumer courts, by the Indian Institute of Public Administration, have consistently underscored this. Pointing to frequent postponement of the hearings as the biggest impediment to speedy justice before the consumer courts, its report of 2020 said that in 71.8 per cent of the cases filed before the district commissions, adjournments, often given for frivolous reasons, delayed the proceedings. In 25.6 per cent of the cases, such adjournments exceeded seven! The study, which analysed the procedural delay in the disposal of consumer complaints, also blamed lawyers for introducing unnecessary technicalities in the proceedings. Now, their writ petition, seeking to restore the long vacations of the apex consumer court, is certainly not in the interest of consumers or consumer justice.

Monsoon Hair care



Unmanageable hair screams the arrival of monsoon, and such weather calls for some extra attention to your tresses.

Dr. Sunaina Hameed, Consultant Dermatologist at Whitefield Columbia Asia Hospital believes that acid rain, dirty water and increased levels of humidity have an adverse effect on the hair and scalp. However, a few simple tweaks in your daily schedule can save you from these problems.

If you get caught in the rain, wash your hair with a mild shampoo as soon as possible. Don't forget to use a conditioner after rinse. Also, limit the use of hair dryers and opt for air-drying instead.

Apply warmargan oil to your scalp and run a comb through your hair to get the oil to reach up to the tips. Smooth out wet and tangled hair using a wide-toothed comb. This will help prevent hair fall and breakage.

Monsoon humidity can cause an itchy scalp and dandruff. Natural cures include rubbing neem oil and lemon on your scalp to get rid of itchiness. In case these aren't enough, use a mild ketoconazole or zinc pyrithione (ZPTO) shampoo.

This season can leave your scalp prone to tiny painful pus filled boils. This is a medical condition known as folliculitis caused by bacterial or fungal infection in the hair follicles. Use an anti-bacterial shampoo (like Cetirilak) every day. In case it doesn't help, consult a dermatologist for antibiotics.

Humidity can cause your hair to get frizzy. Use a heavy



cream based conditioner and a leave-on hair serum to tame the frizz. Tone down the use of waxes and gels. Do not tie or braid your hair when it is wet.

Minimize the use of hot irons and curling irons during this season.

Aloe vera gel is an excellent hair mask and beer is an excellent conditioner. Use them once a week for nourishment.

When you can't tame your hair on a bad hair day, just accessorise! Use a scarfs, bandanas or colourful hair bands as temporary fixes.

Curry leaf extract, neem oil, hibiscus extract, black tea, henna, coffee powder, reeta (soapnut powder), gooseberry and acacia (shikakhai) are excellent herbal and home-based remedies to darken your hair.

Lemons have different uses — they're beneficial for your skin, hair and even nails. Read on to know how you can use them...

- Have a lot of blackheads, which refuse to disappear just by using beauty products? Lemon juice is an effective way to prevent and remove blackheads. Use a cotton soaked lightly with a few drops of lemon juice and gently apply on your face every alternate day.
- Skin feeling flaky or dry? Instead of using your normal moisturiser, head to the kitchen and make a

Make lemons Your beauty must-have

Were you aware that the humble lemon, apart from adding taste to your food, is also great for your skin and hair?



paste out of honey and lemon juice and apply it all over your face, hands and legs. Add a few drops of

water if the paste is too thick.

■ Another very effective moisturising combination is lemon mixed with fresh coconut water. Use it as a face wash every morning and see how fresh your skin feels.

■ Get rid of those unsightly dark patches on your knees, elbows and toes by rubbing a fresh lemon on them

■ Fix yellow and brittle nails by mixing lemon juice with a few drops of castor or almond oil. Let the slick mixture sit on your nails for about 20 minutes and wash off with lukewarm water.

■ Suffering from dandruff and a dry, itchy and flaky scalp? Apply lemon juice on the scalp and see how it gets rid of flakes. Do this about thrice a week for best results.

■ You could also use lemon juice to exfoliate your lips. Mix it with some sugar and rub your lips with it.

Simple steps to glowing Skin

Here are some tips to boost your skin's health, reports femalefirst.co.uk:

Drink lots of water:

Every system and function in our body depends on water. Skin is no different. Dry skin has less resilience and is more prone to wrinkling, so ensure you take in enough water to reach your skin and keep it hydrated. Two to three litres a day is usually about right.

Multi-task:

Looking after your skin doesn't have to stop at home, so carry a multi-tasking quick-fix with you in your handbag for dewy skin on the go. A water spray can be used to cool and calm even the most sensitive complexions. Not only does it tone the skin, but it can also be used to set make-up and refresh skin on a hot day, as well as soothing and softening skin on the go.

Always remove make-up:

It sounds obvious, but one in five women still admit to sleeping with make-up on when away from home. During summer nights, one is naturally warmer and sweatier and if make-up is left on overnight, and bacteria is more likely to develop, leaving pores



blocked and resulting in an increased chance of waking up with bad skin outbreaks - whether spots or dry patches.

Stick to products meant for your skin:

The internet can give out weird and wonderful information, but not all of it is accurate. Be aware that not everything you read will work. A common mistake is using toothpaste on spots - toothpaste is meant for your teeth which are one of the hardest surfaces in your body. Using a product on your skin which is actually intended for the teeth will damage your skin and cause it to completely dry out.

Wear SPF throughout the year:

It's easy to assume that just because the sun isn't out, you don't need to use a product with SPF in it. But UVA rays are constantly present, no matter the season or the weather and these are the ones that cause the skin to age because they are able to penetrate much deeper into the surface of the skin, damaging the cells beneath.



It's not a bad idea after all to go bare faced sometimes, but make sure you have healthy and glowing skin. Ensure drinking water and using sunscreen to get that glow.

Reverse shampoo routine for healthier hair

Want softer and bouncy curls? Then try the reverse shampooing technique.

One of the hottest haircare trends, this method requires you to first condition your hair and then wash it off with shampoo. Experts and those who have tried this method swear by its results, confirming that the hair is much shiny and manageable than before.

The logic behind it There are two ways of looking at it. Anooradha Mittal, a hairdresser, says, "When you douse your hair with conditioner at the end of a wash, you run the risk of not rinsing it off completely. So, chances of your hair becoming greasy and accumulating dirt is high. The logic behind conditioning first is to let the conditioner do its job completely — protect hair from chemicals present in the shampoo and lock the moisture and natural oils. However, most salon experts follow the process of applying a conditioner towards the end."

How to reverse hair wash Wet your hair. Pour a coin-sized



amount of conditioner on your palm and apply it evenly. Avoid the roots and scalp, and concentrate more on the strands. Leave it on for five minutes before washing. Shampoo the regular way and rinse off all lather.

What are the benefits? According to trichologist Srimadh Bave, with this technique, your hair gets the moisturising benefits from

the conditioner and proper cleansing from the shampoo, without leaving behind any residue. "If not washed well, conditioners at the end of a routine leave behind a coating on strands, which attract dirt and grime."

When your hair is wet, it's at a high risk of breakage. A pre-conditioning routine fortifies hair. You can even leave a light conditioner on for about half an hour before shampooing it off.

This regime adds volume to hair, makes it shiny and gives a soft texture. It also makes your curls frizz-free.

A mixture of a light conditioner and water can act as a good detangler. Separate hair into sections after applying the mix and slowly remove the knots.

The biggest advantages of reverse hair wash? It's low maintenance (because you are not buying any extra high-end haircare product but using your routine conditioner and shampoo) and you spend the same time putting this process into practice.



Hoax Bomb Scare Grips Delhi Hospitals, Airport After Threats To Schools

New Delhi: Several hospitals in Delhi, along with the Indira Gandhi International Airport, received bomb threat emails on Sunday, triggering a panic and sending the security personnel into a tizzy. However, subsequent investigations by Delhi Police revealed the threats to be false alarms.

The fresh incident follows closely on the heels of a similar incident over 10 days ago when over 100 schools across Delhi-NCR received hoax threat emails, prompting widespread police response searches. On Sunday, bomb threat emails were sent to 21 addresses, prompting the hospitals to notify police, who along with bomb disposal squads conducted extensive searches of all the premises, yet no evidence of any explosives was discovered.

At around 3.30 p.m. on Sunday, a bomb hoax email was received at GTB Hospital, GTB Enclave. Hospital authorities informed the local police about that email. Immediately, the police swung into action and called the

Bomb Disposal Squad at the Hospital and got the checking done at GTB Hospital and

Delhi State Cancer Institute (situated within the premises of GTB Hospital). Nothing suspicious was found," said Deputy Commissioner of Police (Shahdara), Surendra Choudhary. "I have placed explosives inside the building. They will explode... this isn't a threat, you have a few hours to defuse the bombs or else the blood of innocent people inside the building will be on your hands," read the email whose screenshot was accessed by IANS. "The group called 'Court' is behind this massacre," the email sent around 3.05 p.m. on Sunday read. In north Delhi, Burari Hospital also received a similar threat, following which the police, accompanied by bomb disposal squads, conducted thorough searches. However,

nothing threatening was uncovered. "An email was received at the hospital



regarding a bomb threat. Police and a bomb disposal team conducted searches at Burari Hospital. Nothing suspicious was found," said DCP (North) M.K. Meena. "No information regarding the bomb threat

email came from Hindu Rao and Aruna Asif Ali hospitals. However, we searched over there too as the email addresses were mentioned in the email. Nothing suspicious was found," added Mr Meena.

A senior Municipal Corporation of Delhi official said that the Additional Medical Superintendent of Hindu Rao Hospital, nodal officer, exigency officer and security in-charge of the hospital took another round of the hospital premises and a few openings were instructed to be closed. "Directions to increase security checks at night and increased questioning and inspection issued. OT, Emergency, CCU, and Blood Bank are equipped for any adverse event. The hospital is on high alert for QRT activation. Hospital staff have also been asked to be vigilant," said the MCD

official. In Dwarka, the Dabri police station received a call reporting a bomb threat email directed at Dada Dev Hospital. Police and hospital staff checked the premises of the hospital. But nothing suspicious was found in the hospital," said DCP (Dwarka) Ankit Singh. The Security Operations Control Centre at Indira Gandhi International Airport received a threat regarding the presence of an explosive device on the premises. However, upon investigation, nothing was discovered. "The Security Operations Control Centre at IGI Airport has received a threat email concerning an explosive device within the premises. Enhanced security protocols are now in effect, and safety measures have been intensified. Legal action has been initiated. No suspicious items have been found as of now," said DCP (IGI Airport) Usha Rangnani, adding: "Please remain calm and disregard any rumours."

BJP vs NOTA, World Cup-Winning Cricketers: Phase 4 Interesting Facts

New Delhi: Ninety-six Lok Sabha constituencies across 10 states and Union territories including all seats in Andhra Pradesh, where assembly elections are also being held concurrently, and Telangana will go to polls today. In the fourth phase, polling will be held in 17 Lok Sabha seats in Telangana, 25 in Andhra Pradesh, 13 in Uttar Pradesh, five in Bihar, four in Jharkhand, eight in Madhya Pradesh, 11 in Maharashtra, four in Odisha, eight in West Bengal and one in Jammu and Kashmir.

The fourth round will be witness to some interesting battles and the fate of several high-profile candidates will be decided in this phase - World Cup-winning cricketers Yusuf Pathan and Kirti Azad, Samajwadi Party chief Akhilesh Yadav and AIMIM boss among others. The phase will also see a curious battle between the BJP and NOTA. Here Are Some Interesting Facts About Phase 4:

- High-Profile Candidates:** The phase will see several high-profile candidates - former Uttar Pradesh chief minister Akhilesh Yadav, Mahua Moitra - who was expelled as an MP last December in the cash-for-query case, is contesting again from West Bengal's Krishnanagar. Congress' Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury is contesting against BJP's Nirmal Kumar Saha and Trinamool's pick and former cricketer Yusuf Pathan. AIMIM chief Asaduddin Owaisi will contest from his family stronghold Hyderabad. Andhra Pradesh Congress president YS Sharmila, the sister of Chief Minister and YSRCP chief YS Jagan Mohan Reddy, is contesting from Kadapa in Andhra Pradesh, represented in the past by her father and former Chief Minister, late YS Rajasekhara Reddy.
- Richest Candidate In Fray:** Pemasani Chandra Sekhar of the Telugu Desam Party (TDP) is the richest candidate in this phase, with assets exceeding ₹ 5,700 crore. He is closely followed by Konda Vishwehwar Reddy of the BJP from Telangana, with assets worth ₹ 4,568 crore. Mr Pemasani, in a conversation with NDTV, said that he feels that his status as the richest candidate should not count.
- BJP vs NOTA:** In Indore, the Congress has been appealing to voters to select the NOTA option on the polling day on May 13 after a last-minute withdrawal of nomination by the party candidate Akshay Kanti Bam on April 29, who later joined the BJP. The appeal has drawn sharp criticism by the BJP. World Cup-Winning Cricketers To Test Poll Pitch: Former cricketer Kirti Azad, who was part of the Kapil Dev-led team that won the 1983 cricket World Cup, is contesting from Bardhaman-Durgapur. Yusuf Pathan, a member of the Indian Cricket team that won the World Cup in 2011 has been fielded from Behrampur seat in Murshidabad.

Woman claiming to be Swati Maliwal alleged assault at Chief Minister's home: Cops

New Delhi: Delhi Police received two successive calls on Monday morning, both originating from the Chief Minister's residence in Civil Lines, police sources said. The caller, claiming to be AAP leader Swati Maliwal, reportedly dialled emergency services after allegedly being assaulted. According to police sources, the call came around 9:30 AM. The caller claimed she was assaulted by Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal's aide, Vibhav Kumar. A senior Delhi Police official said, "One PCR call at 9:34 AM has been received at PS Civil Lines from a lady saying she was assaulted at Chief Minister's house. After some time, MP madam came to PS Civil Lines, but she left stating she will file a complaint later."

TWOCALLS TO DELHI POLICE

India Today TV accessed the police diary entry detailing the two PCR calls that were made from the Chief Minister's house. In the first call, the caller claimed that they were at the Chief Minister's residence, where the Chief Minister had a fight with his personal assistant, Vibhav Kumar.

Police said after they received the second call, they made a correction in the diary entry. Identifying the caller as a woman.

Prajwal Revanna case: 2 BJP workers arrested for circulating obscene clips

New Delhi: The Karnataka Special Investigation Team (SIT) probing the alleged sexual abuse of women by suspended JD(S) MP Prajwal Revanna, on Sunday, arrested two men in connection with the leak and circulation of obscene videos involving Hassan MP Chetan and Likith Gowda are BJP workers who were taken to their residences in Yelagunda and Shraavanabelagola respectively, after their arrest for a spot inquest. They underwent medical tests before being produced in court last evening.

Pen-drives containing the alleged explicit videos involving Prajwal Revanna, were circulated a few days ahead of the first phase of Lok Sabha polls in the state on April 26. Numerous flash drives with more than 2,900 videos, purportedly recorded by sitting



Hassan MP Prajwal Revanna himself, were distributed across his constituency. Hassan district went to the polls in the first phase.

These graphic videos, which eventually found their way onto social media platforms, triggered public outcry and put Karnataka politics on the boil. While the Congress government has formed a SIT to probe the cases, the BJP and JD(S) - NDA partners - have demanded that it be handed over to the CBI, and action against those behind the circulation of explicit videos. The BJP and JD(S) leaders have alleged the role of Congress leaders behind the circulation of explicit videos.

Wearing Turban, PM Modi Serves Langar At Historic Patna Gurdwara

New Delhi: Wearing a turban and holding a pot of kheer, Prime Minister Narendra Modi today served langar, a communal meal, to devotees at the Takhat Sri Harimandir Ji Patna Sahib Gurdwara in Bihar's capital Patna. The Takhat Sri Patna Sahib Gurdwara holds profound significance as the birthplace of Guru Gobind Singh, the tenth Sikh Guru. It's construction was commissioned by Maharaja Ranjit Singh in the 18th century to mark the birthplace of Guru Gobind Singh.

PM Modi also helped the Gurdwara management to cook food for the langar. In peak poll season, PM Modi last night held a roadshow in Patna. The Prime Minister travelled a distance of approximately one and a half kilometers atop a vehicle adorned with flowers and BJP symbols. Accompanied by Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar, Deputy Chief Minister Samrat Choudhary, and State BJP President Ravi Shankar Prasad, PM

Modi waved at the crowds that thronged the streets.

Speaking exclusively to NDTV during the roadshow on Sunday, the Prime Minister predicted a clean sweep for the alliance in Bihar and said in Hindi,



"I have spoken to our allies in Bihar. We had lost one seat (in 2019) and we may not lose even one this time." "I have come here very often for organisational work and have visited different parts of the state. I have very old connections here," PM Modi told. Bihar is a key state in the 2024 Lok

Sabha elections. With its contingent of 40 Members of Parliament, Bihar stands as the fourth-largest contributor to the Lok Sabha. The recent political landscape in the state has been marked by tectonic shifts, with the most significant being the return of Nitish Kumar and his JD(U) party to the NDA fold. "Bihar has infused this resolve with new colours. It has given it new strength. The atmosphere across the country is mirrored in Bihar too," PM Modi told.

In 2019, the BJP and the JD(U) had formed a formidable alliance, contesting 17 seats each, while the Lok Janshakti Party (LJP) had its share of six constituencies. The BJP-JDU combine emerged victorious in all their designated seats. The Congress clinched victory in Kishanganj, leaving Lalu Yadav's Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) empty-handed.

All About MDH And Everest, 2 Iconic Indian Spice Brands Under Scrutiny

New Delhi: For decades, India's spice makers MDH and Everest have been ubiquitous in kitchens around the world with their products being essential ingredients in chicken and fish curries and vegetable dishes.

A Hong Kong sales ban on some of their products after a cancer-causing pesticide was found has triggered a wave of scrutiny, including in the United States, the Maldives, India and Australia. Both brands say their products are safe. Here are some facts and background on the two brands: "Mahashian Di Hatti", Popularly Known As MDH* New Delhi-based MDH started in 1919 and is a family-run business.

* It rose to popularity with ads and packaging featuring its founder Dharampal Gulati who sported a handlebar moustache and a turban. Gulati, often dubbed as India's "Spice King", died in 2020. MDH's website

says it has 62 products. It deals in ground spices, as well as spice blends which were created after "decades of research".* MDH has five factories and its products are sold in



India and markets such as Australia, the United States, Europe, Canada and the United Kingdom through a network of more than 400,000 retail dealers.* MDH's revenue for 2022-2023 stood at

\$260 million. Everest* Everest Food Products started in 1967 with three products. Its founder Vadilal Bhai Shah started his business from a small 200 square feet spice shop.* With 52 products, Everest today has global presence in around 80 countries, including in North America, Europe, the Middle East, the Asia Pacific and Africa.* Some 20 million households use Everest products every day and 3.7 billion packs of its products are sold each year, according to its website. Around 620,000 outlets sell Everest products in 1,000 small towns and cities of India.* India's Bollywood stars Amitabh Bachchan and Shah Rukh Khan are Everest brand ambassadors, appearing together in many TV commercials to promote its products, especially those to make the famous rice dish, biryani. stood at \$365 million.

Akhilesh Yadav To Asaduddin Owaisi: Big Names Taking Poll Test In Phase 4

Among candidates for the phase 4 of Lok Sabha polls are several heavyweights whose poll performance will be watched closely across the country.

New Delhi: A total of 1717 candidates are contesting in the fourth phase of Lok Sabha polls today, when 96 seats across 10 states and Union Territories are going to polls. Among these candidates are several heavyweights whose poll performance will be watched closely across the country.

Here's a look at some of the big faces in this phase: The Samajwadi Party president and

former Uttar Pradesh chief minister is back into the parliamentary election arena this time from Kannauj, a seat he represented for 12 years -- from 2000-2012. Held by Samajwadi Party for over two decades, Kannauj fell to the BJP in the 2019 election, when Subrat Pathak defeated sitting MP and Mr Yadav's wife Dimple Yadav by a slim margin of less than 13,000 votes. The BJP has retained Mr Pathak as their candidate this time.

The Kannauj battle is a prestige fight for Samajwadi Party as Mr Yadav pushes to win back the family stronghold once represented by his late father Mulayam Singh Yadav. The BSP has named Imran Bin Zafar as its candidate from Kannauj, but it is likely to be a straight fight between the Samajwadi Party and the BJP. The firebrand Trinamool Congress leader, who was expelled as an MP last December in the cash-for-query case, is contesting again from West Bengal's Krishnanagar, which elected her in the 2019 election. The seat has been with the Trinamool Congress since 2009. The BJP has fielded



Amrita Roy, a member of Krishnanagar's erstwhile royal family. Ms Roy joined the BJP in March this year. She made national headlines when Prime Minister Narendra Modi spoke to her over the telephone late in March. The Trinamool has said Raja Krishnachandra, once Krishnanagar's king, "conspired with Mir Jafar, Jagat Seth and Umi Chand and sold himself out to the British like a spineless traitor". The ruling party has said "Rajmata" Amrita Roy, his family member, has shamelessly embraced the Bangla-birodhi BJP, sealing a pact to once again deceive the people of

Bengal". During the phone call with the Prime Minister, Ms Roy said the Trinamool is calling her family "traitor" and added that Krishnachandra Roy worked for people and joined hands with other kings of the time to save "Sanatan Dharma". The CPM has fielded SM Saadi, a former MLA, as its candidate. Of the eight West Bengal seats going to polls in the third phase is Baharampur, the fort of Congress leader in Lok Sabha, Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury. A five-time MP from the seat, Mr Chowdhury is known to hold considerable clout in the north Bengal constituency. This time, he is up against the BJP's Nirmal Kumar Saha and Trinamool's pick, former cricketer Yusuf Pathan. Of the seven Assembly segments that are part of the Lok Sabha seat, six are with the Trinamool Congress and the ruling party in Bengal will be trying hard to unseat Mr Chowdhury, among the most-vocal critics of Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee.

Tips to look flawless and acne-free in summer



Ensure facial hygiene to avoid acne and rashes in summer. Here are some tips that can help you look flawless and acne-free:

Watch your diet:

One should avoid food such as doughnuts, wheat bread, soda and baked potatoes. Removing sugary and starchy products from your diet will help you control acne and will keep you healthy in the long run.

Avoid stress:

Physical as well as emotional stress has been proven to trigger acne breakouts in some people. Wrong cosmetics: Another common factor responsible for causing acne is the use of certain kinds of cosmetics and cleansing products. Avoid using greasy or harsh products or those whose ingredients you are allergic to. These products tend to clog your skin pores and irritate your skin, and result in acne breakouts.

Facial hygiene:

Wash your face with a gentle cleanser at regular intervals. Splashing fresh water on your facial skin rejuvenates it and the hydration prevents acne and pimples.

Include fruits and vegetables in your diet: These foods not only work wonders for your overall health, they are also vital sources of antioxidants, vitamins and other essential nutrients that erase the signs of acne and heal acne-ridden skin.

Hydration:

Make sure you drink lots of water throughout the day. Water flushes out toxins and other impurities from your system and keeps your skin cleansed and hydrated. Avoid a sedentary lifestyle: Try and remain physically active. Yoga and exercise improve your skin and boost metabolism.

Wear comfortable clothing: Sport loose clothes that do not irritate your skin. Prevent acne breakouts by avoiding the heat, friction and constant pressure caused by restrictive headgear or other forms of athletic gear. Switch to cotton clothing instead of wearing synthetic.

Clean up after exercise:

Make sure you shower after exercising to get the sweat and grime off as soon as possible. When you sweat after a serious workout, there is an accumulation of dead cells on the surface of your skin. It is essential to remove these immediately to avoid blockages which can then lead to acne breakouts.



Five benefits of having Oily skin

So, you thought it was downright bad to have an oily skin? Well, it's time to think again. The occasional breakouts should not demoralise. Because, here are a five benefits of having an oily skin.

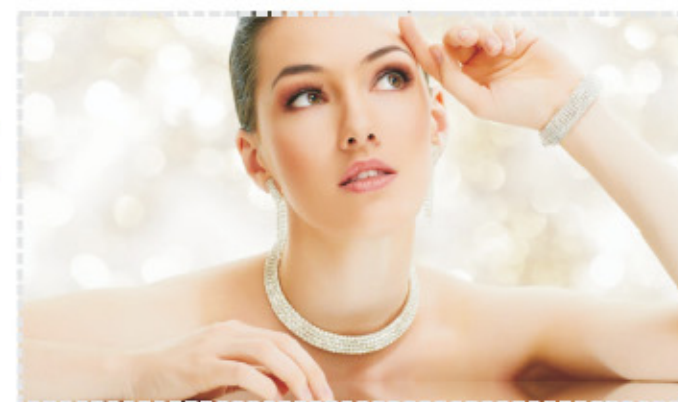
Much slower rate of aging: People with dry skin show the signs of aging much faster than the ones with oily skin. Wrinkles and fine lines get camouflaged by the oily skin. Your skin a natural glow, all the time: The shine on your oily face doesn't look bad all the time. While many buy expensive products to get that shiny T-zone, you have it for free. Isn't that awesome? Your face has natural oils: And these oils keep your skin healthy and soft. Hence, you don't need expensive day or

night creams to protect your skin and make it smooth. Your skin will always be moisturised, season no bar: Your skin's natural oils will take care of it. Not only that, your skin is also resilient to the harshness of various environmental conditions.

Low maintenance: Yes, you don't need those heavy foundations that wear out in the middle of the day. A simple dash of face powder and you are ready to go.

Tips on packing Jewellery for your travels

If you are an accessory lover, chances are that while packing for a vacations, you end up carrying a fair bit of weight, thanks to your jewellery bag.



But with a few tricks, you can easily reduce your load. Just carry versatile pieces that you can mix and match.

We give you a few tips on how you can maximise the use of a few chosen pieces and travel light.

Pick versatile and convertible pieces: These make packing convenient because they do the work of more than one piece. For instance, a necklace can easily double up as a stylish bracelet.

Pearl earrings: They won't get in your way while you're navigating through airports. Besides, they add sophistication to the overall look of the outfit.

Your favourite everyday piece: Be it a ring, a bracelet or delicate chain, there are a few pieces that can add to any look.

A dash of colour: Pick jewellery with pop colours because they have the ability to instantly make a simple black dress chic.

Sparkle and shine: Add a little sparkle to an outfit by wearing a pair of hoop earrings. It's easier than packing another dress.

Makeup on acne?

This could be tricky if you are not aware of the dermatological effects.

When you are suffering from acne you need to be careful of what you wear on your skin because the wrong cream or powder can aggravate your condition. However, the right product can, not just camouflage your acne marks but also lend an elusive iridescence to your skin.

Dr Sama Rais, consultant dermatologist and cosmetologist says that if one is suffering from mild acne one must preferably apply light makeup like a daily-wear foundation and a concealer which is non-comedogenic. She adds, "When you have acne you should avoid clogging of pores and so, must not use heavy makeup that cakes up on your face." However, she cautions, "In the initial phase, while undergoing treatments, it is best to avoid makeup till the eruptions settle a bit."

In the later course of the treatment when you have only acne marks left on your skin, experts say, that it is completely okay to wear light makeup.

Covering marks with makeup could also boost one's confidence.

Dr Poonam Wadhvani, cosmetic dermatologist says, "For acne prone skin always apply makeup, which is paraben-free or oil-free or lanolin-free and non-comedogenic."

Choosing the right product is essential, emphasises Dr Wadhvani. She adds, "If one has oily skin, one should never use a creamy, hydrating moisturiser. Rather, one should use a primer, a good foundation and then dust powder on top of it."

Dermatologist Dr Geeta Oberoi calls attention to using minimal makeup on skin that has acne. She states, "Use light makeup to just conceal the marks during the day. But you need to make sure to keep your face makeup free at night or when at home, to avoid clogging of pores." Dr Oberoi also cautions, "Do not use oil as a makeup remover if you have acne. Opt for a double cleansing with a cleanser to remove makeup followed by a medicated face wash."

Let your hair shine in summer



Here are some easy tips to prepare your hair for the season.

-Cleansing

We often end up with various hair problems during the summer - things like hairfall and dandruff are common occurrences due to the build up of dirt and pollution on our scalp. A dirty scalp tends to get really oily and will make our hair feel heavy and unflattering. Therefore, it is important to wash our hair more often in the summer.

Use the Hair Spa Rejuvenation shampoo two to three times a week. The product is infused with hydrating marine minerals complex and essential nutrients that deeply nourish and cleanse the scalp.

-Massage and Condition

It always helps to massage your scalp during the summer as it increases the blood flow, leaves your hair beautifully nourished and will also make you feel rejuvenated. Once you wash your hair, apply a generous amount of the Hair Spa Rejuvenation conditioner to wet hair. The conditioner is especially designed to massage the scalp and moisturize the hair. This prevents it from tangling, making it softer and smoother.

-Protect

We all worry about UV protection for our skin, but what about the hair? UVA and UVB rays can also cause damage to the cuticles leaving your hair dry, frizzy and dull. It's time to get creative with that headgear. Experiment with hats and scarves that will not only make you look stylish, but will also double up and protect your hair from the harsh sun.

- Use hair-friendly tools

and styles

Since your hair is already prone to so much damage in the summer because of all the heat and humidity, we should ensure that all other processes are smooth and hassle-free.

If you choose to blow dry your hair, avoid heat and opt for the cool setting. It's there for a reason.

Avoid metal or rubber when buying hair accessories as they can easily entangle the hair causing breakage. Cotton or plastic hair bands will always be safer.

Opt for loose styles such as fishtail braids or a glamorous messy bun that are really summer-friendly and easily be created at home.

- Protect those tresses while swimming

There is no better feeling than taking a dip into cool water during the scorching summer heat.

The pool water is usually loaded with chlorine and other chemicals that can cause damage to the hair. While you may feel good, you will notice that your hair gets frizzy.

When you are in the pool, ensure that you cover up with a swimming cap.

After swim, care is also really important so ensure that you wash and condition your hair with moisturizing hair products.

- Stay healthy

It's not only about what you put on your hair that matters, but also what you put inside your body. Maintain a diet that is rich in Vitamins, Iron and Zinc that help in preventing your hair from becoming dull, thin and dry. Indulge in different kinds of berries and fruits like kiwis, oranges and papaya, while also gorging on all things green. Spinach and other leafy vegetables are really high in Iron content and can do wonders for your hair. Don't forget to include a wide variety of nuts

Cleanse and condition your hair well, use the right tools and protect it from heat, humidity and pollution for a healthy shine on your mane.

in your diet as they act as superfoods for your hair. They are rich in Vitamin E which boost blood circulation to the scalp and keeps the hair follicles healthy.

Blues In Indian Market: Sensex Declines Over 650 Points, Nifty Below 21,900

New Delhi. The BSE Sensex on May 13 declined 656.52 points to 72,007, while the NSE Nifty also dropped 174.15 points to below 21,900. Tata Motors, JSW Steel, Tata Steel, SBI and NTPC were the biggest laggards dragging the domestic equities market. The rupee also opened on a flat note at 83.51 against US dollar.

Among the Sensex shares, 27 out of 30 shares were trading in the red. Only Sun Pharma, Asian Paints and Kotak Mahindra Bank were in the green.

V K Vijayakumar, chief investment strategist at Geojit Financial Services, said, "There is confusion regarding the reasons for the aggressive FPI selling in May. There are media reports attributing the FPI selling to possible setbacks to the NDA/BJP in the elections. It is important to understand that the FPI selling is due to a change in FPI stance from 'sell China, buy India' earlier to 'sell India, buy China' now. This change in stance has been caused by the recent outperformance of China (Shanghai Composite up by 3.96% and Hang Seng up by 10.93% last one month) and underperformance of India (Nifty down by 2.06% last one month). This is likely to be a near-term trend triggered by the cheap valuations of Chinese stocks and the relative high valuations of India."

He added that it is important to understand that India's long-term prospects are much better than China's. Results of the autos sector are good. The sector is in a cyclical uptrend.

Technical View

Nifty fell below 22,000 raising concerns of a drop to 21,500. There's a slim chance of a short-term bounce to 22,400 early this week based on technical indicators, but only if Nifty stays above 21,777 and surpasses 22,095. Anand James, chief market strategist at Geojit Financial Services, said

"The break of 22000 in Nifty did bring in jitters, and the recovery swing on Friday failed to push much above our upside marker of 22095. Seen in isolation this suggests that the 21500 trajectory that we had set out with on Friday continues to be in play."

Tata Motors Declines 7.7% To Below Rs 1,000 On BSE: What Brokers Say?

New Delhi. Tata Motors on Monday declined 7.68 per cent to below Rs 1,000 at Rs 966.40 apiece on the BSE in the early trade, as its Q4 results missed Street estimates and brokerage retained 'Reduce' position. Its net profit during January-March 2024 soared over threefold in Q4, with its share price rising on Friday. However, it missed Street estimates on revenue and Ebitda fronts.

Tata Motors' total consolidated revenue from operations during January-March 2024 stood at Rs 1,19,986.31 crore, compared with Rs 1,05,932.35 crore in the year-ago period. Following the Q4 results, brokerage Emkay Global retained its 'Reduce' rating on the Tata Motors stock, with an unchanged target price of Rs 950 per share.

It said Tata Motors' Q4 earnings were muted, with limited margin expansion across businesses, despite higher volumes. While deleveraging progress continued, it believes the best may be behind for all businesses amid declining orderbook, normalising mix, flattish growth outlook for domestic CV space; and moderating India PV outlook.

Another brokerage Novuma also retained its 'Reduce' view. It said, "A muted showing in India CV is likely due to loss of share to railways (DFC), slowdown in infra spend and high base. We are building in a moderate revenue/EBITDA CAGR of 8 per cent/13 per cent over FY24-26E versus 21 per cent/25 per cent over FY21-24. Tata Motors has rallied 15 per cent/60 per cent in past three/six months, and 1-year forward EV/EBITDA is 6 times against 5-year mean of 5 times. Retain 'REDUCE' with target at Rs 940 (unchanged)."

It added that Tata Motors' revenue and Ebitda missed estimates slightly due to lower-than-expected numbers in India CV and PV divisions. JLR order book fell from 1,48,000 units in December to 1,33,000 units in March, it said.

Indegene IPO Posts Stellar 45% Listing Gains

New Delhi. Indegene IPO on Monday posted over 45 per cent gain on its listing day. The share opened at Rs 659.7 apiece on the BSE on the listing day as against the issue price of Rs 452. However, after the opening, the stock faced selling pressure and corrected around 10 per cent to Rs 594 apiece on the BSE. The initial public offering (IPO) of healthcare tech firm Indegene, which was open for public subscription between May 6 and May 8, received a whopping 69.71 times subscription. The Rs 1,841.75-crore IPO received bids for 2,01,22,03,281 shares against 2,88,66,677 shares on offer.

The portion for Qualified Institutional Buyers (QIBs) got subscribed a whopping 197.55 times while the part for non-institutional investors received



54.75 times subscription. The quota for Retail Individual Investors (RIIs) garnered 7.68 times subscription. The IPO had a fresh issue of up to Rs 760 crore and an offer for sale of up to 2,39,32,732 equity shares. The price range for the offer remained Rs 430-452 a share. On Friday, Indegene Ltd said it raised Rs 549 crore from anchor investors.

Funds raised through the fresh issue would be used to pay debt, fund capital expenditure requirements, payment of deferred consideration for one of its past acquisitions, fund inorganic growth and general corporate purposes. Founded in 1998, Indegene offers solutions that help enable biopharmaceutical, emerging biotech and medical devices companies to develop products, launch them in the market, and drive sales throughout their life cycle. Kotak Mahindra Capital Company, Citigroup Global Markets India, J.P. Morgan India and Nomura Financial Advisory and Securities (India) are the managers to the offer.

Aadhar Housing Finance allotment finalised. Check status

Aadhar Housing Finance IPO

oversubscribed 26.76 times

IPO's grey market premium

stands at Rs 65

IPO funds to be used for lending

activities, corporate purposes

New Delhi. The initial public offering (IPO) of Aadhar Housing Finance closed for public issue on May 10 with an overall subscription of more than 26 times. The IPO received an overall subscription of 26.76 times. The public issue was subscribed 2.58 times in the retail category, 76.42 times in the Qualified Institutional Buyer (QIB) category, and 17.33 times in the Non-Institutional Investor (NII) category. Investors eager to check their allotment status can do so online. They can log in to either the BSE website or the KFin Technologies website and follow a few simple steps. Steps to check allotment through the BSE website: Go to the BSE website by



clicking here. Click on 'Equity'. Choose 'Aadhar Housing Finance' from the list. Put in your application number and PAN card ID. Confirm that you're not a robot and submit. Steps to check allotment through KFin Technologies Limited: Visit the KFin Technologies website. Select Aadhar Housing Finance. Choose the Application Number/Demat

Account/PAN option and enter the details. Enter the Captcha. Click on the 'SUBMIT' option. Aadhar Housing Finance IPO latest GMP

The IPO's grey market premium (GMP) stands at Rs 65 as of May 13, 2024, at 10:55 AM. Based on the upper price band of Rs 315 per share, the estimated listing price is projected to be Rs 380, indicating

a potential gain of 20.63% per share. The IPO's price band is fixed at Rs 300-315 per share. The basis of allotment will be decided by May 13, with the company making its stock exchange debut on May 15. The book running lead managers for the Aadhar Housing Finance IPO include ICICI Securities Limited, Citigroup Global Markets India Private Limited, Kotak Mahindra Capital Company Limited, Nomura Financial Advisory And Securities (India) Pvt Ltd, and SBI Capital Markets Limited.

The company intends to utilise the net proceeds from the IPO to meet future capital requirements for lending activities and for general corporate purposes. Established in 2010, Aadhar Housing Finance Limited focusses on providing housing finance solutions to the lower-income segments. Financially, Aadhar Housing Finance Limited has shown promising growth, with revenue increasing by 18.22% and profit after tax (PAT) rising by 22.22% between the financial years ending March 31, 2023, and March 31, 2022.

'We will come back with a good majority ... no reason to think the mood has changed': Nirmala Sitharaman

New Delhi. Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman believes the BJP will come back with a good majority. In this interview with Prasanta Sahu and Shobhana Subramanian, she says the government will continue with reforms and not let go of schemes which empower the poor.



What's your assessment of the Lok Sabha elections so far?

I strongly believe we will come back with a good majority. There is no reason to think the mood has changed just because the opposition wants it to be changed. I don't know from where this negative campaign has started that BJP may not get adequate numbers by saying we didn't perform well in the first two phases. The Home Minister has clearly said that the number of seats (for BJP) will be 370-plus and you will get to know that by 12.30 pm on the counting day. The opposition is only trying to mislead people.

Are we going to see an aggressive agenda on privatisation going forward?

Aggression need not be in your face...

We should have the right to choose the right time. We can't be unthinking administrators. We are saying minimum presence of government in businesses.

To arrive at minimum presence, I would have to see how many of them have to be disinvested, how many can be amalgamated to create a scalable and large unit and in some cases, the strategic core has to be retained. Recent privatisations have resulted in the creation of more jobs (in Air India for example).

Have you done a review of the 15% tax rate for new manufacturing firms? Has it worked?

We need to look at it much more carefully to what extent new businesses have come in and capacity has been increased. The offer of a low tax regime for new firms expired in March. A new call may need to be taken in the Budget in July whether we want to extend it further.

The lower tax rate for new manufacturing firms was announced just before Covid-19... To be fair, I think many of them lost the opportunity... we will take a carefully considered decision.

Do you think the new income tax regime needs to be sweetened a bit to bring the remaining taxpayers into the fold?

I don't know if it is due to a lack of sweetening, they remain where they are. The old tax regime existed with exemptions added year after year. To wipe it all off from the old regime and give some kind of sweetener in the new tax regime will never really be satisfactory. Each one of them has been tailored differently.

HDFC Bank Reduces Notice Period From 90 Days To 30 Days

New Delhi. HDFC Bank, India's largest private sector lender, has reduced its notice period for employees from 90 days to 30 days, according to an FE report. The bank hopes that this change will improve flexibility. This is the second private sector lender to make this change after ICICI Bank in 2020 cut the notice period from 90 days to 30 days. "This change in policy aims to provide more flexibility for employees while ensuring smooth transitions," the FE report quoted a senior HDFC Bank official as saying.



HDFC Bank employees were informed of the change in the HR policy by email on May 6, according to the report citing sources.

According to the latest changes, employees under probation need to serve a 30-day notice period. However, employees, according to the report, employees can even be relieved in less than 30 days if their request is approved by their reporting manager. Currently, Kotak Mahindra Bank has a notice period of 90 days. Public sector lenders like State Bank of India, Punjab National Bank and Bank of Baroda also have the same duration of notice period. The total number of employees at HDFC Bank crossed the 2 lakh mark to reach 208,066 in the third quarter of FY24. In Q4 FY24, HDFC Bank reported a 37.05 per cent jump in its standalone net profit to Rs 16,511.85 crore. Its net interest income (interest earned less interest expended) during the quarter ended March 31, 2024, grew 24.51 per cent to Rs 29,076.82 crore, from Rs 23,351.83 crore a year ago, according to a BSE filing. For the full year 2023-24, its net profit stood at Rs 60,810 crore, which is 37.9 per cent higher as compared with that in the year-ago period.

It also declared a dividend of Rs 19.50 per equity share, or 1,950 per cent, for the financial year 2023-24. This was higher than the Rs 19 dividend announced in the previous year 2022-23 and the Rs 15.5 announced in 2021-22.

Auditor of Zomato's Blink Commerce quits



NEW DELHI. Zomato on Sunday said

Hyperpure and Blink Commerce has resigned with immediate effect, and the

group level," Batliboi & Associates stated.

food tech company's auditor Deloitte Haskins & Sells will be appointed in its place.

Batliboi & Associates, who was appointed as statutory auditors of the two wholly-owned subsidiaries for five years beginning April 1, 2023, till the conclusion of the 13th AGM, resigned w.e.f. May 12, 2024, Zomato said in a regulatory filing.

"Further to our various discussions and email dated May 8, 2024, from the Global Controller Finance, Zomato Limited, we understand that the holding company's management wants to align the statutory auditor of the company with the auditors of the holding company responsible for the audit of consol accounts to avoid some duplication and bring some efficiencies in the audit process at group level," Batliboi & Associates stated.

We will become a 10 GW renewable player in the industry: SAEL's CIO

SAEL recently raised \$1 billion for renewable energy projects. Apart from solar and waste to energy, in the future, the company may foray into solar with storage, pumped hydro, etc.

NEW DELHI. Waste-to-energy maker SAEL is exploring new ventures such as solar with battery storage and pumped hydro storage to further solidify its position in the renewable energy sector.

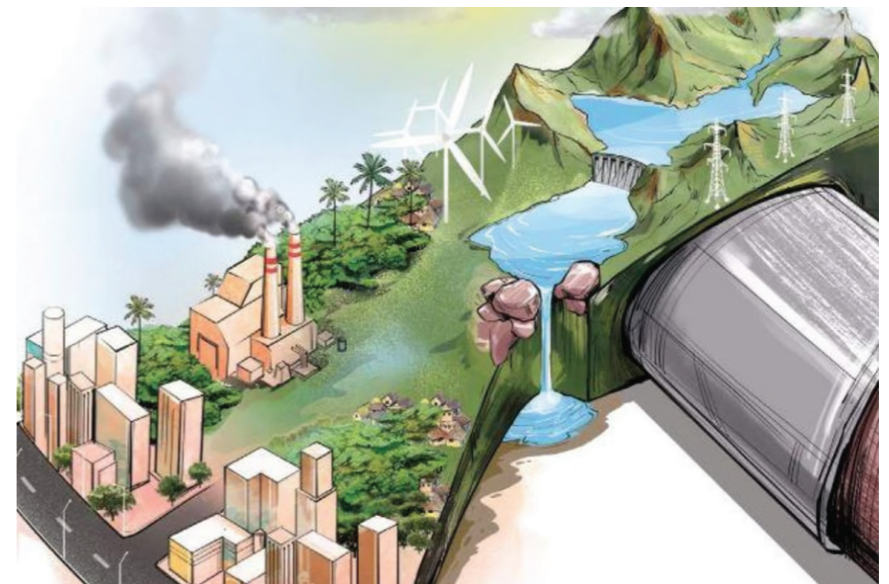
In an interview with TNIE, Chief Investment Officer (CIO) Varun Gupta discussed the company's plans to invest up to Rs 35,000 crore over the next two-and-a-half years.

SAEL recently raised \$1 billion for

renewable energy projects. Apart from solar and waste to energy, in the future, the company may foray into solar with storage, pumped hydro, etc. Currently, the company has four gigawatts of utility projects and 2.3 gigawatts of module manufacturing capacity. "To achieve completion of our four-gigawatt capacity, our capital expenditure (CapEx) would be roughly around R18,000 to R 19,000 crore, which will be spent by June 2025. So, in the next 15 months, we would have incurred a CapEx of close to R 18,000 crore.

Meanwhile, we continue to build, targeting a capacity of about another 3000 megawatts of utility projects in the next 12 to 15 months. This will bring us close to seven gigawatts of projects across solar and investor energy, requiring a combined CapEx between R30k crore and R35k crore, to be spent by around December 2026," Gupta said.

"Adding on 2.5 gigawatts of module



manufacturing, we will become a 10 gigawatt renewable player in the industry, positioning us among the top four in the industry," he added. On the company's plans to get into

battery storage, he said, "We are right now going to get into solar with storage. We are evaluating pump storage. Then you will also get into it eventually."

NEWS BOX

IPL 2024: Virat Kohli, Anushka Sharma's reactions go viral after RCB's win vs DC

Bengaluru RCB beat DC at the M Chinnaswamy Stadium on Sunday, 12 May. With the win, RCB kept their playoffs hopes alive in the Indian Premier League this season. After bundling out Delhi for just 140 runs in the chase of 188, RCB players were elated and started jumping around. As the players celebrated the win, the broadcaster panned to Anushka Sharma and Virat Kohli. The star couple had relief all over their faces after the team's win, as RCB managed a sensational turnaround in the IPL 2024. Virat Kohli pointed at someone in the ground, as if signalling 'I told you so, we would turn this ship around'. The credit for RCB's thundering win went to Cameron Green for his superb effort with bat and ball. On top of that, Green was sensational in the field as well. RCB continued their winning streak to keep fighting for their playoff hopes with a 47-run win over DC on Sunday. With the win, RCB jumped to 5th on the points table, which seemed like a distant dream as they were struggling at the bottom of the table earlier in the tournament. Rajat Patidar's fifty and a disciplined performance from the RCB bowlers handed them the win in the end as DC were punished for their errors. RCB play their final group stage match of the tournament against CSK, at home. In case RCB manage to win with a big margin 18 runs or more, they will have a better NRR than CSK, helping them qualify for the playoffs.

Temples will be built for MS Dhoni, he is the God of Chennai: Ambati Rayudu

Chennai Ambati Rayudu said that temples of MS Dhoni would be built in Chennai given his performance for India and CSK over the years. On Sunday, the Super Kings romped to a 5-wicket win over RR and took a step closer to a berth in the Indian Premier League (IPL) 2024 playoffs. With 14 points and a net run rate of +0.528 thanks to wins in 7 out of 13 games, CSK are placed third in the points table. If CSK somehow do not qualify for the playoffs, Dhoni has already played his last game at the MA Chidambaram Stadium this season. Temples of popular stars, including, Rajinikanth and Kushboo have been built over the years by fans. Rayudu said that Dhoni may also be added to the list keeping in mind the joy he has brought to India and Chennai fans. He is the God of Chennai and I am sure, temples of MS Dhoni would be built in the years to come in Chennai," Rayudu to Star Sports. Apart from 5 IPL titles to his name, Dhoni also won the Champions League T20 twice.

"He is someone who brought India the joy of two World Cups and has brought Chennai joy with a lot of IPL and Champions League titles. He has just been that one guy who shows belief in his players, who has always done it for the team, for the country and for CSK," Rayudu said. "He is a legend and someone everybody celebrates in the crowd. They might be thinking that this might be his last game in Chennai," Rayudu added.

After CSK's win over the Royals, Dhoni and the Chennai team took a victory lap at the Chepauk, acknowledging the crowd for their support this season. The crowd also showed their admiration towards Dhoni and the Yellow Army for entertaining them.

The Super Kings will next lock horns with Faf du Plessis' RCB on Saturday, May 18 at the M Chinnaswamy Stadium in Bengaluru.

Mohammed Siraj's hilarious running between the wickets; netizens can't stop laughing

NEW DELHI. A recent clip from match no. 62 of the Indian Premier League (IPL) 2024 has taken social media by storm, showcasing Mohammed Siraj's hilarious running between the wickets during the game between Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB) and Delhi Capitals (DC).

In the viral video, posted on X (formerly Twitter), the moment of Siraj's dismissal during RCB's batting at M Chinnaswamy Stadium on Sunday is captured. The incident occurred when Mukesh Kumar's delivery to Cameron Green resulted in Siraj being run out after completing two runs. Siraj, seemingly unaware of the throw coming back to the bowler, continued running, only to be swiftly run out while attempting a third run. Netizens couldn't contain their laughter as they watched Siraj's unconventional running, which saw him deviate farther from the running path with each stride.

Meanwhile, in the match, DC, after winning the toss, opted to bowl first. RCB's batting lineup put up a formidable total of 187/9 in their 20 overs, with notable contributions from Rajat Patidar (52 in 32 balls), Will Jacks (41 in 29 balls), Cameron Green (32 not out in 24 balls), and Virat Kohli (27 in 13 balls).

During the run chase, DC faced early setbacks but managed to stage a brief comeback, courtesy of a partnership between Shai Hope (29 in 23 balls) and Axar Patel (57 in 39). However, RCB's bowlers maintained control over the game, ultimately securing a 47-run victory as DC was bundled out for 140 runs. With this win, RCB's IPL 2024 campaign gains momentum, positioning them with 12 points and a chance to reach 14 when they face Chennai Super Kings (CSK) in their upcoming match on Saturday.

Ravindra Jadeja out or not out? Michael Hussey reacts to 'obstructing field' dismissal

Ravindra Jadeja was controversially given run-out in CSK vs RR match in Chennai. Jadeja was given the marching orders after the umpires adjudged that he was obstructing the field during a run-out attempt.

Chennai, CSK all-rounder Ravindra Jadeja was given out by the umpire due to obstructing the field on Sunday, 12 May. Jadeja, while batting in the 16th over against RR got hit by a throw from Sanju Samson when the opposition captain was trying to run him out in the non-striker's end.

The replays were closely examined and the third umpire made the conclusion that Jadeja had seen the direction of the ball and would run in a manner to protect the stumps. The decision on the big screen was out which stunned Jadeja and the CSK fans inside the stadium.



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third umpire made the conclusion that Jadeja had seen the direction of the ball and would run in a manner to protect the stumps. The decision on the big screen was out which stunned Jadeja and the CSK fans inside the stadium. This is not the first time that Jadeja has been found obstructing the field this season. Against SRH in Hyderabad Jadeja did something similar and was struck by Bhuvneshwar Kumar on the back while trying to get back to his crease. In that game, Pat Cummins chose not to appeal against Jadeja, who was not looking in good touch while batting in the first innings of the game.

Jadeja's run out however did not have much impact on the game as CSK chased down 142 runs with 5 wickets and 10 balls remaining. The result hurt RR's chances to reach the top of the table in IPL 2024.

RCB players' epic dressing room celebrations after win vs DC in Bengaluru

Bengaluru Faf du Plessis' RCB stayed alive in the playoffs race after winning their home game against DC on Sunday, 12 May. This was RCB's 5th straight win in the Indian Premier League as the side turned its fortunes after a hapless start to the season. Before the winning streak, RCB had lost 6 matches in a row, which got them to the brink of getting knocked out of the tournament.

However, the Bengaluru-based side made some crucial changes in approach to turn their fortunes around. The RCB side burst into celebrations in the dressing room after their win against DC on Sunday. The coaching staff lauded each and every player who did well and the celebration was like none other seen so far in the Indian Premier League's 2024 season. The video of the celebrations was posted by the RCB social



media where the likes of Cameron Green and Rajat Patidar can be seen enjoying in full blast. Earlier, RCB head coach Andy Flower had spoken about the change of approach made by the top order, who looked to be more attacking from the very start. Flower had lauded the bowling unit as well who were trying to be as attacking with their lengths and options as possible.

"Faf and Virat particularly have led from the front with their actions, and the rest of the team have been outstanding. I think we have seen an uptick in the way that we've bowled in the powerplay, and I think that's been led by Siraj and Yash Dayal. Both have been very skilful and courageous with the new ball," Flower said in an RCB video. RCB have a faint chance of qualifying through to the playoffs stage if they beat CSK at home in their final group stage game in the Indian Premier League. The team has risen to the 5th spot in the league table with 12 points from 13 matches. Ahead of RCB are SRH, CSK, RR and KKR. KKR has already qualified while the other teams are just one win away from the playoffs spot.

Kylian Mbappe gets booed by fans in final PSG home game vs Toulouse

New Delhi. Outgoing PSG star Kylian Mbappe was booed by a section of the fans in his final home game at Parc des Princes on Sunday, 12 May. Mbappe, who had announced that he would be leaving the club on a free transfer in 2024, caught the ire of the fans. The 25-year-old's name was announced ahead of the match when PSG were announcing their line-up and the PSG ultras let their feelings known for the player.

The video of the incident was captured by one of the fans in the stadium. Incidentally, both Lionel Messi and Neymar were booed by the ultras before their exit earlier this season as well. On the day, Mbappe's departure became more painful after the team failed to win its home game against Toulouse.

PSG vs Toulouse: As It Happened
Paris St Germain were left stunned after they were beaten 3-1 by Toulouse on Sunday, with the newly-crowned champions slumping to only their second Ligue 1 defeat this season. Luis Enrique's side struggled for form after their midweek Champions League semi-final loss to Borussia Dortmund and remain on 70 points from 32 games, six clear of second-placed AS Monaco with two games remaining. "This defeat spoils the party a bit. It's always



frustrating, even if you're champion, to lose like that in front of your home crowd," PSG forward Ousmane Dembele told Canal+.

"We need to rethink things after a defeat and not lose like that at home, even if we are champions." Kylian Mbappe, who confirmed on Friday that he will leave PSG at the end of the season, opened the scoring after eight minutes with a fine finish into an open goal following a pinpoint clearance from goalkeeper Arnaud Tenas.

"He gave so much to the club, he did so much," Dembele said referring to Mbappe.

"We're happy with everything he's done, he's

grown up well at PSG, he's achieved so much, he's a PSG legend. We're proud of him." Toulouse equalised five minutes later through Thijs Dalling, who coolly slotted home from close range before Yann Gboho put the visitors ahead with a superb curling effort into the top right corner in the 68th minute. Frank Magri's stoppage-time strike sealed the win for Toulouse, who are 10th in the standings with 43 points.

PSG visit Nice on Wednesday before their final league game against Metz and the French Cup final on May 25. There's still the Cup final, a big match against Nice. We have to give 100% in every match and show a good image of Paris St Germain," Dembele added. Elsewhere, second-half goals from Kessou Ouattara and Youssouf Fofana earned Monaco a 2-0 away win over Montpellier to secure second place and a return to the Champions League. They will return to the group stage of the Europe's premier club competition for the first time since the 2018-19 season. Ligue 1's second-top scorer Jonathan David scored a first-half brace to earn Lille a 2-1 win at Nantes to close in a Champions League spot as they climbed to third place, ahead of Brest on goal difference. They are level on 58 points with Brest.



right away." "It's his 50 this season, you know, we know he's played test cricket, but it took him a while to get going. But the great thing is that that cover drive he played that when we were on air commentating about I mean, that is as good as it gets. So good to see that he's found some form. Uh, hopefully it can continue," said Lee.

How well has Patidar performed this season? Patidar had a rather slow start to the IPL 2024 season as he was coming into the campaign on the back of a lacklustre India vs England Test series. The MP batter had to step in as RCB were having an issue with the poor form of Glenn Maxwell. Patidar has taken up the role of Maxwell and has started to attack the spinners with ease and has hit more than 20 sixes against spin this season. Patidar, with his 52 against DC, has now scored 320 runs from 13 matches with a strike-rate of more than 179. Patidar will be key to RCB's chances of making it to the playoffs as they will face CSK in their final league game on May 18 in Bengaluru.

Premier League: Arsenal secure hard-fought 1-0 win against Manchester to go top again

New Delhi. Arsenal's Leandro Trossard capitalised on dreadful Manchester United defending to secure a 1-0 win on Sunday that saw his side provisionally overtake Manchester City atop the Premier League and guaranteed the title race will go down to the final day. While Arsenal, who won for just the second time at Old Trafford in their last 17 visits, have 86 points with one game left of the tightest title race in years, holders City remain in the driving seat with 85 points and two matches to play. City, who are aiming for an unprecedented fourth consecutive English top-flight title, can retake the lead when they play at Arsenal's London rivals Tottenham Hotspur on Tuesday. Trossard scored in the 20th minute when Kai Havertz sauntered barely challenged into space on the right before

sending the ball into the box for Trossard to tuck home. Heads turned to check for an offside flag but Casemiro -- recently moved from midfield into United's injury-depleted back line -- had slowly moved out from the box and kept Havertz onside after goalkeeper Andre Onana launched the ball upfield. United manager Erik ten Hag was left shaking his head in frustration. The game swung from end to end over a final tense few minutes, with Onana leaping to push away shots from Arsenal substitute Gabriel Martinelli and Declan Rice. United, who were hoping to bounce back after a woeful 4-0 loss at Crystal Palace on Monday, are eighth with two games left. They trail sixth-placed



Newcastle by three points in their quest for a European berth next season, setting up a key showdown when the Magpies visit Old Trafford on Wednesday. Trossard's goal was the 82nd Ten Hag's team have conceded this season in all competitions -- their most in a single campaign since 1970-

71 United enjoyed plenty of the ball in the final third, and had 14 shots to Arsenal's 11, but struggled to create many quality chances.

Alejandro Garnacho was United's biggest threat, particularly in the second half. He launched one shot wide and sent another into the side netting before hanging his head in frustration. The visiting fans, whose singing did not let up all evening, erupted at the final whistle after a game that was tighter than predicted. Not even the torrential downpour could dampen their celebration after the job done by Mikel Arteta's team. Arsenal host Everton in their season finale, while City are at home to West Ham United.

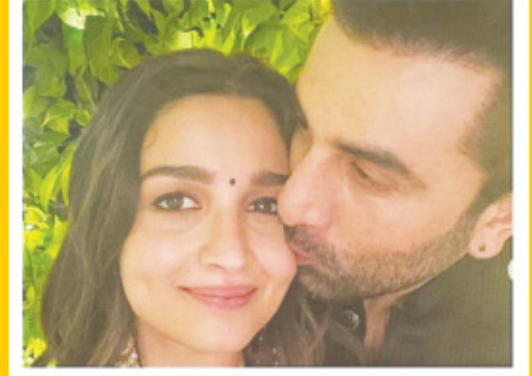
Sonakshi Sinha

Reveals 'Heeramandi' Co-Stars Wed And Became Pregnant During Filming: 'I'm Still Unmarried'

Manisha Koirala, Aditi Rao Hydari, Richa Chadha, Sonakshi Sinha, Sanjeeda Sheikh, and Sharmin Segal, all featured in Sanjay Leela Bhansali's Heeramandi, were recently guests on The Great Indian Kapil Show. During their appearance, the actors reminisced about their time working with Bhansali and shared their experiences. Host Kapil Sharma entertained with his sharp wit, eliciting particularly humorous responses from Sonakshi Sinha, which had everyone laughing. When Kapil brought up Alia Bhatt and Kiara Advani's weddings as a segue to question Sonakshi about her own marriage plans, Sonakshi responded playfully, saying, "Jale par namak chidak rahe ho," indicating thabis question was adding salt to her wounds, as she 'desperately' wishes to get married. She continued, "We've finished shooting Heeramandi and here I am, still not married. Even Sharmin got married." Manisha then chimed in, highlighting, "And Richa, she got married and even became pregnant." Richa Chadha humorously remarked, "It was good preparation for me. My costumes in the film weighed 30 kilos. But when it came time for my wedding attire, they felt weightless in comparison. I could easily jump around and play; they felt so light." Sharmin Segal wed Aman Mehta in November 2023. Sharmin, Sanjay Leela Bhansali's niece, portrayed the character of Malikjaan's daughter, Alamzeb, in Heeramandi. Richa Chadha and Ali Fazal were legally married in 2020 and celebrated their wedding in grand style in 2022. In February 2024, the couple shared the joyful news that they are expecting their first child. Heeramandi is set against the backdrop of the pre-Independence era in the 1940s. It explores the cultural reality of a prominent red-light district through the lens of courtesans and nawabs. The series boasts a star-studded cast, including Manisha Koirala, Sonakshi Sinha, Aditi Rao Hydari, Richa Chadha, Sanjeeda Sheikh, and Sharmin Segal. News18 gave Showsha 4.5 stars and wrote, "Bhansali pens a near-perfect screenplay, and it is this rich writing that already forms an impressive foundation for the show. Each character is written with a lot of courage, empathy, and sensitivity. Here, each female character is so well-fleshed out, including those in the periphery, that they all deserve a spin-off of their own." It further read, "With Heeramandi, Sanjay Leela Bhansali creates a world that's exquisite and is rich and vibrant in its culture and texture. Inhabiting this realm are some characters that are as unapologetic, complex, and imperfect as a human can be. Here, the women call their own shots and is unafraid of what the civil society might think of them. They're pitted against each other, sometimes one even wishing for and conspiring against another's downfall and shattering their self-worth, pride and ego. They can tear apart and even love like tigresses. And when the right time comes, they don't bat an eyelid before fiercely protecting one another. Despite deep and dark ambition plaguing their hearts, they've their conscience clear. Maybe that's why Fareedan in a scene reprimands a British officer for robbing her aunt Malikjaan off her 'aabru' when all she wanted was for her to have her 'guroor' crumbled."



Alia Bhatt Says She's An Overthinker While Ranbir Kapoor Moves On: 'This Difference Provides Us Balance'



Alia Bhatt recently shared what she's learned from her husband, Ranbir Kapoor, and how they handle success and failure. In an interview with Harper's Bazaar India, she mentioned that Ranbir and she deal with things differently. Alia said, "Ranbir and I handle things differently. I am more contemplative, a bit of an overthinker, while he prefers to shake off the dust and move on quickly. It's this difference that helps us support each other, providing balance when it's needed the most." She also mentioned, "But both of us choose to focus on work with a lot of love and immense respect. We work like it is a part of our life - a very important one - but not the whole of our life." Alia was asked to name a few Indian and global icons that served as an inspiration to her. The actress mentioned Kate Winslet and praised her for her "incredible range and resilience." She further expressed her love for Taylor Swift. Appreciating her, she said, she transforms all experiences into "heartfelt music." She then added, "These women embrace their journeys with such élan and ease that authenticity is what I aim to bring to my roles." Meanwhile, Alia made head turns in a stunning saree by Sabyasachi at the Met Gala. Interestingly, Alia's traditional attire received the loudest cheers on the Met Gala red carpet. International paparazzi couldn't contain their excitement as she posed. Needless to say, her look was loved by fans and her family, including her mother-in-law Neetu Kapoor and sister-in-law Riddhima Kapoor Sahni. Beyond her fashion choices, Alia also embraced her Indian culture by warding off the evil eye in a quintessential desi way. She applied a kajal dot behind her ear, a traditional practice. It can be seen in a photo where she faces away from the camera.

Manisha Koirala On Shooting For Heeramandi While Recovering From Cancer: 'Would My Body Be Strong?'



Manisha Koirala, who is basking in the success of Heeramandi: The Diamond Bazaar, took to Instagram to pen a gratitude post. She started the post with the realisation that she never thought that after cancer and turning 50, her life would enter this new phase. Sharing a photo of herself in her Heeramandi avatar, she wrote, "I could never have imagined that after cancer and turning 50, my life would flower into this other phase. Citing two reasons for it, she continued, "Heeramandi has been a significant milestone. As a 53-year-old actor who has bagged an important role in a high-profile web series, I am overjoyed that I'm not stuck playing insignificant peripheral roles, thanks to OTT platforms and changing audience profiles. Finally, female actors, technicians, and other professionals have started getting the long overdue and well-deserved good quality of work and respect in a professional environment. I am fortunate to be a part of this evolving era." Manisha wrote that as she receives praises for her performance in the series, she is reminded of the worries she had before starting shooting. She added, "Today, when I am receiving so many accolades, I can't help but remember the doubts and anxiety that plagued me when I was about to start shooting. Still recovering from the dreaded C, would my body be strong enough to deal with the intense shooting schedules, heavy costumes, and jewelry, and perform a role requiring so much nuance and effortless effort? Opening up on a particularly tough scene, she wrote, "The fountain sequence proved the most physically challenging. It required me to be immersed in a water fountain for over 12 hours. That tested my resilience! Even though Sanjay had thoughtfully ensured that the water was warm and clean, over the hours, the water turned muddy, (because my team members, the Cinematographer, and the art director's team were getting into the water to work around the scene.)"



Dia Mirza

Rekhi Reveals Daughter Samaira Hasn't Called Her 'Maa' Yet: 'She Calls Me...'

Bollywood actress Dia Mirza Rekhi embraced motherhood much before she welcomed her son, Avyaan. The actress turned stepmother to her husband Vaibhav Rekhi's daughter Samaira, who he had from his first wedding. However, in an exclusive chat with News18 Showsha on the occasion of Mother's Day, Dia revealed that Samaira hasn't called her 'maa' or 'mumma' yet. Adding that Samaira has her birth mother who she calls 'mumma', Dia said she has no expectations from Samaira to address her as 'mumma.' So what does she address Dia as? The Thappad star revealed Samaira calls Dia by her name. "She hasn't called me maa. There is no expectations from her to call me 'maa', 'mumma' or 'mother'. She has a mother who she calls 'mumma' or 'mom'. She calls me 'Dia', the actress told us. She added that courtesy of Samaira, Avyaan also calls her by her first name once a while. "Thanks to her now Avyaan also calls me 'Dia' once in a while. He says 'Dia mom', it's too funny," she said with a laugh. Dia also recollected the first time Avyaan called her 'maa'. Confessing that his first word was 'tiger', Dia revealed the first time Avyaan called her 'maa' was months later. "Oh my god, I will never forget that day. He said mumma much later. I think it was a good three months after he started to say words. It was a beautiful moment because all the flowers had started to bloom in the balcony and there were lots of butterflies visiting the flowers, and he was in my arms," she recalled. I was showing him the butterflies and I was through the plants because there were three to four butterflies for him to get a closer look at it. He suddenly looked at me and said, 'Mumma', I was like 'Oh my god! What just happened.' Interestingly, my husband had his camera and he was recording me showing Avyaan the butterflies so we have the whole moment on cameras. It was magical," Dia added. Dia welcomed Avyaan in 2021, when she was 39 years old. The actress has often shared photos and videos of the little one on Instagram.

